



The University Of
T A M P A

Dept. of Languages & Linguistics

Introductory Italian I

ITA101 – Fall 2019 Syllabus

Course Information

Building and room: SFB 150

Meeting days and times: MWF 10:00-11:10

Number of credit hours in course: 4

Instructor Information

Instructor: Vanessa Rukholm, PhD

Office: PH311C

Email: vrukholm@ut.edu

Office Phone: 813-257-3138

Office hours: T 12-1pm

Course Description

Benvenuti! This is a first semester introductory Italian course designed for students with little to no previous experience in Italian. The aim of the course is to provide students with the tools to develop communicative competence in Italian language and culture by honing students' oral, aural, reading, and writing skills. The development of these skills will be supported through students' participation in individual and small group activities as well as through the use of a variety of resources such as music, video clips, films, short stories, television programs, current events, etc.

Prerequisites None. This course is not open to native or heritage speakers. Students with two or more years of high school Italian must speak with the instructor in the first week of classes regarding appropriate placement.

Required Texts/Materials

Aski, Janice & Diane Musumeci. *Avanti!* 4th ed. McGraw Hill

McGraw Hill Connect Access with LearnSmart.

Dictionary: Any pocket Italian-English dictionary (e.g. Collins) or an app such as Word Reference.

(Bundle available at the UT bookstore or online at the following link: [UT ITA101&102 Textbook Bundle](#))

****The bundle available at the bookstore contains the access codes and passwords that you will need to access the online homework material and other resources. Please do not discard them!****

Online homework: In order to access the homework for this course, use the following link: <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/v-rukholm-ita-101-fall2019> ; there, you will be prompted for your access code.

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes for this course are reasonable and attainable. By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- greet people in informal and formal situations
- accurately count from 0 to 1 million using cardinal numbers
- describe persons, places, things routines using adjectives
- describe routines
- accurately tell time
- accurately conjugate and use in original sentences Italian verbs in the present and simple past
- accurately construct sentences in the affirmative and the negative
- use accurately in context Italian simple and articulated prepositions
- recognize and produce accurately the gender and plurals of nouns
- ask questions using interrogative words
- accurately use indefinite and definite articles accurately in original sentences
- recognize and use adverbs accurately in original sentences
- recognize and use Italian idiomatic expressions
- recognize and use the Italian phonetic system
- read, understand, and write about basic authentic texts in Italian
- carry on basic conversations with native speakers
- speak and write about aspects of Italian culture (e.g. shopping, etiquette, food culture, etc.)

Your completion of ITA 101 will contribute to your attainment of **Goals I** and **IX** of the **UT Baccalaureate Experience**:

Goal I: To learn to communicate effectively through reading, writing, speaking, listening, and observing, so as to acquire, develop, and convey ideas and information.

Goal IX: To understand both the commonality and diversity of human social existence in an increasingly interdependent world.

Grading Policy

Graded Course Activities

The table below describes the graded course activities including a description and the percentage toward your final grade each is worth.

| Attendance/Participation | 10 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Online Homework | 15 |
| Chapter tests (3 @ 10%) | 30 |
| Quizzes (2 @ 2.5%) | 5 |
| Oral Tests (2 @ 5%) | 10 |
| Written Journals (<i>Componimenti</i>) (2 @ 7.5%) | 15 |
| Final Exam | 15 |
| Total | 100 % |

Grade Distribution

This table contains the breakdown of how letter grades will be assigned for the course. The first column describes the letter grade. The second column describes the percentage associated with that letter grade.

| A | above 92.5 % | Outstanding |
|----|------------------------|-------------|
| AB | above 87.5 % to 92.5 % | Excellent |
| B | above 82.5% to 87.5% | Very Good |

| | | |
|----|-------------------------|---------------|
| BC | above 77.5 % to 82.5 % | Good |
| C | above 72.5 % to 77.5 % | Average |
| CD | above 67.5 & to 72.5 % | Below Average |
| D | above 62.50 % to 67.5 % | Passing |
| F | 62.50 % or below | Failing |

Course Policies

Participation/Attendance

Active and regular participation in a language course is crucial to your ability to master key concepts and vocabulary and will directly influence your progress in this course. As such, attendance and participation will be noted at every lecture. Note that the use of electronic devices in class (unless otherwise requested by your professor) is strictly prohibited. Use of electronic devices in class will negatively affect your participation grade.

The only excused absences are for official University of Tampa sponsored events in which a student's participation is mandatory or religious . Documentation from a University Official (e.g. professor, administrator, coach, etc.) must be provided and submitted to me PRIOR to your foreseen absence. Absences will be counted from the first day of class, as such, students who add the course during Drop/Add week have already accumulated absences. The following guidelines will be adhered to:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Up to 2 absences: | no penalty |
| 3-4 absences: | one letter grade deduction |
| > 4 absences: | 2+letter grade deductions/course failure |

PLEASE NOTE: If you miss a class, **DO NOT** expect your instructor to provide you with individualized instruction during office hours. It is up to **YOU** to seek out the information you have missed from your peers. Do this first and then see your instructor if you have doubts/questions.

Computer and Electronic Media Policy

Electronics are a source of distraction and therefore, use of electronics in class is prohibited at all times unless specifically requested by your professor. Students are

asked to keep electronics stored out of sight for the duration of class and to keep the volume turned off. Students caught using electronics will lose participation points.

Target Language Policy

The format of this class is based on empirical evidence that the best use of classroom time is repeated opportunities to comprehend and communicate language. Because of this, it is imperative that you both hear and use the target language. As your professor, I am your “communication facilitator”, meaning that I am here to speak Italian as much as possible and to HELP you in your language learning journey by providing tools to support YOUR study. These tools include opportunities for meaningful communication with your peers, examples of authentic language (readings, video clips, songs, etc.), etc.. Your proficiency in Italian cannot develop unless YOU make an effort to speak, read, and write in Italian. The important thing is to TRY!

Missed Work Policy

All graded term work has been clearly scheduled in the syllabus so plan accordingly. Students who are absent on the day of a test or quiz will **not** be given the opportunity to write at a later date. Instead, **IF** appropriate documentation is provided the percentage the missed assignment was worth will be added to a subsequent assessment similar in nature and grade value as deemed by your instructor. Appropriate documentation includes: official note on University of Tampa letterhead, medical note on physician’s letterhead (must include dates student could not attend class). Letters from parents or personal statements are not acceptable.

For accommodations related to religious holidays, please speak with your instructor well in advance.

Journals that are submitted late are subject to a grade deduction of 10% for each day the assignment is late.

Email Policy

Contact your professor using your spartans.ut.edu email.

Email is considered a formal and official means of communication. It is not appropriate to send an email that looks like a text message; this includes emojis and shorthand. Your email will go unanswered if it does not contain the following four components and/or looks like a text.

Note: Emails received after 5pm will go unanswered until the next business day. Emails received on Friday at or after 5pm will go unanswered until Monday.

Make sure to include the following information in your email:

1. A **subject** for your email, which also includes the course title – "ITA 101"
2. A **greeting**/form of address
3. The body of your email should state clearly your **question** or **problem**.
4. A **closing** AND your name

Here is a sample email:

Subject: ITA 101 Question

Buongiorno Professoressa Rukholm,

I have a question about the homework. Could I talk to you during your office hours tomorrow?

Saluti,

Your name

Reporting Sexual Violence/ Title IX Matters

Sexual violence includes nonconsensual sexual contact and nonconsensual sexual intercourse (which is any type of sexual contact without your explicit consent, including rape), dating violence, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, and stalking. You may reach out for confidential help (see contact info below) or report an incident for investigation.

If you choose to write or speak about an incident of sexual violence and disclose that this violence occurred while you were a UT student, the instructor is obligated to report the incident to the Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students. The purpose of this report is to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students. The Deputy Coordinator or his or her designee will contact you to let you know about the resources, accommodations, and support services at UT and possibilities for holding the perpetrator accountable. If you do not want the Title IX Coordinator notified, instead of disclosing this information to your instructor, you can speak confidentially with the individuals listed below. They can connect you with support services and discuss options for holding the perpetrator accountable.

There is an exception to this required reporting for preventative education programs and public awareness events or forums. While the instructor is not required to report disclosures during these instances, unless you make or initiate a complaint, during these programs or events, the instructor or another University official will ensure that the students are aware of the available resources at UT, such as counseling, health, and mental health services, and it will provide information about Title IX, how to file a Title IX complaint, how to make a confidential report, and the procedure for reporting sexual violence.

For more information, see The University of Tampa's [Title IX¹](#) webpage and the Student Services [Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Procedures²](#) webpage.

To make a confidential report of sexual violence, please contact:

- The Victim's Advocacy Hotline: (victimadvocacy@ut.edu) (813) 257-3900.
- Dickey Health & Wellness Center (wellness@ut.edu) (813) 257-1877.
- Health and Counseling Center (healthcenter@ut.edu) (813) 253-6250

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities: If there is a student who requires accommodations because of any disability, please go to the Academic Success Center in North Walker Hall for information regarding registering as a student with a disability. You may also call (813) 257- 5757 or email disability.services@ut.edu. Please feel free to discuss this issue with me, in private, if you need more information.

Campus Closure Statement

Course interruption due to adverse conditions: In case of any adverse condition or situation which could interrupt the schedule of classes, each student is asked to access [UT Homepage³](#) for information about the status of the campus and class meetings. In addition, please refer to [UT Blackboard⁴](#) for announcements and other important information. You are responsible for accessing this information.

Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity: Cheating, plagiarism, copying and any other behavior that is contrary to University standards of behavior will not be tolerated. In language courses such as this one, plagiarism also includes the following:

1. Using an online **translation engine**, such as Google translate, for entire blocks of text
2. Getting a family member, friend, or tutor to translate your work into Italian or to 'help' you by writing for you.

¹ <http://www.ut.edu/titleix/>

² <https://www.ut.edu/studentconduct/titleix/>

³ <http://ut.edu>

⁴ <https://utampa.okta.com>

Students caught violating any aspect of the University of Tampa's Academic Integrity Policy will be penalized in all cases. Penalty ranges from "0" on an assignment to "F" for the course without regard to a student's accumulated points. Students may also face expulsion. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the policies of the university regarding academic integrity and to avoid violating such policies. Policy information is found at [Academic Integrity Policy](#)⁵.

Class Disruption Statement

Disruption policy: Every student has the right to a comfortable learning environment where the open and honest exchange of ideas may freely occur. Each student is expected to do his or her part to ensure that the classroom (and anywhere else the class may meet) remains conducive to learning. This includes respectful and courteous treatment of all in the classroom. According to the terms of the University of Tampa Disruption Policy, the professor will take immediate action when inappropriate behavior occurs. Details of the policy may be found at [Disruption of the Academic Process](#)⁶.

General Disclaimer

Note: The professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary.

Tentative Course Schedule

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|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 1 | August 25 | Introduzione al corso Saluti Alfabeto Mesi e stagioni Numeri da 0 a 9,999 |
| Week 2 | Sept. 1 NO classes Sept. 2 (Labor Day) | Quiz 1 (Sept. 6) Maschile o femminile Articolo indeterminativo Plurale |
| Week 3 | Sept. 8 | Articolo determinativo Piacere |

⁵ <http://ut.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/catalog/Academic-Policies-and-Procedures/Academic-Integrity-Policy>

⁶ <http://ut.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/catalog/Academic-Policies-and-Procedures/Disruption-of-the-Academic-Process>

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|---------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Cibi Cultura: gesti italiani/italiani famosi/Mi piace Facebook |
| Week 4 | Sept. 15 | TEST 1 (Sept. 20) Asking someone for general information Nazionalità Descrizioni (aggettivi) Forza Azzurri! Questo/quello Essere/avere C'è/ci sono |
| Week 5 | Sept. 22 | Aggettivi possessivi Cultura: I cognomi/Siamo europei!/Cerco compagno(a) di casa/ il codice segreto/Nuovo Cinema Paradiso |
| Week 6 | Sept. 29 | Esame orale 1 (Oct. 4) Getting someone's attention L'ora Nel tempo libero Che fai di bello? Infinito dei verbi Il presente |
| Week 7 | Oct. 6 | Test 2 (Oct. 11) Verbs with spelling/pronunciation changes Verbi irregolari Cultura: L'orario degli italiani/avere una doppia vita/Che fa?/Pronto, che fai? |
| Week 8 | Oct. 13 | Componimento 1 (Oct. 16) Chi sei/Cosa fai? Che bello! La famiglia I possessivi con la famiglia Interrogativi |
| Week 9 | Oct. 20 | Quiz 2 (Oct. 16) Quanto/quale Verbi irregolari Il comparativo Cultura: La famiglia italiana oggi/Come leggere un'opera d'arte/Bamboccioni o no?/Mamma!/ Il blog di Emiliano-Roma |
| Week 10 | Oct. 27 | Ti piacerebbe? Grazie, ma non posso Tutti a tavola! Il superlativo Verbo + infinito |
| Week 11 | Nov. 3 | Test 3 (Nov. 1) Al ristorante Preposizioni |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Il partitivo Cultura: Il galateo a tavola!/Pellegrino Artusi/Lo chef consiglia/Che maleducati! |
| Week 12 | Nov. 10 | Componimento 2 (Nov. 6) Mi puoi...?/Posso? Cosa porti? Le parti del corpo Oggetti diretti e indiretti Presente progressivo |
| Week 13 | Nov. 17 | Verbi riflessivi Avverbi Cultura: La moda italiana/Maschere italiane/L'indumento magico/Cosa portiamo in America?/Il mostro |
| Week 14 | Nov. 24 – Nov. 29 FALL BREAK | |
| Week 15 | Dec. 1 | ESAME ORALE 2 (Dec. 4) Ripasso per l'esame finale |
| Final Exam (in class): Dec. 11 – 11:00-1:00 pm | | |