



Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - Italian Studies
ITAL 216: Intermediate Italian Intensive - Section 001 (6 credits)
FALL 2024

Lecturer: Anna Maria Tumino

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Office hours: Tuesdays 11:00AM – 1:00PM or by appointment

Communication plan: In-person/ McGill email; I will answer emails within 24 hours on weekdays.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the university's control, assessment tasks in a course are subject to change, provided students are sent adequate and timely communication regarding the change.

COURSE OVERVIEW

ITAL 216 is an intensive language course designed for students who already possess a basic knowledge of Italian. Over one term, this course introduces students to the more complex grammatical structures of written and spoken Italian. Students will also expand their vocabulary, thus developing the ability to handle a wider range of real-life situations and participate in more sophisticated discussions about Italy and its culture.

PREREQUISITES

In order to be admitted to this course, students must have taken a beginner level course in Italian, either in the Department (ITAL 205 or ITAL 206) or at another institution (in this case, the permission of the Department is required.)

For students wishing to pursue further studies in Italian, this course fulfills the prerequisite for ITAL 250 (Literary composition) and other 200-level courses. (Please note that some 200-level courses are offered in English).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the beginning of this course students should be able to:

- Understand basic Italian spoken at a normal speed
- Communicate basic ideas and situations orally
- Express opinions
- Read texts
- Write coherently about subjects dealing with everyday life

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

Oral comprehension: understand the important elements of a conversation at a normal speed.

Oral production: express themselves to deal with everyday situations; describe events in the past tense; express emotions, wishes, likes, dislikes; express an opinion.

Written comprehension: understand relatively complex texts; comprehend intermediate-level cultural and literary texts. Students will read a novel.

Written production: Produce summative, descriptive, narrative, and expository texts on familiar topics using the proper sequence of tenses in the indicative and in the subjunctive.

Cultural: identify and explain cultural references as expressed in written, audio, and visual material.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD

This course is given entirely in person. In our Italian language class, we emphasize a dynamic and immersive learning experience. New grammar themes are introduced during in-person sessions, ensuring direct and immediate engagement with the material. Our focus in class is on interactive activities, which facilitate practical language use and reinforce the concepts introduced. Homework is assigned to be completed outside of class, allowing students to review and apply the new grammar at their own pace. This approach ensures that classroom time is dedicated to active practice and communication, fostering a more engaging and effective learning environment.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Tommasini, Maria Gloria; Maria Flavia Diaco. *Spazio Italia*. Volumi 3, 4. The books are available for purchase at Librairie Michel Fortin. (5122 Park Ave, Montreal)
- Carofiglio, Gianrico. *Le tre del mattino*. Einaudi editore, 2017. This novel (physical copy) is available for purchase at the McGill University bookstore, *Le James*: <https://lejames.ca>
- 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

Preparatory Work & Homework

All assigned activities must be completed *before* class meetings. Students are expected to devote approximately **2 hours on studying and preparing for the class per day (whether formally assigned or not)**. The preparatory work will help them become familiar with the grammatical structures and the vocabulary that will be seen in class. Assigned activities will include grammatical exercises, readings, vocabulary exercises, and oral activities on MyCourses and in the textbook *Spazio Italia*. Some homework will be corrected in class and/or it will be picked up and corrected by the instructor at random. Students will be given an answer key to the homework so self-correction will be possible.

Quizzes

A total of 4 in-class quizzes will be given; information on content will be provided prior to each quiz. The date of each quiz is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

Tests

Students will be asked to take 2 tests; more information pertaining to the content will be provided prior to the exam. The dates of the tests are provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

Written assignments

Students will be asked to write 4 written assignments that are designed to develop their ability to use grammar structures and recycle vocabulary. The assignments will be written in class; notes, textbooks, cell phones, and laptops will **NOT** be allowed. Dictionaries will be permitted for 2 written assignments. The topics will be given in class the same day of the assignment; the date of each assignment is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

Oral Assignments

There will be 4 oral assignments; students will produce short videos, dialogues in pairs, and oral activities which serve to assess the students' communicative skills in Italian. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses. The date of each oral assignment is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

Missed or late assignments

Students are expected to consult *MyCourses* (*Content, Assignments, Announcements*) after each class to keep up with all assigned activities such as Preparatory Work/Homework, Written/Oral assignments, Tests, and Quizzes. A deduction of **5% per day** will be applied for late submission of all assignments. There will be no make-up tests, quizzes, oral and written assignments unless a doctor's certificate is provided (signed by a doctor). ****Additional work to upgrade marks will not be permitted****

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Assessments	Percentage
Participation	10%
Homework & Preparation	10%
Quizzes	15%
Tests	20%
Written assignments	25%
Oral assignments	20%

Participation

Active participation in class is essential. Your grade in this category will be based on a number of elements:

- punctuality
- evidence of your daily preparation for each class
- homework & preparatory work completion
- making a concerted effort to speak Italian as often as possible

- interacting with peers in small group activities
- volunteering effective questions and comments on a regular basis
- showing consistent progress in written and oral assignments

Important: Disruptive behavior, using cellular phones (texting) and/or laptops (for personal use or to do work for another course) will also lower your *participation* grade.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all class meetings to fully participate in all class activities. The following attendance policy applies after the add/drop deadline (September 10, 2024):

- Students are allowed 2 unexcused absences without penalty.
- After a total of 2 unexcused absences, 1 point per absence will be deducted from the student's final mark on 100%, unless a medical note is provided within 1 week of the absence or the NOTE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- Every two unexcused lateness or early departure will count as one absence.

To be accepted, medical notes must indicate the doctor's office or hospital logo and a contact number. Medical notes may be reviewed and evaluated by *Student Accessibility and Achievement* in exceptional circumstances, for example, students with an excessive number of medical notes or students who have conditions/issues that hinder their academic performance.

Absences for religious holy days are exempt from these stipulations, but must abide by the conditions of the University Holy Days Policy at <http://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/holy-days-0/policy-holy-days>. Students who wish to observe religious holidays: **MUST INFORM** the lecturer in writing the first 2 weeks of the semester so that alternative arrangements can be made. It is the students' responsibility to fulfill the agreed upon requirements. Students must keep track of their absences if any.

In case of absence students are responsible for catching up with the class, completing homework and coming to the next class prepared. It is the student's obligation to inquire about what he/she has missed by contacting a classmate.

INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures endeavors to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with your instructor and the Office of Student Accessibility and Achievement: 1010 Sherbrooke Ouest, Suite 410, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2R7, 514-398-6009. Email: access.achieve@mcgill.ca

Students with a documented disability should contact Student Accessibility and Achievement as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. This letter should be sent to the instructor at the beginning of a term. Please note that it might not be possible to accommodate last minute requests for accommodations.

The instructor will gladly honour students' requests to address them by their chosen name or gender pronoun. Please advise the instructor of this at any point in the semester.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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

“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 honour code to have your essays proofread by someone else.
 - It is a violation of the honour code to use translation software or online translation tools.

“© 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.”