

INT D 125

Topics in Italian studies: Modern Italy studied through its cultural context and forms of expression

Fall Term 2015, Cortona

Instructor: Dr. Roberto Bondi (bondi@ualberta.ca)

Class Time: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 2:15 – 3:45 (St. Agostino, Via Guelfa, 40)

Tuesday 2:15 – 3:30 Laboratory (Liceo Classico “Signorelli”, Vicolo del Teatro, 4)

Office Hours: before/after class or by appointment

Course Prerequisites: no previous knowledge of the Italian language.

Course Description

The course will be taught in English. At Cortona, it will emphasize forms of expression (especially conversational Italian in common situations) within the Italian cultural context. A particular aspect of this course is that students will experience the real Italy, both culturally and in terms of expression: that is, to understand that Italy is not like “The Sopranos”, but a country with a long cultural and linguistic evolution that is, fundamentally, highly structured and formal.

The course begins with the formality of Italy, contrary to the general idea of Italy found in the mass media, and the form of expression that will allow students to be socially correct. For this purpose, the reading of some extracts – in English – by the Italian writer and journalist Beppe Severgnini will provide a general overview of Italy and Italian culture. We will then progress to the daily rituals, the daily culture of Italy, that the students in Cortona encounter. The “bar” culture, the market, the vocabulary and expressions appropriate to buying, consuming, eating, drinking, etc. will be taught and will be useful in Cortona and in the surrounding places. Travel is also a major component for the students at Cortona: in addition to ordering meals, etc., booking rooms, buying train tickets, etc. is a critical aspect of their time in Italy. Following this segment of the course, we will also consider the Italian festivals – Christmas, Easter, Carnival – their origins, the ceremonial and ritual expressions and how they have developed. We will look at the expression of Italian culture through the music, most appropriate in Cortona because of the presence of Lorenzo Cherubini, or as he is known professionally, Jovanotti, some other songs by Italian songwriters, through the monuments for which Cortona is justly famous, and lastly, we will also watch two Italian movies. The cultural aspect of the language will be more important than its structural elements. Students will not be required to learn grammar, as it will be learnt in an inductive way through the expressions commonly used in the daily routine.

Finally, the laboratory with the Italian students of the high school will help to improve the oral skills, especially the expressions that will be used travelling around Italy.

Required textbook to be purchased in Cortona from instructor:

Italia oggi. Argomenti di cultura italiana, Italian language workbook, with a short grammar appendix and extracts from Beppe Severgnini, *La Bella Figura. A field guide to the Italian mind*. Every week the class will analyze a small part of this reading, underlining the most important aspects of the Italian culture.

Weights for the evaluation:

- mid-term test (written only) is 20% of the final grade;
- final exam is 50% of the final grade (25% oral + 25% written);
- mini-quiz 1 is 10% of the final grade;
- mini-quiz 2 is 10% of the final grade;
- class participation is 10% of the final grade.

INT D 125 Fall Term 2015 Approximate Schedule

The actual content will depend on students' progress.

Introductory Week (October 7-8)

Greetings and introduction of the course with explanations about exams etc. First overview of the reader *Italia Oggi. Argomenti di Cultura Italiana* with first topics (Unit 1).

Severgnini: The airport, where we discover that Italians prefer exceptions to rules.
The hotel, where singular people are not content with a double room.

Week 1 (October 12-15)

At the bar and at the restaurant (Unit 2).

Lab.

Severgnini: The restaurant, one way of sitting in judgment.
The store, the field of lost battles.

Week 2 (October 19-22)

Mini-quiz 1 on Thursday 22nd. In the city (Unit 3).

Lab.

Severgnini: The nightspot, where foxes turn into peacocks.
The eat-in kitchen, the nerve center of domestic counterespionage.

Week 3 (October 26-29)

At the supermarket and in the shops (Unit 4).

Lab.

Severgnini: The train, where many talk, few listen, and everyone understands.
The countryside, where we show that Italians are the world's leading manufacturers of emotions.

Week 4 (November 2-5)

Mid-term test (written only) on Wednesday 4th. The body and illnesses (Unit 5). Italian movie.

Lab.

Severgnini: The Italian piazza, a tool with more cutting edges than a Swiss-army knife.
The office, the opera house of orderly anarchy.

Week 5 (November 9-12)

At home (Unit 6).

Lab.

Severgnini: The shopping mall, a taste of America delivered to your door.
The sidewalk, or on collective individualism.

Week 6 (November 16-19)

Holidays, trips and Italian celebrations (Unit 7).

Lab.

Severgnini: The automobile, and fumbling on the fold-down seats.
The waterfront, the convoluted charm of a liquid frontier.

Week 7 (November 23-26)

Mini-quiz 2 on Thursday 26th. The family and relationships (Unit 8).

Lab.

Severgnini: The beach, a bare outline.
The barber, the newsstand, and the town as lifebelt.

Week 8 (November 30-December 3)

Geography and the weather (Unit 9).

Lab.

Severgnini: The monument. And yet it moves.

Epilogue. A letter from America.

Week 9 (December 7-10)

Last week of class. Jobs. Review of communicative situations and cultural aspects studied. **Final exams (written on Tuesday 8th and oral on Wednesday the 9th)**. Italian movie.

(Lab.)

Grading for INT D 125

In accordance with the University guidelines, a student's final grade will be communicated as a letter grade and will be based on absolute achievement and relative performance in class. While instructors may use percentages in calculating grades, percentages are not part of the University's grading system. The School in Cortona uses the following conversion table. For a detailed explanation of the grading system, see section 23.4 in the University Calendar (www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar).

Letter	%	Pts.	Description
A+	95-100	4	Outstanding Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94	4	Excellent. Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.
A-	86-89	3.7	Very good. Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of the subject matter.
B+	82-85	3.3	Very good.
B	75-81	3	Good. Average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74	2.7	Good.
C+	66-69	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter.
C	61-65	2	Satisfactory.
C-	58-60	1.7	Satisfactory.
D+	55-57	1.3	Minimal pass. Marginal performance generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	54-50	1	Minimal pass. Marginal performance, generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49	0	Fail. Failure to meet course requirements.

Academic Honesty

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behavior (online at www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) and avoid any behavior which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.” (GFC 29 SEP 2003)

Amendments to the Code of Student Behavior occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit the University Governance website at <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/governance/StudentAppealsRegulations.cfm>

NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE

The U of A considers plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence to be serious academic offences. Plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence can be avoided if students are told what these offences are and if possible sanctions are made clear at the outset. Instructors should understand that the principles embodied in the *Code* are essential to our academic purpose. For this reason, instructors will be fully supported by Departments, Faculties and the University in their endeavors to rightfully discover and pursue cases of academic dishonesty in accordance with the *Code*.

At the beginning of each term, we ask you to review with your students the definitions of plagiarism and cheating. We are now also asking you to review with your students the definition of Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence. Your co-operation and assistance in this matter are much appreciated.

30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. See also 30.3.2(2) b, c, d and e.

30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

The Truth In Education (T*I*E) project is a campus wide educational campaign on Academic Honesty. This program was created to let people know the limits and consequences of inappropriate academic behavior. There are helpful tips for Instructors and Students. Please take the time to visit the website at: <http://www.ualberta.ca/tie>

**EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR
FOR REVIEW WITH EACH CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY TERM**

Procedures for Instructors Regarding	Possible Sanctions
<p>Plagiarism, Cheating,</p> <p>Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence</p> <p>The following procedures are drawn from the <i>Code of Student Behaviour</i> as approved by GFC and the Board of Governors. The guidelines summarize what instructors <u>must do</u> when they have reason to believe that a student has plagiarized, cheated, misrepresented facts or participated in an offence. If you have questions about these guidelines, or about the policies, please talk with the senior administrator in your Faculty responsible for dealing with student discipline—usually an Associate Dean – or the Appeals Coordinator, University Governance (2-2655).</p> <p>30.5.4 Procedures for Instructors in Cases Respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour</p> <p>30.5.4(1) When an Instructor believes that a Student may have committed an Inappropriate Academic Behaviour</p>	<p>One or more of the following sanctions given in 30.4.3 (2) and (3) of the Code are commonly used for plagiarism, cheating, participation in an offence, and misrepresentation of facts.</p> <p>30.4.3(2) a.i A mark reduction or a mark of 0 on any term work or examination for reason of Inappropriate Academic Behaviour (GFC 24 SEP 2007);</p> <p>30.4.3(2) a.ii Reduction of a grade in a course</p> <p>30.4.3(2) a.iii A grade of F for a course.</p> <p>30.4.3(2) a.iv A remark on a transcript of 8 (or 9 for failing graduate student grades), indicating Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in addition to 30.4.3(2)a.i, 30.4.3(2)a.ii, 30.4.3(2)a.iii</p> <p>30.4.3(3) b Expulsion</p> <p>30.4.3(3) c Suspension</p>

<p>Offence [30.3.2] or that there has been Misrepresentation of Facts [30.3.6(4)] or Participation in an Offence [30.3.6(5)] in cases respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in the course that he or she instructs, the Instructor will meet with the Student. Before such a meeting, the Instructor shall inform the Student of the purpose of the meeting. In the event that the Student refuses or fails to meet with the Instructor within a reasonable period of time specified by the Instructor, the Instructor shall, taking into account the available information, decide whether a report to the Dean is warranted. (CLRC 30 MAY 2002) (EXEC 7 APR 2003) (CLRC 27 NOV 2003)</p> <p>30.5.4(2) If the Instructor believes there has been a violation of the Code, the Instructor shall, as soon as possible after the event occurred, report that violation to the Dean and provide a written statement of the details of the case. The instructor may also include a recommendation for sanction. (CLRC 27 NOV 2003).</p>	<p>The following sanctions may be used in rare cases.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">30.4.3(3) e Suspension of a Degree already awarded</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">30.4.3(3) f Rescission of a Degree already awarded</p> <p>30.6.1 Initiation of an Appeal</p> <p>30.6.1(1) When a Student has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour or an Applicant is found to have committed an offence under the Code of Applicant Behaviour (Section 11.8 of the GFC Policy Manual), whether or not that Student or Applicant has been given a sanction, the Student or Applicant may appeal that decision, except in the case of a decision of the Discipline Officer under 30.5.6(2)e.ii, which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to the Discipline Officer, once the student receives the final decision of the Discipline Officer, the student can appeal the decisions of both Dean and the Discipline Officer at the same time. The written appeal must be presented to the Appeals Co-ordinator in the University Secretariat within 15 Working Days of the deemed receipt of the decision by the Student or Applicant. The finding that an offence has been committed, the sanction imposed or both may form the basis of appeal. The written appeal must also state the full grounds of appeal and be signed by the Appellant. The appeal shall be heard by the UAB. (CLRC 30 MAY 2002) (CLRC 25 SEP 2003) (EXEC 01 MAY 2006) (GFC 24 SEP 2007) (BEAC 17 OCT 2007)</p>
<hr/> <p>DR HEIDI JULIEN CHAIR, GFC CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE*</p>	<hr/> <p>DR CARL G. AMRHEIN PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)</p>

* The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) responsible for the review of the *Code of Student Behaviour* and of student disciplinary procedures.