Italian 2220B: Italian Conversation
Italian 3320B: Advanced Italian Conversations

Instructor: Luca Pocci (lpocci@uwo.ca)
Classes: Tuesday 11:30-1:30, Thursday 11:30-12:30, TC 203

Tentative Syllabus

Course Content
A variety of guided conversations in Italian dealing with issues relating to contemporary Italy. Students will develop their communicative skills in Italian through discussion of a number of topics, ranging from social and political issues to media, pop culture, cinema, music, fashion, food, and sports. The course and the instructor’s feedback will be entirely in Italian.
Please note: second-year and upper-year Italian students will share one and the same classroom. They will interact in Italian and learn from each other under their instructor’s guidance. While the course content will be the same, course aims and learning outcomes will differ, i.e. they will reflect the students’ different levels of proficiency in Italian.

Course Aims for Italian 2220B

• Improve oral fluency through guided conversations and presentations in Italian;

• Expand students’ vocabulary in a way that will benefit both general conversation and discussion of specific topics;

• Familiarize students with a variety of current issues relating to
Italy through different sources (short readings, websites, videos, music etc.);

- Provide a solid foundation for advanced courses in the target language.

**Course Aims for Italian 3320B**

- Strengthen and refine oral fluency through guided conversations and presentations in Italian;

- Enrich students’ vocabulary and communicative skills in a way that will benefit both general conversation and discussion of specific topics;

- Enhance students’ familiarity with a variety of current issues relating to Italy through different sources (short readings, websites, videos, music etc.).

**Learning Outcomes for Italian 2220B**

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

- Speak with greater confidence and fluency in the target language;

- Have a broader passive and active vocabulary;

- Be able to express opinions and doubt, as well as agreement and disagreement;

- Be able to give meaningful oral presentations using only a list of key words;

- Have a broader cultural awareness and an understanding of some current issues relating to Italy.

**Learning Outcomes for Italian 3320B**

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

- Communicate with a greater degree of verbal competence in the target language;

- Have a sound awareness of the different language registers in Italian;

- Be able to advance and defend a position on relatively complex topics;

- Be able to improvise short oral presentations using only a list of key words;

- Demonstrate critical understanding of some current issues relating to Italy.
Contact Hours
One two-hour class meeting, and one one-hour meeting per week.

Course Material
To be Announced

Evaluation
- Participation and preparation 15%
- Role plays 20%
- Vocabulary quizzes 20%
- Presentations (individual or small group) 20%
- Oral Assessments 25%

Participation and preparation: students will need to bring the required course material to every class and are expected to attend all lectures and to complete all assigned readings. This is a CONVERSATION class, so there is no such thing as passive participation. Expanding and strengthening oral communication skills requires active participation, which is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation (i.e., completion of assigned readings) and involvement in all in-class activities (discussions, group work, etc.).

Role plays: students will be divided into small groups and will engage in role-playing activities based on examples of real-life settings and contexts. Students will be expected to use structures and vocabulary that they have learned in class and at home.

Quizzes: short vocabulary quizzes will be administered on selected dates, based on specific readings and topics covered throughout the term.

Presentations: students will deliver two individual or small group presentations on topics related to Italy and Italian culture. The presentations will require some research and will be followed by discussion moderated by the presenter/presenters. In addition to being informative in reference to the assigned topic, presenters are also expected to generate debate and interaction with the rest of the class.

Oral assessments: two individual oral assessments with the instructor will be held approximately one month after the beginning of classes and at the end of the course. Feedback on strong and weak points will be provided.

Absences: students must provide medical documentation in order to write make-up quizzes or to be permitted to reschedule their oral presentations, assessments or role plays.
Pre-or Co-requisite(s) for Italian 2200B: Italian 2200, Italian 2200W/X, Italian 2202X, the former Italian 2250 or permission of the Department.
CROSS-LISTED WITH ITALIAN 3320B.

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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.