Course Description

Continues development of skills of understanding, speaking, reading and writing of Italian. Classes conducted in Italian. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of Intermediate Italian is to enable the student to become more proficient in speaking and understanding Italian in a greater variety of situations. The student learns the more complex structures of the Italian language. The student learns to read and write without recourse to translations, and continues to explore the cultural aspects of the Italian-speaking world. In keeping with the National Standards for foreign language education, culture (music, art, gastronomy, social mores, and others) is embedded in this language course. This is reflected in our written and oral assessments.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: ITA 102 or equivalent

Course Objectives

A. Listening
   The student will be able to understand content referring to basic personal background and needs, social conventions and somewhat more complex situations which may include such topics as lodging, transportation, shopping, personal interests and activities, and a greater diversity of instructions and directions. In addition to face to face conversations, the student will be able to understand short routine telephone conversations and simple announcements and reports over the media.

B. Speaking
   Given a basic communicative context, the student will be able to talk simply about himself/herself and family members, ask and answer questions, and participate in simple conversations on topics beyond immediate needs, such as personal history and leisure time activities. The student's sentence length will be longer than in 101 and 102, but may contain long pauses. Pronunciation may continue to be strongly influenced by first language and fluency is lacking. Sympathetic listeners can generally understand the student.

C. Reading
   The student will be able to read making only minimal suppositions in areas of personal interests or knowledge. The student will be able to read straightforward descriptions of persons, places and things written for a wide audience.

D. Writing
   The student will write about topics grounded in personal experience such as preferences, everyday events, cultural differences and daily routine. The student can express present time and at least one other time frame or aspect consistently.

E. Culture
   The student will be able to read, discuss and write about topics concerning the Italian cultures featured in textbooks and in target language media at the Intermediate level.

Major Topics To Be Included

- Everyday situations
- Family life
- Student life and life in the workplace
- Cross cultural comparisons
- Use of leisure time
- Social issues
- Political events
- Literary texts