**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Department of French and Italian**

**SYLLABUS**

**Italian 224**

**Spring 2019**

**Instructor: Antonio Idini**

**Room: VKC 111**

**Days / Time: Tues. Thurs. 3:00—4:50 pm**

**Office: TBA**

**E-mail: idini@usc.edu**

**Office Hours: Mon.& Wed.: 1:00—1:50 pm; Tues: 1:00—2:50 pm**

**and by individual appointment**

**Course Overview**

Emphasis on cultural aspects of contemporary Italy. Increased emphasis on reading, speaking, and writing skills. Review of basic grammar structures. Authentic materials, such as ads, brochures, songs, videos, newspaper and magazine articles, are used extensively to expose students to contemporary Italian language and culture. This course will encourage students to use more complex, refined grammatical structures and vocabulary. Great emphasis will be put on oral expression through presentations that students will prepare individually. During the course we will explore the many facets of Italian culture via a variety of media.

**Required Text**

*Crescendo!, 3rd edition,* Francesca Italiano (Chapters 7-11)

**Class Requirements**

1. Class will be conducted in Italian at all times.

2. Students must attend class regularly and participate actively in all activities and discussions. Your participation is graded and is worth **10% of your final grade.**

3. Daily Homework assignments **must be completed in a timely fashion**. No late homework assignments will be accepted after **the third** week of classes. Your daily homework is worth **10% of your final grade.** Homework will not be graded for accuracy. You will get credit for completing them and reflecting on and correcting your mistakes.

4. There will be **four** writing assignments on various topics studied in class. These papers must be typed, double-spaced and two/three-page long (500—750 words). Each assignment will be worth 3%, for a total of **12% of your final grade**. You will have a chance to improve your skills with the instructor’s input. Only the revised version will count for your grade.

5. Students will be asked to facilitate an oral presentation on a topic agreed with the instructor (deadline: week 8). The presentation can include visuals, handouts and any materials deemed necessary. It is not supposed to be just read as a paper, although you can have a bullet point outline for your convenience. The other students will be expected to contribute to the discussion with at least one question/comment each. Your oral presentation will be worth **10% of your final grade**.

6. There will be four written exams—each worth 7% for a total of **28% of your final grade**--and a final written exam on Thursday, May 7, 2—4 pm, worth **20% of your final grade**. The final exam will cover all the materials studied during the semester.

7. At the end of the semester students will have an oral exam, similar to the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) devised by the ACTFL. This exam can last between 20 and 30 minutes. It will be worth **10% of your final grade**.

8. **There will be no exam make-ups**; however USC official policies allow for some absences to be excused. Students who can verify that they were prevented from completing assignments and/or taking exams due to a serious illness or the observance of a religious holiday are permitted to make up the work they missed. Students who miss class because of their performance in university-sponsored events, such as athletic competitions, fine-arts performances, ROTC activities, etc. are also allowed to make up the work they missed. Students who are summoned for jury duty are excused as well. Finally, a death in the immediate family would also excuse a student’s absence.

On the other hand, personal reasons for missing class are not excused. These include personal trips to attend university-sponsored events as a spectator, to visit family, to attend weddings and similar events, even when plane tickets have already been purchased. In order to make up any work (assignments, exams, etc.) that you missed because of an excused absence, **you must bring a piece of valid, original documentation**. For a serious illness, a medical excuse from a doctor or another appropriate health-care provider is required and is subject to confirmation. Students using the University Park Health Center should have a valid release on file at the UPHC with your instructor’s name on it. For university-sponsored events, an original memo from the appropriate advisor must be provided in advance. Documentation from a newspaper, funeral, memorial service, etc., must be provided in the event of an absence due to a death in the immediate family. The court papers summoning you for jury duty are required in order to be excused.

**Please keep in mind that any kind of absence will affect your performance in a negative way, whether or not it is excused**. Working at home or just reading the book cannot substitute for your active engagement in class. Thus, you are strongly encouraged to keep the number of absences to the lowest possible amount.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

* Jan. 25: Last day to register
* Jan. 25: Last day to change your enrollment option from Letter Grade to

Pass/No Pass or Audit.

* Jan. 25: Last day to drop a class without a mark of “W” and receive a refund.
* Feb. 22: Last day to drop a class without a mark of “W”.
* Feb. 22: Last day to change your enrollment option from Pass/No Pass to

Letter Grade

* Apr. 5: Last day to drop a class with a mark of “W”.

**GRADES**

**93-100 A**

**90-92 A-**

**87-89 B+**

**83-86 B**

**80-82 B-**

**77-79 C+**

**73-76 C**

**70-72 C-**

**67-69 D+**

**63-66 D**

**60-62 D-**

**0-59 F**

**COMPONENTS OF YOUR FINAL GRADE**

Exam 1 7%

Exam 2 7%

Exam 3 7%

Exam 4 7%

Presentation 10%

Oral Final Exam 10%

Written Final Exam 20%

Papers (4) 12%

Class Participation 10%

Homework 10%

**STATEMENTS ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

**Academic Conduct:**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

**Support Systems:**

*Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call*

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255*

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

*Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call*

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

*Sexual Assault Resource Center*

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: http://sarc.usc.edu/

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance – (213) 740-5086*

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. <https://equity.usc.edu/>

*Bias Assessment Response and Support*

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

*Student Support & Advocacy – (213) 821-4710*

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

*Diversity at USC – https://diversity.usc.edu/*

Tabs for Events, Programs and Training, Task Force (including representatives for each school), Chronology, Participate, Resources for Students

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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| **WEEKS/DAYS** | **CHAPTERS** | **IMPORTANT DATES** |
| Weeks 1—3  Jan. 8—24 | Ch. 7:  **Le tradizioni e la cultura popolare** |  |
| Weeks 4—6  Jan. 29—Feb. 14 | Ch. 8:  **Mangiare all’italiana** | **Thursday, Jan. 31: EXAM 1**  **Thursday, Feb. 7: Paper 1 due**  **Thursday, Feb. 14: Presentations** |
| Weeks 7—9  Feb. 19—Mar. 7 | Ch. 9:  **L’Italia del passato: il Ventennio Fascista e il Neorealismo** | **Thursday, Feb. 21: EXAM 2**  **Thursday, Feb. 28: Paper 2 due**  **Thursday, Mar. 7: Presentations** |
| SPRING RECESS  Mar. 12 & 14 |  |  |
| Weeks 10—12  Mar. 19—Apr. 4 | Ch. 10:  **L’economia: il “Sistema” Italia e le nuove sfide** | **Thursday, Mar. 21: EXAM 3**  **Thursday, Mar. 28: Paper 3 due**  **Thursday, Apr. 4: Presentations** |
| Weeks 12—15  Apr. 9—25 | Ch. 11:  **La cultura italiana** | **Thursday, Apr. 11: EXAM 4**  **Thursday, Apr. 18: Paper 4 due** |
|  |  | **Friday, Apr. 26: ORAL FINAL EXAMS**  **Tuesday, May 7, 2—4 pm: WRITTEN FINAL EXAM** |