

School of Arts & Sciences - SPRING 2025

Intermediate Italian II

Course ID and 7-digit Number: ITAL 0400-301

Course Description

Italian 0400 is the second half of a two-semester intermediate sequence designed to help you attain a level of proficiency that will allow you to function comfortably in an Italian-speaking environment. The course will build on your existing skills in Italian, increase your confidence and your ability to read, write, speak and understand the language, and introduce you to more refined lexical items, more complex grammatical structures, and more challenging cultural material. The course will allow you to explore culturally relevant topics and to develop cross-cultural skills through the exploration of analogies and differences between the Italian-speaking world and other cultures. The course will concentrate on specific social issues together with cultural topics. Attendance and participation are of the utmost importance because you will work collaboratively with classmates and the instructor towards increased linguistic competence and a more complex understanding of Italian culture. Written and oral assignments will provide structured practice of linguistic forms, while also incorporating creativity. Class and group discussion will enhance your abilities to express your opinions, and to challenge and debate those of others. Writing assignments will develop your abilities to communicate creatively, practically and persuasively. By the end of the course, you will have refined and improved your ability to communicate in Italian, you will have achieved a greater fluency in the language and acquired a more subtle understanding of Italian culture.

Prerequisites

- Completion of Italian 0300 at Penn
- or a placement score between 550 and 640 on the SAT II or the departmental placement exam.

Class Structure

- Students will attend classes MWR 3:30- 4:30 pm
- Students will complete out-of-class assignments as indicated by the instructor (Canvas)

Out-of-class Activities

- Forum Discussion on Canvas
- Weekly Video/Voice recordings (Canvas, Panopto)
- Collaborative work
- Daily assignments (handouts, compositions, videos, research, mini presentations)

Outline of Assignments and Assessments

- Attendance, Participation, and Engagement 15%
- Homework 15%
- Compositions 15%
- Presentations 10%
- Oral assessment 10%
- Exams 15%

- Final Project (*compito finale*) 20%

Essential Course Policies

- **No textbook is required.** Course Material (PowerPoints, handouts, video, articles, short stories, selections from novels, etc.) provided by the instructor
- Access to Canvas

Any student may consult with [Student Financial Services](#) to find out what support they are eligible to receive to cover course costs or other items that ensure their health, safety, and secure learning environment.

Students needing accommodations of any kind should let the instructor know as soon as they are able.