



Italian 121 Syllabus

INVERNO – WINTER Quarter

NO HARD COPY WILL BE PROVIDED. READ IT and SAVE IT in YOUR FILES

Benvenuti!

THIS COURSE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS – Please select another language or see me ASAP.

Instructor: Beatrice L. Bongiorno

E-mail: beatrice.bongiorno@bellevuecollege.edu

Phone: (425) 564-2213

Office location: A245 H

Office Hours: **MW 10:30-11:20am and 1:30-2:30pm** or by appointment

All students are kindly requested to abstain from visiting me outside designated office hours w/o an appointment or to keep me after class for lengthy discussions/conversations that should take place in my office during office hours.

Course Information

Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to provide beginners (without prior knowledge of Italian) with a variety of tools aimed at developing their communicative competence in the four major language skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing, as well as to acquire familiarity with Italy and Italian culture.

We cover **UNITÀ 1-3** in their entirety and $\frac{1}{2}$ of **UNITÀ 4**. Each unit comprises two lessons: **Lezioni A and B**. They are thematically organized and structured so to provide ample opportunity to practice the target language, equally supporting language comprehension and production.

It is my hope all students, regardless of grade earned, end the course with a better understanding of the Italian



language, a deepened awareness of the Italian Culture and its people, and a renewed desire to continue Italian.

We will communicate in the target language as much as possible using all resources available to us such as e-mail, MyBC Course Site and the Supersite (textbook website). Make sure to register with the same valid BC email account. I may post on MyBC Course Site material & links related to Italy & Italian language & culture you may enjoy and find helpful. Feel free to share sites you find and pics and I will post them for all to enjoy.

There are no pre-requisites for this course. If you are joining the course with prior knowledge (formal or informal of Italian), please consult with your instructor to determine if this course is suitable or a more appropriate level is advised. The determination is made on a case-per-case basis based on student's overall prior experience & exposure as well as retention and time elapsed since last experience with the language.

The course will offer ample opportunity to practice the target language and more resources may be provided by your instructor and posted on MyBC. You are encouraged to use Italian regardless of lexical and grammatical accuracy. Remember, "Practice makes perfect!" All students in the class have enrolled to learn Italian, use it and encourage the timid classmates to do the same. It is the only way (aside from total immersion in the country where the target language is spoken) to improve oral comprehension and sharpen your speaking and writing skill aiming to a more accurate oral expression. Do not compare your progress to other in the class.

Students will practice all four language skills: listening, speaking, writing, and reading while incorporating culture, a pivotal and integral part of foreign language learning. Awakening interest and furthering the understanding of Italian culture is essential while studying the language to understand people and customs. Keep an open-mind and embrace the differences as well as the similarities with your own culture. You may travel to Italy in the near future.

This course exposes students to a communicative approach to language acquisition with high frequency vocabulary words and grammatical patterns used as tools for improving language comprehension and production.

It is my hope all students, regardless of grade earned, will end the course with a renewed appreciation and understanding of the language, an increased awareness of its Culture, and a desire to continuing learning Italian.

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

Attendance on time and **participation** in Italian are expected to learn and make progress in the language, which will facilitate your instructor's fair and accurate assessment of your performance in the course. You are allowed 3 absences w/o penalizing your participation portion of the grade. Be considerate of others if you are collaborating on a project¹. Note: Everyone will begin w/ 100% on the participation portion of the grade. Beginning w/ the fourth absence, five points are deducted for every absence. *Attenzione!* 3 tardies = 1 absence! **15%**

***** Regarding Absences due to Religious Observance:** *The Arts & Humanities Division of Bellevue College, committed to advancing pluralism, recognizes its students' diverse religious beliefs. Those students who wish to observe a religious holy day should not be penalized for doing so. Whenever feasible, students should be allowed to make up academic assignments that are missed due to such absences. However, the student must notify the instructor in writing at the beginning of the quarter (no later than the end of week 2). Because religious holidays are scheduled in advance, instructors have the right to insist that course work be completed prior to an anticipated absence for religious observances.*

Tests (Prove) are at the conclusion of each *Lezione* A and B. The lowest test grade will be dropped (engrade - our online gradebook - identifies the lowest test grade by an asterisk).

No make-up tests are allowed except for extenuating circumstances such as death in the family, hospitalization,

illness, sole person caring for an ill family member, or for any BC sponsored event. Arrangements can be made for a make-up test at the discretion of the instructor and ONLY if the student requests the make-up test no later than two days after the test has been administered. If you fail to contact me, I will assume you chose to take a zero and drop the test missed as your lowest score. **20%**

WebSAM activities (Compiti = assignments) are completed online on the Supersite and occasionally from handouts or directly assigned from the textbook. PRATICA activities are assigned daily and due date visible on the Supersite as we advance through the various color-coded sections of each Lesson within the Unit. You are responsible to complete the *pratica activities* prior to coming to class or as soon as possible if circumstances prevented you from doing so. Daily PRATICA activities are not graded and only receive the computer generated word “credit” in **blue** when completed on time or “credit” in **red** when late; either way, they are for “practice” and will not impact your grade for the course but may negatively impact your daily participation as you will feel unprepared to respond. It is solely your responsibility to stay on-track with material covered. All activities are due at 11:59pmPT. WEBSAM activities comprised of Workbook, Lab and Video Manual are graded at the end of each LEZIONE A and B. All WEBSAM activities are due the day of the *TEST or PROVA* by 11:59pm. You will receive a grade for each WEBSAM lesson. Grades are generated by Supersite based on completed activities and accuracy. I usually assign from 30 to 40 activities per UNITÀ but it may vary per lesson. **20%**

AVVERTENZA ABSTAIN from ASKING ME TO ACCEPT LATE ACTIVITIES. It develops poor habits, rewards poor behavior, imposes on my time, and last but not least, it is unfair to classmates whom late opted not to ask for a favor. Supersite takes off 10% for each day an activity is completed past the due date.

Oral presentations will consist of one group project and one solo project or interview. Instructions and further details announced on *MyBC* and Supersite as the date approaches. **20%**

Final exam (esame: scritto e orale) is comprehensive. It includes material from the all UNITÀ covered during the quarter. All language skills are assessed: 1) Listening comprehension: Authentic audio will be played, followed by post-listening oral comprehension activity. 2) Writing: Vocabulary and grammatical structures covered (*Contesti & Strutture*) are assessed in a variety of exercise formats of increasing difficulty, including a short essay. 3) Reading comprehension: You will read an ad or article whose content is new yet familiar as it relates to any the themes covered in the four UNITÀ followed by reading comprehension questions or statements. 4) Culture: You will be assessed on your cultural competency based on the content presented in the UNITÀ (*Cultura, Panorama, Lo Zapping*). 5) Speaking: It is assessed during the oral presentations (see above). Instructions are posted on *MyBC* as time approaches. Topic of discussion/conversation may come from all UNITÀ covered. **25%**

**** The final exams schedule is available at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/classes/exams> ****

Attenzione! I do not modify pre-established BC final exam schedule to accommodate colleagues' out-of-schedule exams. **PLAN accordingly!**

NO EXAM DATE WILL BE CHANGED TO ACCOMMODATE TRAVEL PLANS! MI DISPIACE! ☹
THE EXAM WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE PRIOR TO THE DESIGNATED EXAM DATE FOR YOUR COURSE

GRADES: Your instructor uses ENGRADE as a free, private and secure web gradebook tool. The instructors will send you an invitation to register to your BC e-mail account. Once you receive it, follow the simple instructions to SIGN UP as Student at <http://www.engage.com/user/signup-student.php> . A record of attendance is also available on engage.

Grading Scale

100 - 93 A	76 – 73 C
92 – 90 A-	72 – 70 C-
89 – 87 B+	69 – 67 D+
86 – 83 B	66 – 60 D
82 – 80 B-	59 – 0 F
79 – 77 C+	



Books and Required Material



- ◆ **TEXTBOOK: Cozzarelli, SENTIERI *Attraverso l'Italia contemporanea*, Boston, MA VHL, 2011**
(A textbook is available on reserve for 2 hrs. at the BC library in the D bldg. for your convenience)
- ◆ **SUPERSITE access code:** The Supersite code is located inside the textbook cover. Scratch it off to reveal it. The Supersite code IS REQUIRED for this course to access all activities and videos. The code can be purchased separately and directly from the publisher store site in the link below, especially useful if you purchased a used textbook or someone lent you one for the quarter.
<http://www.vhldirect.com/Store/catalog/Italian.4.htm>

The Supersite provides access to:

- ◇ PRACTICE and WEBSAM exercises (*attività*)
- ◇ *Fotoromanzo* (filmed on location in Italy)
- ◇ *Cultura*
- ◇ *Lettura* (readings)
- ◇ *Panorama*
- ◇ *Lo Zapping* (authentic Italian TV commercials)
- ◇ Practice quiz/tests when available under Assessment tab
- ◇ vTEXT (online version of the textbook)

◇ In addition, the Supersite is rich with resources to facilitate learning and improving retention. Important announcements will be posted by your instructor both on the Supersite under *Announcements* and on MyBC under our course site. The instructor BC e-mail address is visible on your Supersite site for your convenience. Watch the instructional video and familiarize yourself with layout and content immediately.

New students: Register to the Supersite by visiting: <http://www.vistahigherlearning.com/highered/Italian> & use BC e-mail address. **Do not list your SID # on the VHL site.** Instructions are available on the site and on MyBC. You are responsible for catching up with all assignments if you register late for the course.
Returning students: Follow VHL instructions to reactivate your account or contact VHL Tech Support.

***** DO NOT SHARE YOUR SUPERSITE CODE W/ ANYONE! ~ Codes are not reusable, recyclable or sharable. ~ You may share the textbook but not the code! *****

If you experience any technical problems during the quarter, please contact directly VHL Tech Support.
24/7 Live Technical Help is available on the [Supersite](#).

FAQ: <http://support.vhlcentral.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=4502>

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

Instructor's Classroom Policy

"Courtesy and civility foster a positive learning environment."

- Remove your hat in the classroom! Keep your shoes on!
- Be respectful and courteous to your instructor and fellow classmates at all times.
- No disruptive behaviors will be tolerated, including: chewing gum loudly, interrupting, using vulgar or profane language, loud yawning or sleeping.
- Be on time! If you are late, take your seat promptly w/o disruption. Join the activity in progress.
- Inform your instructor if you need to leave early. Only the instructor has the authority to dismiss class.
- If the instructor is late, please wait 15 min. before leaving. In the event of the instructor's absence, a note will be posted outside the door and an announcement will be posted on *MyBC* and on the *Supersite*.
- Familiarize yourself w/ the classroom evacuation procedure.
- Cell phones, iPod, and other electronic devices that interfere w/ learning should be off; in the event your cell phone rings, 5 pts. will be deducted from the next test. If the instructor's cell phone rings, 5 pts. will be awarded to the class on the next test. ☺
- Do not complete assignments or read material not related to the Italian course.
- You may bring a snack or a non-alcoholic drink to class. Dispose of containers upon exiting.
- Do not take it personally if, occasionally, the instructor corrects your pronunciation or responses.
- Visit the instructor during office hours, if those are inconvenient, make an appointment.
- Learn to be critical of your culture as you learn about another. Keep a sense of humor for it makes learning fun!

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

My classroom is an LGBTQ **safe space** where I welcome your individuality and will defend your right to be yourself in the spirit of learning and in an environment of **mutual respect**. I am here to teach and you are all here to learn, and I am committed to maintaining an environment wherein we all feel safe to do so. **It is an honor and a pleasure to have each and every one of you in my classroom!**

Division Statements

Condotta accademica No act of plagiarism will be tolerated or condoned. (See under Student Code below). In the event a student cheats or plagiarizes any of the work assigned, copies during a test/quiz, or asks someone else to complete his/her graded project and assignment, the work in question will receive a O credit = F. A second offense will be reported to the VP of Student Services and will result in a course grade of F.

Visit the A&H for Students Procedures and Expectations policy: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/artshum/policy.html>

Information about Bellevue College copyright guidelines can be found at:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/links/copyright.html>

Information about Plagiarism can be found at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

Student Code

"Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or

classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:
http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Important Links & Places around Campus

MyBC account – CS – WL Lab – ASC

MyBC Account: All students enrolled at Bellevue College are required to set-up a BC e-mail account. All official communication with the College will be directed to your Official BC Student e-mail account. Your student BC network account is also used to log onto computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the wireless network, and log in to MyBC to retrieve course materials posted by your instructors.



CREATE & MANAGE YOUR E-MAIL ACCOUNT BY VISITING THE WEBSITE →

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/students/email/> For help logging in or creating you account, request online support at Student Technology Support Center at <https://bellevuecollege.edu/stsc/> or visit the page **Information Resources:** <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/ir/>

World Language Lab: located in **A244**. Drop-in hours will be announced on MyBC and posted at the door. I encourage you to use the language lab to complete assignments while on campus during drop-in hours.

Academic Success Center (ASC): located in **D204** or call (425) 564-2200. Drop-in hours schedule will be posted on MyBC/and at my office door as soon as it becomes available. Tutoring is free to all students regardless of grade. If your grade is C- below, you may request one-on-one tutoring by following proper application procedure. For more information and application forms, visit www.bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring or drop by the ASC in person.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. Students who have accommodation needs are required to visit the DRC office as soon as possible in **B132** or call (425) 564-2498 or TTY (425) 4110 for assistance with eligibility accommodation requirements. Students with mobility challenges who require assistance in case of an emergency and evacuation situation, should register with the DRC office and meet with individual instructor to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter. Please visit the DRC website for more information or for an application at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Public Safety

The Bellevue College **Public Safety** Department’s well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at:
<http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

Academic Calendar and Course Withdrawal

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar provides information about important admissions and enrollment dates, holidays, closures, last day for pass/fail status, withdrawing dates and refunds information, and official final exams schedule. It also provides you with a “year at a glance” so you can plan ahead your classes for next quarter. Visit:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>

IMPORTANTE! If you are considering **withdrawing** from the course, it would be polite if you were to inform me of your plans either by e-mail or in person before you take action. Your reasons for withdrawing are solely yours and I respect them, but perhaps there could be something you have not considered and I may be able to help you.

AVVERTENZA! If you stop attending class without officially withdrawing from the course by the due date set by the College on the Academic Calendar, you remain enrolled in the course and will receive a grade of F at the end of the quarter. Do not jeopardize your GPA, financial aid, and scholarship opportunities for not following proper and timely withdrawal procedure. A failing grade may diminish your admission chances into four-year institutions, and, in some case, even hurt employment opportunities and promotions.

NO HW is granted at the end of the quarter for stopping to attend class and failing to follow withdrawal procedures.

CLASS CALENDAR available on MyBC Course Site. It is not written in stone. Your instructor may modify the calendar at her discretion as needed.

I may post on *MyBC* material & links related to Italy and Italian language and culture that you may find helpful, interesting, or enjoyable, all aimed at supplementing your learning. If you would like to share sites, pictures, video w/ the class you have come across, let me know, I will add them to *MyBC* for all to enjoy.

Grazie e ... In bocca al lupo!

