

Italian 1030
Italian for Beginners
2018-2019

Benvenuti! Welcome to Italian 1030 - Italian for Beginners!

This course is designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of Italian. In its new engaging format, the course is composed of three hours per week of in-class instruction, and one hour of online activities at home. It is a dynamic introductory course to the Italian language and culture that blends traditional classroom interaction and online activities. Students are provided with immediate online feedback and engage in active learning to acquire beginners' communicative skills by collaborating in positive, constructive manner. This course will introduce you to the standard Italian language in an active and practical way!

Please read this syllabus carefully and refer to it regularly for very important information related to the course.

Course Objectives

- to develop the ability to understand, speak, read, and write basic Italian
- to provide students with the understanding of elementary grammatical structures
- to enable students to express themselves in different cultural contexts
- to build solid foundations for progression to Italian 2200 as well as for other Italian courses/modules in the Italian program at Western
- to enable students to build a strong basis for learning outside the classroom to collaborate and practice in class in a dynamic manner via interaction with their peers
- to encourage a positive attitude towards language learning and the exploring and understanding of different cultures to enhance students' intercultural competence, regarding the Italian and the North American context, but not exclusively.

Learning Outcomes

- to understand questions and short texts in the target language
- to carry on basic conversations within the range of topics explored
- to read short passages dealing with contemporary social issues and daily life in Italy
- to create oral presentations and written texts on specific topics
- to master basic grammatical structures and use them actively in oral and written expression
- to basic knowledge and understanding of Italian culture and appreciation of cultural similarities and differences in relation to specific values and communication styles

COURSE DETAILS

Website: http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/programs_degrees/italian_studies.html

Unofficial blog of the Italian Program: <https://westernitalian.wordpress.com/category/events/>

Required Text (available at Western's Book Store):

Title: *Sentieri (Loose-leaf Edition; Units 1 to 6 + Access code to Super Site Plus with access to vText and wSAM, web Student Activity Manual)*, Julia M. Cozzatrelli, Vista Higher Learning, Edition: 2nd

Recommended Supplementary Material:

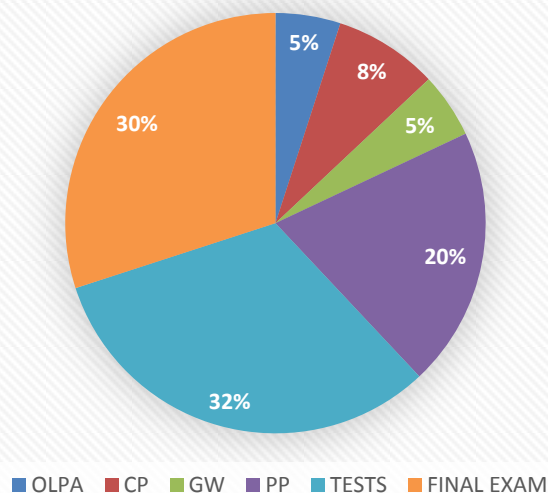
- *English Grammar for Students of Italian: The Study Guide for Those Learning Italian*

Authors: [Sergio Adorni](#) and [Karen Primorac](#); Publisher (O&H Study Guides)

- Bilingual Dictionary: **Collins** or **Oxford Italian Dictionary**; online bilingual dictionaries: <http://www.garzantilinguistica.it/>

AND <http://oxfordparavia.it/>

METHOD OF EVALUATION



Method of Evaluation

Online Learning Preparation and Activities (OLPA)*: 5%
 Class Participation (PP): 20%**
 4 Tests: 32%
 Group Work (GW): 5%
 Final Poster Presentation (PP): 8%
 Final Exam: 30%
 Total: 100%

A+	90-100
A	80-89
B	70-79
C	60-69
D	50-59
F	below 50

***Activities** include practice activities as outlined in the *Online Activities Schedule*.

****Bonus points 3% for Participation:** *Italian Studies @ Western organizes several cultural activities throughout the year that enhance the learning of Italian. List of extra-course activities will be provided at the start of term. These activities include, but are not limited to, guest speakers, end-of-the-year theatrical performance, Italian cooking classes, Cineclub Italiano, Conversation Club, and more. Students will be provided with a passport with a list of the activities and percentage, to be signed by activities leaders. Bonus Points will be credited for completed activities recorded on the Passport, handed in to the instructor at the end of the course.*

Online Learning Activities, Preparation and Class Participation:

The Online Learning Activities are an integral part of the course and the foundations of class participation. Students are asked to prepare for the in-class portion of the course by completing the selected activities as indicated in the weekly calendar distributed at the beginning of the course. (Your professor might add other activities, for practice). Participation is assessed based on class preparation built on this weekly online component, the overall in-class performance and progress, including group and pair in-class activities, and willingness to communicate in Italian. Students who miss classes or parts of classes are responsible for the material they have missed. For more details about missed classes and final exam debarment, please check <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

Tests and Final Exam: There will be 4 tests (2 hour long each) that will include a grammar section and a listening comprehension. Students will receive guidelines about the tests beforehand, and of course class time and homework will be geared to the preparation for the tests. No make-ups will be allowed unless appropriate documentation is provided. See below under "Missed Assignments".

Please note: The Final Exam is timetabled by the Office of the Registrar during the April examination period. Please, plan your travels accordingly. NO special examinations can be granted with approval of the Dean's Office.

Final Poster Presentation:

On Thursday, March 28, students (in groups of 3 or 4) will present a poster on aspects of Italian culture in the global context, at the Italian Studies Cultural Awareness Day on campus. Each group will be in attendance for one hour. With the assistance of their professors, students will select a topic and a time slot for their poster presentation in the Fall term. While posters will be bilingual, Italian and English, the poster presentation will be in Italian to allow your professor to assess your oral performance. Practice beforehand with your group mates is highly recommended. Students will be assessed on their contribution individually, and the evaluation grid will be posted on OWL. This activity encourages intercultural communication, and will give students the opportunity to showcase their ability to speak Italian at the level appropriate for a Beginner level. More details will be provided in late September, via OWL.

Common statement for all MLL courses on academic accommodation, academic offenses, support services:

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Missed Assignments:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical or non-medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Please refer to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and download a Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> Students who found themselves in emotional/mental distress are encouraged to refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of confidential options about how to obtain help.

Classroom use of electronic device:

Please be advised that the instructor might require a student to shut down any electronic device if used for purposes others than those related to the course. Cell phones are to be set on vibration mode or turned off during class at all times. Students are asked not to engage in phone conversations, texting, twittering or facebooking during class time for the benefit of their own overall learning experience and that of their classmates. Repeated breach of these guidelines will result with the student being excused for the rest of the class with consequent loss of any in-class assignment or participation mark for that day.

E-mails:

While your instructors and TAs will do their best to reply within a reasonable timeframe during weekdays to your emails, make sure that the answer to your questions is not already contained in your syllabus. This will save lots of time and concerns.