



CIEE in Ferrara, Italy

Course name:	Semester Italian Language, Proficiency II
Course number:	ITAL 4001 FELA
Programs offering course:	Ferrara Liberal Arts
Language of instruction:	Italian
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2019
Course meeting place:	CIEE Study Center, or Università di Ferrara

Course description

Students will review and deeply analyze some grammatical structures previously studied, as well as new topics.

Students will also improve their language skills using complex Italian structures through a communicative method where cooperative learning is strongly encouraged. The program of this course is designed to enable participants to use a richer vocabulary to express their feelings and opinions about life and moral choices, historic events, current events, sports and health.

Learning objectives

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

- ✓ Understand a wide range of demanding, longer text, and recognize implicit meaning.
- ✓ Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors, and cohesive devices.
- ✓ Express themselves fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.

Course Prerequisites

Italian Proficiency I level.

Methods of Instruction

This course will combine lectures, class debates, fieldtrips and on-site classes, walking tours, conversations with guest speakers and creative activities. The approach used can be characterized as communicative and integrated. Communicative, means that the focus of the course is on language use in realistic settings. Integrated, means that the various aspects that make up the language



learning experience are treated as complementary to one another. In other words, in one single activity, students may learn some facts, practice certain grammatical structures, and learn some communicative strategies and cultural aspects. All required readings, slides, supplemental digital resources, and additional information will be available online at Canvas.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Participation:	25%
2. Homework:	15%
3. Midterm	20%
4. Oral Presentation:	20%
5. Final test:	20%

Course Requirements

Homework

Students will have written assignments to check their progress. The topics will be connected to those studied in class.

Oral Presentation

Students will recap one or more topics studied during the course and present their opinions and thoughts about them. They can use PowerPoint, videos, recordings, etc. At the end of the presentation, students will ask questions and discuss each other oral project.

Midterm Exam

Students will take a written exam after the first half of the course in order to check their progress, improve their skills and learn from their mistakes.

Final Exam

Students will take a final exam at the end of the course. The exam will include all topics analyzed in class.

Class Participation

A total of two classes, due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transport delay and/or other impediments will be tolerated. Additional unexcused absences will result in further half point reductions. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to the class will be considered absent for a day. Late assignments will be marked down 5% after the first day and 1% every day afterwards. No coursework will be accepted after the last day of class.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Lesson 1: *Feelings and Emotions*
Grammar: combined pronouns, irregular verbs (verbi causativi).
Vocabulary: feelings and emotions; idioms related to this lexical field.



Discussion: What is Love?

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 7.1, 150-156

Lesson 2: *Naughty or Nice?*

Grammar: three different kinds of hypothetical period.

Vocabulary: expressions of agreement and disagreement.

Discussion and Team Work: moral choices; what would you do if...

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 7.2, 157-160

Week 2

Lesson 3: *Conflicts between parents and children*

Culture and discussion: Italian Family

Vocabulary: colloquial expressions with *metterci* and *mettersi*

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 7.4, 161-163

Lesson 4: *The Strength of Friendship*

Grammar: auxiliary verbs (*essere, venire, andare*)

Team work: The Friendship Alphabet

Discussion: What is the best Italian song about Friendship?

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 7.5, 166-169

Week 3

Lesson 5: *Fascism and Resistance*

Grammar: different uses of subjunctive

Culture and Discussion: 2WW, The Fascism and the Resistance.

Team Work: Alternative History – The game of “What if...”

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 8.2, 181-183

Lesson 6: *Historic Festivities*

Grammar: denial prefix, hypothetical period

Culture: Italian festivities

Team Work and Discussion: Match the Italian festivities with the American ones.

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 8.1, 174-176 and 179-180

Week 4

Lesson 7: Grammar and Vocabulary review

Lesson 8: Midterm Exam

Week 5

Lesson 9: *Same Opportunities for men and women/Pink Power*

Grammar: *a + infinite*

Vocabulary: jobs, work opportunities, figures of speech related to these topics

Team Work: Wonderwoman, does she exist for real?

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 8.4, 186-189

Lesson 10: *Recipes of the World*

Vocabulary: Food

Team Work and Discussion: Italian or Italian-American recipes? When a new life style changes old recipes.



Week 6

Lesson 11: *When we were the one leaving.*
Grammar: subjunctive consistency, noun alteration with the suffix *-accio*
Vocabulary: immigration and emigration
Discussion: where does your family come from?
Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 9.1, 196-204

Lesson 12: *New Italians*
Grammar: adjectives; when to use *anche* in a sentence
Discussion and Team Work: Should we consider Immigration a problem?
Have you got immigration "issues" in your country?
Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 9.2, 205-208; 213-215

Week 7

Lesson 13: *Ferrara*
Team Work: How much do you know this city?
Culture: Ferrara and its Cultural and Typical Events.

Lesson 14: *Scavenger Hunt*
Team Work: Each team will be given a list of item/monuments to find around the city. They will have to take a picture of them as a proof they found the right place. They also might have to complete some tasks like to record an interview with a local or similar. They have 1 hour to check all items on the list.
When the time is over all teams must go back to class where they will show their work to the other teams.

Week 8

Lesson 15: Oral Presentations

Lesson 16: *Body and Soul*
Grammar: independent subjunctive: express a wish
Vocabulary: figures of speech with the word "anima"; polysemous words; idioms related to religion.
Team Work: Survey "Believe or Not Believe"
Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 10.3, 222-223; 230-234

Week 9

Lesson 17: *Sports*
Grammar: indirect speech
Vocabulary: sports and interviews
Culture: Giro D'Italia, Mille Miglia and other Italian sports
Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 10.1, 224-229; "Gazzetta dello Sport".

Lesson 18: *"Come mamma mi ha fatto" or not?*
Grammar: when prefix changes the meaning of the verb.



Vocabulary: Beauty, plastic surgery

Team Work and Discussion: Art and Beauty through the centuries – “Non è bello ciò che è bello, è bello ciò che piace”

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 10.4, 235-238

Week 10

Lesson 19: *Alternative therapies*

Vocabulary: words and expressions related to “laugh”, health and cures

Discussion: “Yoga della risata” and acupuncture – are these real therapies?

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 10.4, 235-243

Lesson 20: *Speak with your hands and body: The last step to be fluent in Italian*

Culture: Italian gestures

Reading and Exercises: Nuovo Contatto C1, Unit 3, 58-59

Week 11

Lesson 21: Grammar and vocabulary review

Lesson 22: Final Exam

Readings

Textbook: R. Bozzone Costa, M. Piantoni, E. Scaramelli, C. Ghezzi, *Nuovo Contatto C1, Corso di Lingua e Civiltà Italiana per Stranieri*, Loescher.

Additional Readings:

- G. Massei, R Bellagamba, *Nuovo Espresso 5, Corso di Italiano*, Alma Edizioni;
- Burke David, *Street Italian, The Best of Italian Slang*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc;
- De Giuli, Guastalla, Noddeo, *Magari, Corso di Lingua e Cultura Italiana di Livello intermedio e Avanzato*, Alma Edizioni;
- Nocchi Susanna, *Nuova Grammatica Pratica della Lingua Italiana*, Alma Edizioni;
- selected passages from Elena Ferrante, *La Frantumaglia*, and Elena Ferrante, *L'amica Geniale*