ITLN 101 - ELEMENTARY ITALIAN I
AUTUMN SEMESTER 2018

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Marco Guadagnoli
Office: LA 319
Email: marco.guadagnoli@mso.umt.edu
Office hours: M 2:00-2:50 pm,

CLASS INFORMATION
TW 1:00 -1:50 pm and by appointment

Textbook

Recommended activities
Italian Club – Il Circolo italiano (Informal Italian conversation, Italian film nights, and cultural activities).

Course level
No prior experience is required for this course.

Course description, goals and outcomes
Elementary Italian (ITLN 101) is the first semester of the two semester introductory sequence (ITLN 101 – ITLN 102). This course presents the first principles of Italian language, geography and culture. It will enable students to communicate in Italian from the first day of class, with emphasis on language comprehension and production through reading, writing, listening, and speaking. A communicative approach will be used to learn and practice language items. The cultural focus at this level is the personal world of the student. Therefore, topics in first semester will include friends, family, school, sports, food, and daily life.

The main goal of the class is to develop communicative competence and confidence in Italian language and culture from the very first day. You will not understand each word, and at this stage, you are not supposed to. Try to follow by focusing on the context, rather than each individual word. Grammatical structures and vocabulary are a key component of the course, but they will be presented as they fit into the chapter themes and they will allow learners to gain a better understanding of both Italian and English languages.

ITLN 101 is a four-skills course that focuses on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course will provide a working vocabulary, basic structures of Italian and a growing familiarity with Italian culture. Successful students will acquire the skills necessary to:
1. have an understanding of spoken Italian within a number of limited contexts;
2. be able to communicate in Italian, employing basic conversational strategies;
3. be able to read beginning level language texts;
4. be able to write simple but correct Italian on a range of familiar topics;
5. have an elementary understanding of contemporary Italian culture.

POLICIES

Participation

Class participation is essential and fundamental. The class is conducted in Italian. Each lesson is relatively fast paced and contains multiple activities, including questions and answers, pair/group activities, and role playing. Please be aware that the majority of the in-class work is comprised of interactivities. All enrolled students make up a community of Italian speakers and are each other’s best resource. Each and every one is required to initiate conversation, to take chances with the language and to be open to learning from their successes and mistakes.

The final participation grade will be calculated according to:

1 - Attendance
2 - Homework submission
3 - Commitment and motivation

Technology usage

Students can bring to class their devices (i.e. smartphones, tablets, laptops) but their usage is restricted to specific times during the lesson.

The instructor will share and use a series of tools to facilitate language learning. Moodle and especially Google Drive related tools will be widely used, so students should have a Gmail account open to work with it.

If students use their devices for other purposes, they will be taken and kept up to the end of the given class.

Study Hints

Learning a language requires daily revision, perseverance, and application. One learns a language by performing it in all its modes: listening, writing, reading, and speaking it. Language learning does not require exceptional intellect or any particular gift; indeed, many people who have had no formal schooling are multilingual. Nor is it a discipline students can master by cramming for exams. Short doses of study several times a day are best for becoming skilled in a language.

PLEASE NOTE: Students should plan on a minimum of 1 ½ hour of individual study to prepare for each hour of performance in class.
Attendance
Students are expected to attend every class. Attendance will be taken daily and recorded. Excused absences may be allowed, but they must be specific and verifiable. Excused absences include illness, family emergencies, athletic or university-sponsored activities that can be verified by an administrator or official organization, and religious holiday, among others. If you have an excusable absence it is up to you to contact the instructor either beforehand or within two sessions after your absence. Otherwise absences will be considered unexcused. Students will be allowed four (4) unexcused absences for the course without grade penalty. Twelve (12) unexcused absences may become grounds for failing the course solely because of them.
Attendance will be taken for each class, latecomers will be let in up to 10 minutes into the lesson (at the instructor's discretion) and it will be recorded as such. Three tardies will count as an unexcused absence.
PLease note: If students do miss class, it is their responsibility to find out what they have missed to get caught up. They should exchange contact information with their fellow classmates, check moodle or contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Homework
Homework will consist of exercises from the workbook and from the textbook, as well as any other material the instructor might prepare for the purpose of the class. Homework submission will be decided by the instructor each single time, it could be in hard copy as well as electronically. If in hard copy, please staple pages together before class and turn in neat homework.
Do your best, and be sensitive to assignments you are not certain about. Tasks can be discussed in class, or during office hours. It is very important to keep up with homework as it is assigned, an important component of improvement will be learning from your mistakes.
PLease note: Late work will be accepted for grading only before the date of the test on the current chapter. After that date, it will not be graded.

Quizzes
At least once per chapter or series of chapters, there will be a brief quiz on vocabulary and grammar. They will not be part of the final grade but will help students to get ready for the tests.

Tests
Tests are given at the end of each chapter or series of chapters. They are cumulative in nature because language learning is cumulative. Tests can only be made up with advance notice unless a sufficient and documented excuse is provided.

Final Exam
The Final Exam for ITLN 101 will be cumulative and take place on December 10th 2018 at 8-10 am.

**Grading**

Final grades will be calculated in the following way:

- Participation 20%
- Homework and Preparation 30%
- Quizzes N/A
- Tests 30%
- Final exam 20%

PLEASE NOTE: there will be no extra-credit assignments. Please do the homework assignments as given.

**Students with Disabilities**

This course offers equal opportunity in education for all participants, including those with documented physical and documented learning disabilities. For information regarding documentation of disabilities, approaching your instructor with pertinent information, and establishing guidelines for potential accommodation, you may consult the Disability Service for Student (DSS) [http://www.umt.edu/dss/website]. Please note that accommodations can only be established via consultation with DSS and take effect only after the instructor has been informed. The DSS Office is located in Lommasson 154; the phone number is 243-2243.

**Plagiarism and Academic Honesty**

Please refer to the Student Conduct Code of the University [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php] as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and research.
## COURSE SCHEDULE*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>27/08 - 30/08</td>
<td>Lezione 1 - Primi contatti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>04/09 - 06/09</td>
<td>Lezione 1- Lezione 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>10/09-13/09</td>
<td>Lezione 2 + Test 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>17/09-20/09</td>
<td>Lezione 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>24/09-27/09</td>
<td>Lezione 4</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>01/10-04/10</td>
<td>Lezione 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>08/10-11/10</td>
<td>Review + Test 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>15/10-18/10</td>
<td>Review first half of the course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>22/10-25/10</td>
<td>Lezione 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>29/10-01/11</td>
<td>Lezione 7 + Test 3</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>05/11-08/11</td>
<td>Lezione 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>12/11-15/11</td>
<td>Lezione 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>19/11-20/11</td>
<td>Lezione 9 + Test 4(?)</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>26/11-29/11</td>
<td>Lezione 10 + Review second half of the course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>03/12-06/12</td>
<td>Review whole course</td>
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Mon Dec. 10, h 8-10am FINAL EXAM

*The schedule is indicative.*