Italian 3300: Advanced Italian

Instructor: Cristina Caracchini (ccaracch@uwo.ca)
Office hours: TBA and by appointment in UC 3307
Classes: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30-2:30, STVH 3101

Course Content and Aims
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 travel, politics, the arts, and use of a wide range of material (films, songs, short stories, newspapers) 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

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

Contact Hours
3 hours per week


Recommended Texts
- Oxford Paravia Italian Dictionary

Mark Breakdown
3 Assignments 15%
2 Tests 30%
2 Oral presentations 20%
Participation 10%
Final Exam 25%

Participation and preparation: you are expected to maintain regular attendance and participate actively in class. Participation is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation, overall in-class performance, and contribution to group work and in-class activities and discussions. You need to complete all assigned readings and homework before coming to class. Please note, cellular phones must be turned off during class. Laptops can be used for the sole purpose of taking notes. Use of laptops for purposes other than taking notes (i.e., to access the Internet, watch videos, play games, etc.) is distracting to the instructor and the other students and will not be tolerated.

Absences: Students must provide medical documentation in order to write make-up tests or to be permitted to reschedule their oral presentation.

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.

Oral Presentations: there will be two presentations, one per term, on topics related to Italian culture.

Prerequisite: Italian 2200 or 2250 (formerly 250) or equivalent
Antirequisite: The former Italian 200 and 300
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. It is your responsibility to understand these policies, and thus ignorance thereof cannot be used as grounds for appeal.