

# Italian 1911

## Elementary Italian

### Summer 2018

#### Intensive and hybrid

Prof. Cristina Perissinotto, PhD

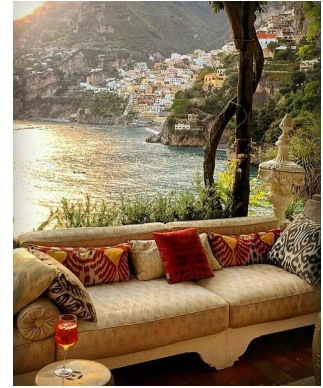
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Tel.: 613-562-5800 Ext. 2550

Office hours:

- After class outside of our classroom
- You can also make an appointment. We can meet in my office or on Skype

EMAIL: [cperissi@uottawa.ca](mailto:cperissi@uottawa.ca)



#### TEXTBOOKS, APPS AND SOFTWARE

**MANDATORY:** *Mega Italiano 1* (available at Agora)

**MANDATORY:** BRIGHTSPACE: <https://uottawa.brightspace.com/>

**MANDATORY:** EDPuzzle: [www.edpuzzle.com](http://www.edpuzzle.com)

- You need to create a personal account. PLEASE use only one email account, and create only ONE account for this class. If you enter more than one account I'll get very confused and it might be detrimental to your absence count.
- The code to enter this class is **jukteiz**
- Or visit this link: <https://edpuzzle.com/join/jukteiz>

**RECOMMENDED:** a good Italian-English or Italian-French dictionary.

**RECOMMENDED:** Espresso Grammatica (available at Agora bookstore)

**Optional: FACEBOOK PAGE:** *Italiano University of Ottawa*

**Optional: TWITTER:** @italianUottawa, @prof\_cristina\_p

**COURSE CALENDAR:** See separate file

#### OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE AS APPROVED BY THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

Course for beginners with no knowledge of Italian. Acquisition of fundamental speaking, reading and writing skills. Study of vocabulary and grammar; oral and written practice; computer-assisted learning, and use of music and of video. *Cours pour débutants n'ayant aucune notion d'italien. Acquisition des compétences fondamentales pour parler, lire et écrire l'italien. Étude du vocabulaire et de la grammaire ; exercices oraux et écrits; apprentissage assisté par ordinateur, musique et vidéocassettes.*

#### GENERAL AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF

**THE COURSE:** In this course we shall learn how to speak, write, listen and read in Italian at the elementary level. We shall use computers to assist and enhance the study of grammar, vocabulary and culture.

Whenever appropriate, we shall use videos, movies and songs to improve students' Italian skills and



introduce them to different aspects of Italian language and culture. This course is intensive and hybrid. This means that some of the teaching will be imparted online.

**TEACHING METHOD:** Class activities will include conversation, reading, movies, music, newspapers etc. **There will be three quizzes, but no make-ups or rewrites will be allowed, for any reason.** There will be one final written sit-down exam at the end of the course, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August.

**This is a “hybrid” class.**

This is very important: this class is taught in hybrid mode. It means that you will come to the main lectures as per the calendar (posted on Brightspace), and on top of that there will be at least 10 online lectures.

TWO TYPES OF LECTURES:

- All the Powerpoint lectures will be posted on Brightspace as PDF/PowerPoints.
- Some of the lectures (the ones that are only online) will also be recorded and posted on EdPuzzle with voiceover. This way you will be able to listen to them as many times as you want, and answer the questions embedded in the videos.

**Lectures on EDpuzzle:** Every week, you will have to watch and interact with one online lecture, and do your homework on Brightspace. Those lectures are posted on EDpuzzle ([www.edpuzzle.com](http://www.edpuzzle.com)). The lectures will be open for a week, after which they will no longer be available. If you do not watch or do not answer at least 50% of the questions correctly, you will be marked absent for that lecture.

**NB: This is important – if you have multiple email addresses, please sign up with only one email address on EDpuzzle. If you sign up with more than one email, you will come up in the Edpuzzle system as two students. This will result in a lot of confusion and possible absences for one of the two of you, if this makes any sense.**

**NB: If there are activities outside of the classroom or outside of CAMPUS, they will be during class time and they will be MANDATORY.**

**QUIZZES AND FINAL EXAM:**

- Quizzes are periodical reviews of what we cover in class. They are usually two pages long and they should take about 50 minutes to complete. All the quizzes will be on Thursday. **There will be no quiz on the first or final week (August 13 to 18), because the final exam will be right after.**
- The final exam is an in-depth review of what we have covered in class and in your homework. It will comprise at least five or six parts: reading, grammar, composition, vocabulary, culture, and perhaps dictation.
- There will be NO makeup for homework, quizzes or exams; if you don't show up for the quizzes or exam you won't be able to make up for it.

### **Attendance grade:**

1. Attendance is mandatory. It means that you need to be present in class for the in-class lectures (we'll take attendance) and for the online lectures. All the online lectures will be asynchronous, which means that you will be able to follow them at home in your own time. But they are only open for 8 days, from Sunday to the next Monday night, so you need to follow them during the week they are assigned.

To make this easier, and for us to familiarize ourselves with the system, I will leave the lectures pertaining to the first week open for two weeks.

2. **If you are more than twice late, you will lose your participation points for the whole course.** We are always on time, you be too.

3. **ONLY IF YOU HAVE ATTENDED CLASS DURING THE COURSE ARE YOU ALLOWED TO TAKE THE FINAL EXAM. IF YOU DO NOT RESPECT OUR CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY, YOU WILL BE BARRED FROM TAKING THE FINAL EXAM. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

4. **In particular, if you missed more than 20% of the classes (including the online lectures) you will not be admitted to the final exam.**

5. You will be allowed up to 2 **free** absences. Please use them wisely. Beyond those two absences, 3% per absence will be taken off your final percentage grade. **Absences include classes online.**

6. If you are consistently more than 15 minutes late, especially on quiz days, you will be considered absent.

7. **If you have a recurring health problem that prevents you from being present in class for extended periods of time, please contact the professor as soon as possible (no later than July 25<sup>th</sup>).**

**If you have a scheduling problem that prevents you from being in class on time, please contact the professor as soon as possible (no later than July 25<sup>th</sup>).** The Professor will not accept any justification for scheduling conflicts, chronic illnesses or work-related issues that have not been brought up by July 25th, not even if they are justified by a doctor's note.

8. Exceptions to the attendance policy: we make exceptions to the class attendance policy only in two cases: a hospitalization (with documentation), and a death in the family (only for the first degree of kinship, that is, parents or siblings). I will not justify anything that does not come with appropriate official documents.

9. A work-related issue (such as a business trip or a work-class schedule conflict, or a sports-related engagement) will not be taken into consideration as an exception to the attendance policy.

### **Late for class? Here is the policy:**

- If you are late for class, or if you leave class during the lecture, you will be marked absent.
- If you leave before class is dismissed, you will be marked absent.
- If we have a break, and you leave after the break, that that will be half an absence.

### **Electronics in class:**

**Computers and cell phones are not allowed during class. I don't want to see your cell phones on the desk either. If we have to tell you more than twice to put your cell phone/computer away, you will lose your participation mark for the entire semester.**

**Communicating with the Professor.** If you need to communicate with me during the term, I am available online at all times and will respond quickly, usually within the same day (if not immediately). This class is hybrid, so I will hold office hours after class, by appointment, and by Skype.

**Please learn the rules of professional communication when emailing me.**

**Please remember to greet properly, remember to address me by my title, say please and thank you, and sign your emails.**

**I receive a lot of email. I will not reply to emails that do not follow this simple protocol of communication.**

**Participation:**

1. Overall, 15% of your final grade is devoted to participation.
2. Although your attendance is expected, it is not enough to simply “show up.”
3. Research has shown that people learn languages best when they are actively engaged in the process.
4. You will receive a good participation score for actively listening and speaking in Italian.
5. Students who are actively listening should be able to readily answer any question about what is going on in class if the instructor or the professor were to call on them.
6. If you miss class, you will lose your participation score for the day.

Certain behaviors are **encouraged** and will help with your participation score:

- arriving on time for class
- paying attention; making an effort to speak in Italian
- asking for help in Italian; not asking other students to translate or provide answers for you
- completing small group or individual assignments
- encouraging other students to use Italian
- making sure that **your cell phone is turned off** and **in your backpack** during class time; the same goes for your **laptop** or **Ipad**.
- when in class, working exclusively on your Italian

Other behaviors are **discouraged** and will result in a participation grade equal to zero for that day:

- arriving late for class
- being disruptive
- ridiculing other students’ effort to speak Italian
- forgetting to turn off your **cell phone**
- your **laptop computers** will have to stay in your backpack. If you need to follow the Powerpoint presentation during class time, look at the screen or print it on paper. If you need to take notes, you can take them with pen and paper.
- and so on (you get the picture)

### Evaluation and grade breakdown:

Class attendance and **ACTIVE** participation, including being on time and **not** using electronics in class 15%  
Quizzes 30%  
Homework (on Brightspace) 15%  
Final exam (comprehensive and cumulative) 40 %

**NB:** requests for grade changes after the end of the course will only be considered in writing with appropriate documentation.

#### Useful tips:

- learning a language requires passion, dedication and memorization. You don't just "do" things with a language, you sit down and study it.
- studies have shown that students who actively engage in language learning perform better and score better on average than students who tend, or choose, to be passive learners.
- being an active learner means, among other things:
  - making an effort to speak, read and listen to Italian,
  - not being afraid of making mistakes.
- a little time spent every day on your assignments, vocabulary and grammar is the ideal way to learn a language.
- "cramming" for a quiz or an exam could get you a decent mark, but the material you've learnt overnight will probably not remain in your long-term memory.
- our teaching team is here to help you, so do not hesitate to call on us (by phone or email) if you have questions or comments.



#### This is important: when are the lectures posted?

Lectures will be posted online, both on Brightspace and on EdPuzzle, by Sunday night the week before the lecture is taught.

For example, for the week starting on July 16<sup>th</sup>, the lectures will be posted by Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>. The edpuzzle lectures will close on Monday night the week after. For the first week of classes, we keep them open for two weeks. Please consult the calendar.

The PDF version of the PowerPoint will be available on Brightspace for the entire duration of the course.

<b>Our team's commitment</b>	<b>Students' commitment</b>
We will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Be on time for class</li> <li>· Be prepared</li> <li>· State clearly our objectives</li> <li>· Be specific and clear in our directive</li> <li>· Give prompt and clear feedback on assignments</li> <li>· Be available</li> <li>· Listen to students' suggestions on how to improve courses.</li> </ul>	I will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Be on time for class</li> <li>· Be prepared</li> <li>· Consult regularly the course outline</li> <li>· Be specific and clear in my questions to the teacher</li> <li>· Watch the online lectures on time</li> <li>· Actively participate in the course</li> <li>· Suggest constructive improvements to the course</li> </ul>

**A NOTE FROM THE UNIVERSITY ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC FRAUD:**

please note that plagiarism and academic fraud are serious offenses. Please refer to the following document for more information:

<https://www.uottawa.ca/about/sites/www.uottawa.ca.about/files/plagiarism.pdf>