Western Arts&Humanities

Department of Languages and Cultures
ITA1030

Course outline for 2020/2021

THRIVE together

Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: https://www.uwo.ca/health/.

1. **Technical Requirements:**

   Stable internet connection   Laptop or computer

   Working microphone   Working webcam

2. **Course Overview and Important Dates:**

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
Online	T	**1:30 – 3:30 am**
	TH	**1:30 – 2:30**

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 2 - 8	December 9	December 10	December 11 - 22
January 4	February 13 - 21	April 5	April 6 and 7	April 8 - 30

*November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course without penalty

3. **Contact Information**

Instructor	Contact Information
Dr. Cristina Caracchini	**ccaracch@uwo.ca**
Virtual office hours	**Th. 11:30-1:30 or by appointment**

4. Course Description and Design

Do you want to keep feeding your passion for all things Italian, while expanding your knowledge of Italian language and culture? This is your course.

Italian 3300 is aimed at developing advanced–level competence in the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Discussions on a variety of cultural topics such as food, travel, politics, the arts, and use of a wide range of material (websites, films, songs, literature) will help you refine your skills so as to communicate more fluently in Italian. These activities are also meant to increase your intercultural awareness. The course aims to achieve the following:

• expand and consolidate the ability to comprehend Italian in a variety of social situations
• enhance the capacity to communicate in Italian in different cultural contexts with increasing accuracy and competence
• review some of the most challenging grammar topics studied in previous years
• refine the understanding and appreciation of both the history and the contemporary culture of Italy
• strengthen intercultural awareness and skills
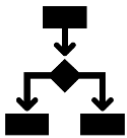
Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual synchronous	T/Th	10:30-11:30 am	weekly
Virtual asynchronous	T	10:30-11:30 am	Weekly

▬ Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to synchronous sessions

▬ Attendance at synchronous sessions is required

▬ Missed work should be completed within 24 hours

All course material will be posted to OWL: http://owl.uwo.ca. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click here.

5. Learning Outcomes

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

• speak and write in Italian at an advanced level with increasing accuracy and sophistication
• demonstrate a facility to comprehend a wide range of complex authentic texts
• use a variety of Italian expressions and idioms with a growing degree of familiarity and competence
• gain an understanding of the richness of the linguistic and cultural heritage of contemporary Italy
• understand cultural differences between Canadians and Italians

Textbook: M. Birello, S. Bonafaccia et alii. AL DENTE 4: Edilingua 2019. Ebook.

Recommended Texts
Una Grammatica Italiana per tutti. Vol. 2, Livello Intermedio (A. Latino & M. Muscolino, Edilingua) Ebook
- Oxford Paravia Italian Dictionary

Other readings will be posted on OWL

6. **Course Content and Schedule**
   Detailed instructions for activities and assignments can be found on your course webpage on OWL.
   8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Mark Breakdown

6 Assignments (in class and at home)	30%
4 Tests	40%
2 Oral presentations	20%
Participation	10%

PLEASE NOTE: THIS COURSE WILL NOT HAVE A MIDTERM IN DECEMBER NOR FINAL EXAM IN APRIL

▬ All assignments are due at 11:59 pm EST unless otherwise specified

▬ After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using Zoom. You will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session will not be recorded.*

More information about the use of Zoom for exam invigilation is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:

https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us.

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please discuss this with your instructor in advance of the test or examination.

Click here for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Online Participation and Engagement

- Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible
- Students are expected to interact in the forums with their peers and instructors

Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 5%/day including weekend
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; the weight of a missed test will be transferred to an upcoming assignment to be decided by the instructor

7. Communication:

- Students should check the OWL site every 24 hours
- Updates will be provided on the OWL announcements as needed
- Students must email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL "messages" only for regular course business
- Emails will be monitored regularly; students will receive a response within 48 hours
- This course will use Zoom for discussions
- This course will use the OWL forum for discussions
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions

8. Office Hours:

- Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom

9. Resources

All resources will be posted in OWL

Required textbook

10. Professionalism & Privacy:

Western students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

— Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL

— All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared

— Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission

— Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

— Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

— All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

11. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

12. Western Academic Policies and Statements

Academic Offenses

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed here to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts here.

Turnitin and other similarity review software

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. **Accommodation for Religious**

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found here.

Holidays.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

14 Online Etiquette

To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- please "arrive" to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- [suggested for classes larger than 30 students] In order to give us optimum bandwidth and web quality, please turn off your video camera for the entire class unless you are invited to speak
- please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor's request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- if you wish to speak, use the "raise hand" function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

16 Support Services

Students who are in emotional distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

Registrarial Services

Academic Counselling (Arts and Humanities)

Student Development Services

Student Health Services

Services Provided by USC

Appeal Procedures