



**Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - Italian Studies**  
**ITAL 216: Intermediate Italian Intensive - Section 001 (6 credits)**  
**WINTER 2025**

**Lecturer:** Anna Maria Tumino

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**Office hours:** Tuesday & Wednesday 11:30AM – 12:30PM or by appointment

**Communication plan:** In-person/ McGill email; I will answer emails within 24 hours on weekdays.

**In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the university's control, assessment tasks in a course are subject to change, provided students are sent adequate and timely communication regarding the change.**

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

ITAL 216 is an intensive language course designed for students who already possess a basic knowledge of Italian. Over one term, this course introduces students to the more complex grammatical structures of written and spoken Italian. Students will also expand their vocabulary, thus developing the ability to handle a wider range of real-life situations and participate in more sophisticated discussions about Italy and its culture.

### **PREREQUISITES**

To be admitted to this course, students must have taken a beginner level course in Italian, either in the Department (ITAL 205 or ITAL 206) or at another institution (in this case, the permission of the Department is required.)

For students wishing to pursue further studies in Italian, this course fulfills the prerequisite for ITAL 250 (Literary composition) and other 200-level courses. (Please note that some 200-level courses are offered in English).

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the beginning of this course students should be able to:

- Understand basic Italian spoken at a normal speed
- Communicate basic ideas and situations orally
- Express opinions
- Read texts
- Write coherently about subjects dealing with everyday life

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

**Oral comprehension:** understand the important elements of a conversation at a normal speed.

**Oral production:** express themselves to deal with everyday situations; describe events in the past tense; express emotions, wishes, likes, dislikes; express an opinion.

**Written comprehension:** understand relatively complex texts; comprehend intermediate-level cultural and literary texts. Students will read a novel.

**Written production:** Produce summative, descriptive, narrative, and expository texts on familiar topics using the proper sequence of tenses in the indicative and in the subjunctive.

**Cultural:** identify and explain cultural references as expressed in written, audio, and visual material.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD**

This course is given entirely in person. In our Italian language class, we emphasize a dynamic and immersive learning experience. New grammar themes are introduced during in-person sessions, ensuring direct and immediate engagement with the material. Our focus in class is on interactive activities, which facilitate practical language use and reinforce the concepts introduced. Homework is assigned to be completed outside of class, allowing students to review and apply the new grammar at their own pace. This approach ensures that classroom time is dedicated to active practice and communication, fostering a more engaging and effective learning environment.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Cozzarelli, Julia. *Sentieri + SupersitePlus access code, webSam* (web Student Activity Manual). *Sentieri*, VHL 4th edition. The digital book is available for purchase at the McGill University bookstore, *Le James*: <https://lejames.ca>

Carofiglio, Gianrico. *Le tre del mattino*. Einaudi editore, 2017. This novel (physical copy) is available for purchase at the McGill University bookstore, *Le James*: <https://lejames.ca>

Dictionary: a good Italian-English or Italian French dictionary. A dictionary is an essential tool to learning a foreign language. Departmental recommended online dictionaries:

- Garzanti: <https://www.garzantilinguistica.it/>
- Zanichelli: <http://dizionari.zanichelli.it/>
- [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com)

**Preparatory Work & Homework (VHL)**

All assigned activities must be completed *before* class meetings. Students are expected to devote approximately **2 hours** to studying and preparing for the class per day (whether formally assigned or not). The preparatory work and homework consist of assigned exercises on the online platform *VHL (Vista Higher Learning)*, associated with the textbook *Sentieri*. A deduction of **10% per day** will be applied for late submission of exercises done online on VHL.

Extra assigned exercises will also be posted on *Mycourses (Content, Compiti, Esercizi)* to practice grammar and other elements. These exercises will sometimes be corrected (partially) in class to go over rules and unclear material and they will **not** be submitted.

**Homework (Mycourses)**

Students will be assigned homework which consists of work sheets and writing exercises; this homework will have a due date, and students will be required to submit it on Mycourses, "Assignments" or they may hand in the paper copy to the instructor. The specific dates will be set by the teacher prior to each assignment.

**Quizzes**

A total of 2 in-class quizzes will be given; information on content will be provided prior to each quiz. The date of each quiz is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

**Tests**

Students will be asked to take 3 in-class tests; more information pertaining to the content will be provided prior to the exam. The dates of the tests are provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

**Written assignments**

Students will be asked to write 3 written assignments that are designed to develop their ability to use grammar structures and recycle vocabulary. The assignments will be written in class; notes, textbooks, cell phones, and laptops will **NOT** be allowed. Dictionaries will be permitted for 2 written assignments. The topics will be given in class the same day of the assignment; the date of each

assignment is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

**Oral Assignments**

There will be 2 oral assignments and 1 oral presentation or interview; students will produce short videos, dialogues in pairs, and oral activities which serve to assess the students' communicative skills in Italian. More information on topics and evaluation method will be posted on MyCourses. The date of each oral assignment is provided in the *Course Calendar* (see Mycourses).

In *Mycourses*, students must check the *Content* module after each class to access the homework for the next class (see "*Compiti*"). Students must also check regularly "*Announcements*" and "*Assignments*" on *Mycourses* as well as their McGill email account to read important messages, reminders, information and updates regarding the course, and to keep up with all assigned activities such as preparatory work/homework, written and oral assignments, tests and quizzes.

**Missed or late assignments**

Students are expected to consult *MyCourses* (*Content, Assignments, Announcements*) after each class to keep up with all assigned activities such as Preparatory Work/Homework, Written/Oral assignments, Tests, and Quizzes. A deduction of **5% per day** will be applied for late submission of all assignments, (except assignments online VHL, **10% per day**).

Please note that according to the Policy on Assessment of Student Learning (PASL), students must abide to the following regulation: *Students who for valid documented reasons (such as extenuating illness or serious personal circumstances) cannot undertake or submit an assessment task in a course may request academic accommodations within a timeframe that is in accordance with local guidelines and procedures, and instructor approval...*

**Additional work to upgrade marks will not be permitted.**

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**

**There is no final exam for this course.**

<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Participation	10%
Homework & Preparation <i>VHL</i>	5%
Quizzes (2)	10%
Tests (3)	30%
Written assignments (3)	15%
Homework ( <i>Mycourses</i> )	10%
Oral assessments (2)	10%
Oral presentation or interview (1)	10%

## Participation

Active participation in class is essential. Your grade in this category will be based on a number of elements:

- punctuality
- evidence of your daily preparation for each class
- homework & preparatory work completion
- making a concerted effort to speak Italian as often as possible
- interacting with peers in small group activities
- volunteering effective questions and comments on a regular basis
- showing consistent progress in written and oral assignments

Important: Disruptive behavior, using cellular phones (texting) and/or laptops (for personal use or to do work for another course) will also lower your *participation* grade. **See the Participation rubric on Mycourses.**

### **Extra points:**

Participation to at **least 4** extracurricular activities (ex. Italian movie nights, conversation sessions, and other activities announced by the instructor) will allow the students to obtain a **2%** bonus to their final grade.

Students are responsible for keeping track of their extra credit activities – keep a sheet of paper/form for each extra credit activity with logs for each attendance – name of the activity and date, and have it signed by the moderator at the end of the activity. Submit these logs/forms to your instructor at the end of the term.

## ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all class meetings to fully participate in all class activities. The following attendance policy applies after the add/drop deadline (January 14, 2025):

- Students are allowed 2 unexcused absences without penalty.
- After a total of 2 unexcused absences, 1 point per absence will be deducted from the student's final mark of 100%.
- Every two unexcused lateness or early departure will count as one absence.

To be accepted, medical notes must indicate the doctor's office or hospital logo and a contact number. Medical notes may be reviewed and evaluated by *Student Accessibility and Achievement* in exceptional circumstances, for example, students with an excessive number of medical notes or students who have conditions/issues that hinder their academic performance.

**Absences for religious holy days** are exempt from these stipulations, but must abide by the conditions of the University Holy Days Policy at <http://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/holy-days-0/policy-holy-days>. Students who wish to observe religious holidays: **MUST INFORM** the lecturer in writing the first 2 weeks of the semester so that alternative arrangements can be made. It is the students' responsibility to fulfill the agreed upon requirements. Students must keep track of their absences if any.

In case of absence students are responsible for catching up with the class, completing homework and coming to the next class prepared. It is the student's obligation to inquire about what he/she has missed by contacting a classmate.

### **INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

*The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures endeavors to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with your instructor and the Office of Student Accessibility and Achievement: 1010 Sherbrooke Ouest, Suite 410, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2R7, 514-398-6009. Email: access.achieve@mcgill.ca*

Students with a documented disability should contact Student Accessibility and Achievement as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. This letter should be sent to the instructor at the beginning of a term. Please note that it might not be possible to accommodate last minute requests for accommodations.

The instructor will gladly honour students' requests to address them by their chosen name or gender pronoun. Please advise the instructor of this at any point in the semester.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are forbidden to use AI and/or translation tools such as: ChatGpt, Zeno Assistant, Google translate, DeepL or any other kind of translation software. Moreover, they are forbidden to have their work corrected by native speakers or any other person. (See below under Academic integrity for more details.)

**“McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures” (see McGill's guide to academic honesty for more information).** (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

« L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le guide pour l'honnêteté académique de McGill). »

- Note that to support academic integrity, your assignments may be submitted to text-matching or other appropriate software (e.g., formula-, equation-, and graph-matching).”
- **Please remember the following points when you write your essay:**
  - It is a violation of the honour code to have your essays proofread by someone else.
  - It is a violation of the honour code to use translation software or online translation tools.

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