COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number: ITA 101  
Course Title: Beginning Italian I  
Credits: 3

Hours: 3 lecture
Co- or Pre-requisite:  
Implementation: Spring/2013

Catalog description: The first of a sequence of courses designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of Italian. Spoken communication in Italian is both the end goal and the means of instruction. The course emphasizes the four communicative skills in a culturally authentic context. Reading and writing are assigned out of class to facilitate effective listening and speaking practice in class. Basic grammar skills are also introduced.

Is course New, Revised, or Modified? Revised

Required texts/other materials:  

Revision date: Spring 2017  
Course coordinator: Daniel D’Arpa, (609) 570-3318, darpad@mccc.edu

Information resources:  
(The “Supersite” passcode which accompanies the book if bought new, gives students access to a web-based instructional system that supports the textbook and includes learning and assessment tools.

Other learning resources:  
Students are encouraged to purchase an Italian-English dictionary or gain access to such online dictionaries. Italian tutoring is available in the Learning Center. Italian language learning software is available in the library.
**Course Competencies/Goals:**

**Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:**

1. Demonstrate reading comprehension of written Italian on basic level.
2. Demonstrate listening comprehension of spoken Italian on a basic level.
3. Write Italian on a basic level.
4. Speak Italian on a basic level.
5. Identify basic grammatical elements of Italian sentence structure.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the culture, history, and daily lives of the Italian-speaking peoples of the world.
7. Identify current and past contributions made by Italian-speaking peoples to world literature, art, music, science, and commerce.

**Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills.**

**General Education Knowledge Goals**

**Goal 1. Communication.** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

**Goal 4. Technology.** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

**Goal 5. Social Science.** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

**Goal 6. Humanities.** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

**Goal 8. Diversity.** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

**MCCC Core Skills**

**Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

**Goal D. Information Literacy.** Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

**Goal E. Computer Literacy.** Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

**Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation.** Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

**Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility.** Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

**Units of study in detail.**

**Unit 1: Meeting People**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Greet people in Italian at different times of the day and say goodbyes. (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Introduce themselves and others. (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Talk about the time of day. (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
4. Recognize, list and pronounce the Italian alphabet, basic nouns, numbers 1-30, subject pronouns, and conjugate the present tense of the verbs. (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
5. Identify social behaviors of a Italian community. (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
6. Compare and contrast constructions in the action of greetings and goodbyes in North American and Italian-Speaking cultures. (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
**Unit 2: University Life**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Discuss their college classes, physical spaces, and campus building locations.  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Discuss everyday activities related to their academic and daily schedules, and/or extracurricular activities.  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Ask questions in Italian.  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
4. Describe the location of people and things.  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
5. Recognize, list and pronounce the Italian vowel sounds and numbers 31 and higher, conjugate the present tense of verbs, and form questions.  
   (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
6. Identify features of higher learning in Italian-Speaking countries.  
   (Course Goal 6, 7; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
7. Compare and contrast differences in the customs of higher education between the U.S. and Italian-Speaking countries.  
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)

**Unit 3: Family**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Describe people and things  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Express ownership and possession of things  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Discuss activities at home and at school  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
4. Recognize, list and pronounce the Italian diphthongs and linking sounds, use descriptive adjectives in agreement with nouns, conjugate the present tense of verbs  
   (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
5. Identify facts about past empires and colonies.  
   (Course Goal 6, 7; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
6. Identify cultural constructions in the institution of family and in surnames of Italian-Speaking cultures and compare and contrast these constructions with those of North Americans.  
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)

**Unit 4: Leisure**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Discuss pastimes, leisure activities, and sports  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Discuss plans for the future including proposals and invitations  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Distinguish and pronounce word stress and accent marks in Italian, conjugate stem-changing verbs and irregular verbs.  
   (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
4. Discuss popular games and sports in Italian-Speaking countries  
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
5. Compare and contrast cultural differences in pastimes between those practiced in Italian-Speaking countries and other cultures.  
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 7, 8; Core Skills E, G)

**Unit 5: Tourism**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Discuss vacation plans, describe a hotel, the seasons and weather  
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Discuss physical and emotional states
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Recognize and pronounce the differences and similarities between the Italian consonant sounds of 'b' and 'v', use descriptive adjectives with verbs, conjugate the present participle of verbs, and recognize object nouns and be able to replace them with pronouns.
   (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
4. Discuss tourism and travel in Italian-Speaking countries
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
5. Compare and contrast vacations and tourist destinations in Italian-speaking countries with other places familiar to students.
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 7, 8; Core Skills E, G)

**Unit 6: Shopping**

*Students will demonstrate in Italian how to:*

1. Discuss and describe clothing
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
2. Express preferences in a store; negotiate and pay for items to buy
   (Course Goals 1, 2, 3, 4; General Education Goals 1, 4, 6; Core Skills A, E, F)
3. Recognize and pronounce the similarities and differences between the Italian consonant sounds of 'd' and 't', conjugate the present tense verbs, use indirect object pronouns to replace nouns, conjugate the present tense of “DAR”, conjugate the preterite tense of regular verbs, and list and use demonstrative adjectives in context.
   (Course Goal 5; General Education Goals 4, 6; Core Skills D, E, F)
4. Discuss retail sales in Italian-Speaking countries
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 8; Core Skills E, G)
5. Compare and contrast cultural constructions in the practice of retail commerce.
   (Course Goal 6; General Education Goals 4, 6, 7, 8; Core Skills E, G)

**Evaluation of student learning:**

- Students will complete a written test after each unit studied including a Midterm and a Final examination. The Midterm will be comprehensive of units 1-3 and the Final will be comprehensive of units 4-6. These written assessments will measure skill levels in reading comprehension, writing, grammar constructions and listening comprehension.
- Further assessment of writing skills will be evaluated by at least three in-class short essay writing.
- Spoken communication (speaking and listening) will be assessed by at least two oral presentations in the form of spontaneous dialogue.
- Required work in preparation for each class includes the study of vocabulary lists and grammar explanations. Activities that contextualize these points will be completed on a daily basis. These assignments can be done individually by students and are not necessarily communicative in nature.
- Daily in-class course work will be comprised of communicative activities which develop precisely those skills that the student cannot perform alone at home: that is, speaking with others in Italian. The language of instruction and classroom business is Italian.

**Academic Integrity Statement:**

The Academic Integrity Policies of Mercer County Community College are based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student’s own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate academic dishonesty in the college community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the college community. Students should become familiar with and strictly adhere to MCCC's Academic Integrity policies. Refer to [http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml](http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml).