



McGill University Faculty of Arts  
Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
Italian Studies  
ITAL 206: Beginners' Italian Intensive - Section 01  
Summer 2022

**Time / Days:** MTWR 9:35AM – 11:55AM

**Room:** SH680 - Room 365

**Lecturers:** Cristiana Furlan – Rania Metni Kamel

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**Office location:** SH688 – 447

**Office hours:** Monday and Tuesday 12:00-13:00

**“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 DESCRIPTION**

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& 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 in class 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 compositions and texts on familiar topics (dialogues, descriptions and narrations).

### **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**. 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, 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)).

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

**Please note that 5% per day will be deducted for late submission of exercises done on VHL.**

### **Quizzes**

Short quizzes will be given regularly. Quizzes will help students monitor their acquisition of the material taught in class.

### **Written Assignments**

Students will be given regular writing assignments, i.e. “entries” on MyCourses. Submission may be done in person or online on the due date. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

### **Oral Assignments (in person or online)**

Students will produce short videos, audio exercises, and dialogues in pairs or groups to assess the students' communicative skills in Italian. You will be evaluated on grammar structures, vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural content studied in the course. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

### Oral Presentations/Interviews

Two oral interviews conducted in person will take place during the course. More information on dates, topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses.

### Compositions

Students will have to write **3 compositions** which are designed to develop their ability to use new grammar structures and recycle new vocabulary. For the in-class compositions students will be permitted to bring their dictionary. Notes, textbooks, cell phones, and laptops will NOT be allowed. Late compositions will carry a penalty of 1% per day. Compositions handed in one week after due date will not be accepted.

The compositions will be corrected by the lecturer. Learning from one's mistakes is invaluable, for this reason the first 2 compositions will be corrected using a correction grid. They will be rewritten by the student and resubmitted with the original, one class after having received version 1 from the teacher. The grading will be done as follows:

Composition 1 (corrected using a grid): version 1 = 60%; version 2 = 40%

Composition 2 (corrected using a grid): version 1 = 70%; version 2 = 30%

Composition 3: version 1 = 100%

If compositions are NOT resubmitted, the mark received for version 1 will be the final one. Please note that students who receive a grade of "A" in the first version, do NOT submit a corrected version 2.

**Students are forbidden to have their compositions corrected by native speakers or any other person. (See below under Academic integrity for more details.)**

### Final written examination

The final examination will be held on the last day of class, the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2022.

### 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 McGill University bookstore, Le James: <https://lejames.ca>
- *Io e te*. Excerpts of the novel will be provided by the teacher.
- Dictionary: a good Italian-English or Italian French dictionary.
  - A dictionary is an essential tool to learning a foreign language. The department recommends: Garzanti e Zanichelli dictionaries. Please note that a pocket dictionary will not suffice.

- Departmental recommended online dictionaries:
  - Garzanti: <https://www.garzantilinguistica.it/>
  - Zanichelli: <http://dizionari.zanichelli.it/>
  - www.wordreference.com
- Book of Italian verbs: Bescherelle, Webster etc., (Available at McGill Bookstore or at other bookstores such as Indigo, Renaud-Bray etc.,) **OPTIONAL**

## METHOD OF EVALUATION

Preparation and Homework .....	5%
Participation and Attendance.....	10%
Quizzes .....	10%
Midterm Test.....	15%
Compositions (3x 5%) .....	15%
Written Assignments .....	5%
Oral Assignments .....	5%
Oral Presentations .....	10%
(presentation 1=4%; presentation 2=6%)	
Final Examination.....	25%

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance and participation are necessary components of language learning. After May 4<sup>th</sup> (add/drop deadline), a total of **two (2)** absences during the course of the semester will be automatically excused. Subsequently, **one (1) point will be deducted** from the global class participation/attendance mark unless a doctor's certificate is provided within one week of the absence. A student who has four (4) unjustified absences during the semester will receive a grade of J. 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.

## PUNCTUALITY

Since tardiness is disruptive, students are expected to arrive on time and not leave before the end of the class session. While occasional tardiness may sometimes be

unavoidable, frequent or chronic tardiness will be counted as absence. Three late arrivals and/or early departures will count as one absence. 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. Homework and assignment descriptions will be posted on MyCourses/VHL.

### **PARTICIPATION**

Students are expected to prepare for and participate in class lessons and activities. They should prepare in advance the material to be covered in class and they should complete the homework assigned to them. They are also expected to contribute actively and positively in class (in-class oral work, group activities and presentations). Students must make every effort to speak Italian in class, especially after the first two weeks of the semester. Speaking mostly English (with the instructor and class mates) will lower the participation grade. Disruptive behavior, late arrivals, early departures, and using your cellular (texting) in class will also lower significantly your overall "participation and attendance" grade.

### **MISSED & LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

There will be no make-up test, quiz, composition nor oral presentation unless a doctor's certificate signed by a doctor is provided within the same week of the missed assignment. If a problem arises, students are expected to contact their instructor by email. Longer weekends out of town and prolonged holidays, for example, will not be accepted as a valid excuse.

**Late assignments** carry a penalty of 1% per day. If a student is absent, it is the student's obligation to inquire about what he/she has missed by contacting a classmate, and to submit homework ON DUE DATE. Assignments handed in one week after due date will not be accepted.

Additional work to upgrade marks will not be permitted.

### **CLASS COURTESY**

Laptops and tablets are not permitted in class. Phones are prohibited in class. Laptops, are allowed in class only for quizzes.

**DO NOT PURCHASE PLANE OR TRAIN TICKETS FOR DAYS ON WHICH YOU ARE EVALUATED. According to Senate regulations, instructors are NOT permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 4.7.2.1, General University Information and Regulations at [www.mcgill.ca](http://www.mcgill.ca).**

### **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 for Students with Disabilities (OSD): 514-398-6009. For further information you may also contact <http://www.mcgill.ca/osd/>. Students with a documented disability should contact the OSD 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**

**“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.
- 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”.**

**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.)**

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