WESTERN UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

2020-2021

(Preliminary course description)

**Italian 2200: Intermediate Italian**

**Instructor**: Luca Pocci (lpocci@uwo.ca)

**Class meetings**: Tuesday 10:30-11:30 & Thursday 10:30-12:30



**Course Content and Aims**

Designed for students with a basic knowledge of Italian, the course builds upon this knowledge placing emphasis on the development of effective oral and writing skills. The primary objective is that students learn how to communicate their ideas with clarity in a variety of settings. Students will be immersed in Italian culture through a broad range of resources: films, songs, websites, short fictional and non-fictional texts. Exposure to this material is also meant to increase their intercultural competence and sensitivity. Italian 2200 aims to achieve the following:

•review material covered in previous course studies in order to reinforce knowledge of Italian syntax, phonetics and morphology in comparison to English

•continue developing the ability to comprehend Italian in a variety of social situations

•build the students’ capacity to express themselves in Italian in different cultural contexts

•enrich insights into the culture and history of Italy

•provide a foundation for further study of Italian

•keep building skills and attitudes that expand the students’ intercultural competence with specific reference to Italian and North-American cultures

**Learning Outcomes**

It is expected that, upon successful completion of this course, the students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

•communicate using a variety of Italian expressions and idioms with a growing degree of complexity

•write short compositions in Italian

•understand relatively challenging reading passages in Italian

•ask and answer questions on a variety of concrete and abstract topics, e.g., university programs, pastimes, jobs, everyday life in Italy, food, entertainment, family life, the arts, history etc.

•expand the basic Italian vocabulary to a level which would allow greater flexibility in communication

•understand how languages reflect and shape different values and communication styles with particular reference to the Italian and North-American cultural contexts

**Course Delivery**

Class meetings will take place on Zoom. They will be a combination of live lectures, individual work, guided discussions, and small group activities.

**Course Materials**

*-Nuovo Progetto Italiano 2: Libro dello Studente digitale + tracce audio e videocorso* (T. Marin & S. Magnelli, Edilingua) ISBN 9788899358297. This digital book is available on the Blinklearning's platform.

<https://shopusa.blinklearning.com/en/planescolar25-16105/36168-NuovoProgettoItaliano2-Librodellostudente.html>

-Nuovo Progetto Italiano 2: Quaderno interattivo degli esercizi (B1-B2), 11 unità ((T. Marin & S. Magnelli, Edilingua). Available here.

<https://www.edilingua.it/it-it/Prodotti.aspx?ElementID=c3dba374-525c-4d95-8b44-e24040b56024>

Make sure you select the option (B1-B2), 11 unità.

-*Una Grammatica Italiana per tutti*. *Vol. 1, Livello Elementare* (A. Latino & M. Muscolino, Edilingua) ISBN 978-960-7706-70-6. Available in print at the UWO bookstore. The digital version will be released in early August.

**Mark Breakdown**

2 Tests 20%

4 Quizzes 16%

2 Oral Assessments 10%

2 Video presentations 10%

4 Short compositions 12%

Online Activities 10%

Preparation & Participation 7%

Final Exam 15%



**Tests (1 per term)**: each test will be worth 10% and will be cumulative, i.e., it will include all the grammar and vocabulary covered up to the date of the test.

**Quizzes (2 per term)**: each quiz will be worth 4% and will mainly test vocabulary.

**Oral Assessments (1 per term) and Video Presentations (1 per term)**

The oral assessments (2 x 5%) will be scheduled at the end of each term. They will be conducted on Zoom. Students will meet individually with the instructor and will answer questions on a list of topics. Instructions and topics will be provided to the class in advance. Students will be evaluated for their command of grammatical structures and vocabulary, for their capacity to communicate with clarity and for their ability to express and defend opinions.

For the video presentations (2 x 5%) students will use Voice Thread, a resource available through Owl. They will receive a list of topics related to Italian cities and regions and will be free to pick one topic of their choice. Students will be evaluated for the quality of their spoken Italian and the accuracy of the contents presented.

**Short Compositions (2 per term)**: the compositions (3% each) will be written during class-time and will be based on readings and material previously covered and discussed. The prompt will be provided “in class”, on the day in which each composition is scheduled.

**Online Activities**: a calendar of online activities with instructions regarding deadlines will be ready and made available at the beginning of classes in September. Online activities are an integral part of the course and will be assigned on the digital platform *I-d-e-e.it*. The platform can be accessed by purchasing the *Quaderno interattivo degli esercizi* (see **Course Materials** section).

**Participation:** it is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation, and contribution to class and group-activities.

**Final Examination**: The final examination is cumulative, i.e., it covers the entire year. It is timetabled by the Office of the Registrar without any input from the Department. Since it may be scheduled for any date during the April examination period, and since students must write at a scheduled time, you should not make any plans which might run into conflict with the examination timetable.



**Prerequisite:** Italian 1030 or equivalent

**Antirequisite:** None

**Please note:** You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites (or have special permission from your Dean to waive the prerequisite) and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. If you are not eligible for the course, you may be removed from it at any time, and it will be deleted from your record. In addition, you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions can not be appealed.

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies (which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in the department's courses) are available [here](http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html). It is your responsibility to understand these policies, and thus ignorance thereof cannot be used as grounds for appeal.