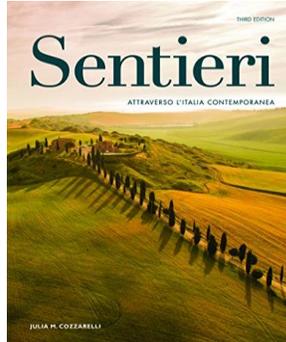




Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - Italian Studies  
**ITAL 206: Beginners Italian Intensive**  
Winter 2021



**Course schedule:** MTWR 4:05 PM – 5:25 PM (Sect. 001) / MTWR 11:35AM – 12:55PM (Sect.002)

**Location:** Zoom

**Lecturer:** Paolo Saporito / Anna Maria Tumino

**Email:** [paolo.saporito@mcgill.ca](mailto:paolo.saporito@mcgill.ca) / [anna.tumino@mcgill.ca](mailto:anna.tumino@mcgill.ca)

**Virtual office hours:** by appointment

**Communication plan:** Zoom /McGill email /Mycourses; I will answer questions within 24 hours on weekdays.

N.B. In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the university's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

ITAL 206 is an intensive language course (**6 credits**) designed for students who have no previous knowledge of Italian. Over a single term, this course introduces students to basic grammatical structures of written and oral Italian and enables them to acquire basic vocabulary for use in daily life situations.

### **PREREQUISITES**

There is no prerequisite for this course. No previous knowledge of Italian is required. However, this course **IS NOT** open to students who have taken both Italian 101 and Italian 102 at the Cegep level. Students who have some knowledge of Italian or of Italian dialect should speak to the lecturer at the beginning of term about proper placement.

For students wishing to pursue further study in Italian, this course fulfills the prerequisite for ITAL 215 (Intermediate Italian), ITAL 216 (Intensive Intermediate Italian).

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Talk about themselves and their environment (class, family, etc.);

- Handle survival situations (grocery & general shopping, eating in restaurants, traveling, etc.);
- Maintain a conversation in an everyday context (weather, daily routine, relationships, news, etc.);
- Give and ask for information;
- Describe a person or an event in the present and the past.

This course aims at developing the following skills:

**Oral comprehension:** Comprehend spoken Italian well enough to grasp the main idea and some supporting details in short conversations that relate to daily life and represent authentic situations. Understand audio and video material presented during the synchronous meetings and on the online component of the textbook.

**Oral production:** communicate at a basic level (dealing with common situations Such as asking and answering questions; talking about common subjects dealing with everyday life; description; narration.)

**Written comprehension:** read and understand short texts related to everyday life, cultural texts, short newspaper or magazine articles and narratives.

**Written production:** produce short texts on familiar topics (dialogues, descriptions and narrations).

## REQUIRED TEXTS

- Cozzarelli, Julia. *Sentieri + SupersitePlus access code, webSam* (web Student Activity Manual). *Sentieri*, VHL 3rd edition. The digital book is available for purchase at the following link: <https://oxford-university-press.square.site/product/9781543323535/4699>
- Scarso, Slawca G. *Un fine settimana a Roma*. Edizioni CDL, 2020. The digital book is available for purchase at the following link: <https://oxford-university-press.square.site/product/9788418224270/4701>
- Dictionary: a good Italian-English or Italian French dictionary. A dictionary is an essential tool to learning a foreign language. Departmental recommended online dictionaries:
  - Garzanti: <https://www.garzantilinguistica.it/>
  - Zanichelli: <http://dizionari.zanichelli.it/>
  - [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com)

## REQUIRED TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

- A dependable internet connection
- Headphones equipped with a microphone
- An appropriate device to produce short videos

- A webcam for oral assignments and oral presentations is **strongly recommended**

For any inquiries and/or regarding technical problems, please contact McGill IT Support:  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/it/>

## **INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD**

In accordance with University and Faculty of Arts' guidelines, teaching and learning of this course will consist of both synchronous and asynchronous activities. Students will be asked to complete asynchronous activities outside class time. Asynchronous learning will accommodate different time zones, it will allow self-paced assignment completion and alternative ways students can interact with the content. Asynchronous activities are an essential part of the course as they are also meant to prepare students for each class.

Synchronous activities will be conducted on Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on MyCourses) during the regularly scheduled course hours scheduled on Minerva. Although attendance at Zoom sessions is not mandatory, students are strongly encouraged to attend the synchronous sessions since interaction with the instructor and peers is an important aspect of language acquisition. Moreover, during the synchronous meetings, we have the opportunity to build a sense of collaboration and community.

The Zoom class sessions will not be recorded in this course. The students may be asked to record themselves in the Zoom room when creating dialogues and other audio exercises (see *Oral Assignments on VHL/MyCourses/Zoom*).

If students cannot attend the live sessions, it is his/her responsibility to study the lecture slides/notes which will be posted on Mycourses after class.

All students are expected to consult Mycourses after each class to keep up with the assigned homework (*Compiti*).

**Remote Learning Resources** – see Teaching and Learning Services for more information on using Zoom.

## **EVALUATION**

- Preparatory Work & Homework ..... 20%
- Quizzes ..... 20%
- Tests (2) ..... 20%
- Compositions (2) ..... 10%
- Written Assignments ..... 10%
- Oral Assignments ..... 10%
- Oral Presentations/Interviews ..... 10%

### **Preparatory Work & Homework**

All asynchronous activities assigned, must be completed *before* class meetings. Students are expected to devote approximately **1.5 - 2 hours on studying and preparing for the class per day**. The preparatory work will help them become familiar with the grammatical structures and the vocabulary that will be seen during the live sessions. Assigned activities will include: grammatical exercises, readings, vocabulary exercises, listening and speaking exercises on MyCourses and/or the online platform, Vista Higher Learning Supersite (VHL), associated with the textbook *Sentieri*, ([www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com)).

As stated under *Instructional method* “Asynchronous activities are an essential part of the course as they are also meant to prepare students for each class.”

In an effort to avoid “Zoom fatigue”, meetings on Zoom will be reduced to approximately 1 hour, therefore, it is essential that students dedicate the time indicated above to the asynchronous activities.

After each class meeting, the Preparatory Work/Homework will be posted on MyCourses and/or the VHL Supersite. The time limit to submit the preparatory work and homework is 5 minutes before every Zoom session.

Please note that 5% per day will be deducted for late submissions.

### **Quizzes**

Short quizzes will be given regularly on MyCourses and/or the VHL Supersite. Quizzes will help students monitor their acquisition of the material taught in class. Students will have an access window of at least 48 hours (outside regular class meeting times) in which to complete the quizzes.

### **Tests**

Students will be asked to take 2 tests on MyCourses or Zoom. Tests will include a grammar section, a composition and /or a listening comprehension. Students will have an access window of at least 48 hours (outside regular class meeting times) in which to complete the tests.

### **Compositions**

Students will be asked to write 2 compositions that are designed to develop their ability to use grammar structures and recycle vocabulary. Students must send, as a Word document, the compositions to the instructor on MyCourses (in Assignments) no later than 11:59 P.M. (Montreal time) on the due date. Late compositions carry a penalty of 1 point per day. Compositions handed in one week after due date will not be accepted.

### **Written Assignments**

Students will be given approximately 4 writing assignments. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

### **Oral Assignments on VHL/MyCourses/Zoom**

Students will produce short videos, audio exercises, and dialogues in pairs or groups. Given the nature of class meetings and the limited time available, students may be asked to record themselves while in the Zoom room. Those who are not comfortable with recording themselves will be allowed to turn off the camera. Videos will be seen by the instructor only. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

### **Oral Presentations/Interviews**

One oral interview conducted via Zoom will take place during the course. More information on dates, topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

Consult the *Course Calendar* posted on Mycourses for specific dates of assessments and the weekly schedule of the course.

**There will be no make-up tests, quizzes, oral and written assignments** unless a doctor's certificate is provided (signed by a doctor). Students living in a different time zone, need to contact the instructor so that arrangements, if needed, can be made.

**Students are forbidden to use translation tools or applications such as: Google translate, DeepL or any other kind of translation software. Moreover, they are forbidden to have their compositions corrected by native speakers or any other person. (See below under Academic integrity for more details.)**

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

**“McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures” (see McGill’s guide to academic honesty for more information).** (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

« L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le guide pour l'honnêteté académique de McGill). »

- Note that to support academic integrity, your assignments may be submitted to text-matching or other appropriate software (e.g., formula-, equation-, and graph-matching).”
- **Please remember the following points when you write your essay:**
  - It is a violation of the honor code to have your essays proofread by someone else.
  - It is a violation of the honor code to use translation software or online translation tools.
- The following statement must be added at the beginning of every composition, written assignment and recorded oral assignment: **“I will be fair and honest in my coursework. I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on any assignment, quizzes or exam”.**

“© Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.”

### **INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

As the instructor of this course, I endeavor to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and the *Office for Students with Disabilities*, 514-398-6009.

### **END OF COURSE EVALUATION**

End-of-course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the students' learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.