

BOSTON UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD VENICE
Dorsoduro - 3655 Venezia Tel. 041.2960599

CAS LI 111: FIRST - SEMESTER ITALIAN
FALL 2014

Course instructor: Prof. Daniela Baroni (dfbaroni@gmail.com)

Course schedule: Mon. and Thu 9.15 – 11.15 am

Course value: 4 credits

Office hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Classes are of 2 hours each.

The course, conducted in Italian, is based on a communicative approach so to allow the student to get in touch with the Italian language and culture. Great attention is given to the development of the oral language through a great variety of listening and spontaneous spoken production. Along with taking care of the fluency, the student will be encouraged to reflect on the Italian syntactic and grammatical structures.

The course includes also many lexical activities out of the class: a different, stimulating and visual way to learn and build vocabulary around the streets, squares, shops, etc. in Venice.

Since class takes place both in the classroom and out, notes taken during on site are of fundamental importance to this course.

A great variety of activities (both oral and written) will be done regularly in class, in groups or individually in order to practice grammar, vocabulary and communicative functions. They can range from didactic games to role-plays, etc.

Homework (exercises, oral presentations, written compositions, readings, practical activities) **is assigned at every lesson** and checked regularly with the teacher in class.

Participation and **homework**: students are asked to participate actively in class, which implies questions and interventions in order to let the teacher evaluate the class progress.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course focuses on the main and fundamental linguistic which are necessary for foreign students living in a L2 environment. The course aims at developing not only a simple way of communicating with native people but also the comprehension ability which is extremely important for experiences on site.

At the end of the course students can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Students can introduce him/herself and others, students can ask and answer questions about personal details and they can interact in a simple way. As basic users, students can write a short, simple postcard or they can fill in forms with personal details.

WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

The course includes the following **tests with grades**:

- **2 short quizzes.** These will take 20/30 minutes and will test all the grammar and vocabulary studied during the course.

- **2 oral presentations.** Students are asked to prepare 5 (five) minutes monologue and they will be evaluated for what concerns: grammar, vocabulary, fluency, pronunciation, contents.

- **2 written compositions.** Students are asked to prepare 100-150 words compositions (1 page Word to be written in Times New Roman, font 12, double spacing, justified) which are to be done, handed in on the day they are scheduled for. They will be evaluated for what concerns: grammar, vocabulary, cohesion, coherence, contents.

- **MIDTERM exam** (Written part: one grammar quiz comprehensive of all the grammar and vocabulary studied in the course and one written composition. Oral part: a role-play - **NO written notes** during the oral presentation).

- **FINAL exam** (Written part: one grammar quiz comprehensive of all the grammar and vocabulary studied in the course and one written composition. Oral part: it will be a project called **“The Study Abroad Generation”** (*see copy-pack*) which the students have to prepare and structure during the semester.

- **1 project** called **“Found in translation – remapping the topography of Venice”** (*see copy-pack*) which includes the use of the “Lessico specifico di Venezia”

COURSE MATERIALS

A textbook “ITALIANO ALL’UNIVERSITÀ 1”, Edizioni Edilingua, Roma

A **copy-pack**, specially prepared by the teacher, which includes extra material (communicative elements, vocabulary or grammar).

Notes taken in class and out of class are part of the course materials.

COURSE GRADING CRITERIA

Attendance, class participation and homework	Grammar and vocabulary quizzes	Oral presentations	Written compositions	FINAL EXAM (written and oral)
20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

GRADE CHART

Grade	Honour	Points
A	4.0	93-100
A-	3.7	90-92
B+	3.3	87-89
B	3.0	83-86
B-	2.7	80-82
C+	2.3	77-79
C	2.0	73-76
C-	1.7	70-72
D	1.0	60-69
F	0.0	Below

STUDENT BEHAVIOR IN CLASS AND AT BUSA and BU POLICIES

Promptness and punctuality are expected, and they will affect your participation grade;

Switch off your phones during the lesson;

Do not bring food or drinks in class;

Respect of peers and teachers;

Late homework is not accepted. You will be docked a *minus* for any late.

Course Attendance Policy

Boston University Padova students are expected to attend **each** and **every** class session, tutorial, and field trips required for the class. Students should note that attendance will be taken into account by faculty when determining final grades. Students absent from class for medical reasons need to provide a local doctor’s note.

Plagiarism

Simply stated, plagiarism is taking another’s work and presenting it as you own.

Dictionary definitions of plagiarism frequently include terms such as ‘theft’ or ‘steal’. Plagiarism is, in fact, intellectual theft. It is one of the most serious forms of academic misconduct. Plagiarism committed by a student will certainly result in course failure and may result in suspension or dismissal. For more details please see Boston University’s *Code of Student Responsibilities*: <http://www.bu.edu/lifebook/university-policies/policies-code.html>

Religious Holidays

Boston University’s Office of the University Registrar states:

‘The University, in scheduling classes on religious holidays and observances, intends that students observing those traditions be given ample opportunity to make up work. Faculty members who wish to observe religious holidays will arrange for another faculty member to meet their classes or for cancelled classes to be rescheduled.’ See Chapter 151C of the General Laws, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.