## Department of Languages and Cultures
### ITA1030

Course outline for 2020/2021

Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: https://www.uwo.ca/health/.

## 1. Technical Requirements:

Stable internet connection

Laptop or computer

Working microphone

Working webcam

## 2. Course Overview and Important Dates:

| Delivery Mode | Dates | Time |
|---|---|---|
| [In-person, online, or in-person and online] | | |

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

| Classes Start | Reading Weeks | Classes End | Study day(s) | Exam Period |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| September 9 | November 2 - 8 | December 9 | December 10 | December 11 - 22 |
| January 4 | February 13 - 21 | April 5 | April 6 and 7 | April 8 - 30 |

*November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course without penalty

## 3. Contact Information

| Instructor | Contact Information |
|---|---|
| **Dr. Pietro Pirani** | |
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| | |

## 4. Course Description and Design

An introduction to oral and written Italian with emphasis on the development of communicative skills. No previous knowledge of Italian is required. Note that students who have successfully completed Grade 12 U Italian or equivalent cannot take this course for credit.

**Antirequisite(s):** Grade 12 U Italian, Italian 1033.

| Mode | Dates | Time | Frequency |
|------|-------|------|-----------|
| Virtual synchronous | | | weekly |
| Virtual asynchronous | | | weekly |
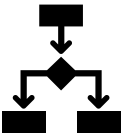
☒ Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to synchronous sessions

☒ Attendance at synchronous sessions is required

☒ Missed work should be completed within 24 hours

All course material will be posted to OWL: http://owl.uwo.ca. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click here.

## 5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- understand questions and short texts in the target language
- carry on basic conversations within the range of topics explored
- read short passages dealing with contemporary social issues and daily life in Italy
- create oral presentations and written texts on specific topics
- master basic grammatical structures and use them actively in oral and written expression
- build basic knowledge and understanding of Italian culture and appreciation of cultural similarities and differences in relation to specific values and communication styles

## 6. Course Content and Schedule
**Detailed instructions for activities and assignments can be found on your course webpage on OWL.**

| Week 1 | Sept. 9 | Presentazione del corso (Course presentation)<br>Textbook: pp. 1-9 |
|--------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Week 2 | Sept. 14 | Textbook: pp. 10-15 (10-12, 14) *in brackets grammar pages to be covered* |
| Week 3 | Sept. 21 | Textbook: pp. 20-48 (28-29, 32-33, 36-37) |
| Week 4 | Sept. 28 | Textbook: pp. 49-67 (58-59, 62-62) |
| Week 5 | Oct. 5 | Textbook: pp. 68-79 (76-77) |
| Week 6 | Oct. 12 | Textbook: pp. 80-89 (80-81) |
| Week 7 | Oct. 19 | Textbook: pp. 80-107 (80-81, 84-85, 106-107) |
| Week 8 | Oct. 26 | Textbook: pp. 110-111 (110-111) |
| | **Nov. 2-8** | **FALL READING LESSON** |
| Week 9 | Nov. 9 | Textbook: pp. 114-127 (114-115) |
| Week 10 | Nov. 16 | Textbook: pp. 128-144 (128-129) |
| Week 11 | Nov. 23 | Textbook: pp. 128-144 (128-129) |
| Week 12 | Nov. 30 | Textbook: pp. 128-144 (132-133) |
| Week 13 | Jan. 4 | Textbook: pp. 146-162 (154-155, 158-159) |
| Week 14 | Jan. 11 | Textbook: pp. 164-188 (172-173) |
| Week 15 | Jan. 18 | Textbook: pp. 164-188 (176-177) |
| Week 16 | Jan. 25 | Textbook: pp. 190-210 (198-199) |
| Week 17 | Feb. 1 | Textbook: pp. 190-210 (202-203) |
| Week 18 | Feb. 8 | Textbook: pp. 212-236 (220-221) |
| | **Feb. 15-21** | **SPRING READING LESSON** |
| Week 19 | Feb. 22 | Textbook: 238-247 (250-251) |
| Week 20 | Mar. 1 | Textbook: pp. 238-247 (250-251) |
| Week 21 | Mar. 8 | Textbook: pp. 260-288 (268-269) |
| Week 22 | Mar. 15 | Textbook: pp. 260-288 (272-273) |
| Week 23 | Mar. 22 | Textbook: pp. 260-288 (272-273) |
| Week 24 | Mar. 29 | Textbook: pp. 290-310 (298-299) |

# 7. Online Participation and Engagement

☒ Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible

☒ Students are expected to interact in the forums with their peers and instructors

## 8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS COURSE WILL NOT HAVE A MIDTERM IN DECEMBER NOR FINAL EXAM IN APRIL**

| Assessment | Format | Weighting | Due Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| TEST 1 | mixed format | 12% | October 15 |
| TEST 2 | mixed format | 12% | November 26 |
| TEST 3 | mixed format | 12% | March 2 |
| Group work conversations (GCs) | Instructions on OWL | 21% (cumulative of 7 conservations) | Dates available on OWL |
| Weekly online activities | Instructions on OWL | 9% | Dates available on OWL |
| Compositions | Instructions on OWL | 6% (2 x 3%) | Dates available on OWL |
| Video poster presentation (VPP) | Instructions on OWL | 10% | Dates available on OWL |
| Individual conversations (IC) | Instructions on OWL | 10% (2 x 5%) | Dates available on OWL |
| Preparation and participation (PP) | Instructions on OWL | 9% | Dates available on OWL |

☒ All assignments are due at 11:59 pm EST unless otherwise specified

☒ Virtual proctoring WILL be used

☒ Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)

☒ Students will have 1 submission to Turnitin

☒ Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions

☒ After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Click here for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

| A+ | 90-100 | One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level |
|---|---|---|
| A | 80-89 | Superior work which is clearly above average |
| B | 70-79 | Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory |
| C | 60-69 | Competent work, meeting requirements |
| D | 50-59 | Fair work, minimally acceptable |
| F | below 50 | Fail |

**Information about late or missed evaluations:**

☒ Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 5%/day including weekend

☒ Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report

☒ An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; the weight of a missed test will be transferred to an upcoming assignment to be decided by the instructor

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## 8. Communication:

☒ Students should check the OWL site every 24 hours

☒ Updates will be provided on the OWL announcements as needed

☒ Students must email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL "messages" only for regular course business

☒ Emails will be monitored regularly; students will receive a response within 48 hours

☒ This course will use Zoom for discussions

☒ This course will use the OWL forum for discussions

☒ Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions

## 9. Office Hours:

☒ Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom

## 10. Resources

☒ All resources will be posted in OWL

☒ Required textbook

## 11. Professionalism & Privacy:

Western students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

☒ Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL

☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared

☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission

☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

☒ Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

☒ All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

## 12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis

for study and peer support.

6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).

7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

# 13. Western Academic Policies and Statements

## Absence from Course Commitments

Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences

In the interest of the health and safety of students and health care providers, you are no longer required to seek a medical note for absences this term. If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness you should use the Illness Reporting Tool. This tool takes the place of the need to submit a medical note and the Self-Reported Absence System formally used by undergraduate students.

You are required to self-report every day that you are ill and unable to complete course commitments. Details about when you should submit missed work, the format of the missed work can be found in the Section 7. Evaluation above. Students should communicate promptly with their instructor and use this tool with integrity.

## Accommodation for Religious Holidays

The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed here.

## Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found here.

## Academic Offenses

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed here to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

## Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

## Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts here.

## Turnitin and other similarity review software

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the

purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com.

**Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement**

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

**Accommodation Policies**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

**Academic Consideration for Student Absence**
Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see
Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs
and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

**Religious Accommodation**
Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

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**Online Etiquette**
To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- please "arrive" to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- [suggested for classes larger than 30 students] In order to give us optimum bandwidth and web quality, please turn off your video camera for the entire class unless you are invited to speak
- please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor's request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- if you wish to speak, use the "raise hand" function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.