



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY  
School of Continuing Studies

## ITAL-1011-130 Intensive Basic Italian Summer 2025

**Dates:** **May 19 - June 27, 2025**

**Location:** This course is conducted **entirely online**, which means students do not have to be on campus to complete any portion of it. Students will participate in the course using Georgetown University's online learning management system called Canvas. To learn more about Canvas, please go through the [Canvas Guide for Students](#).

**Optional Weekly Synchronous Zoom Meetings:** Mondays, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM EST. This time is dedicated to practicing spoken Italian. Please note that the scheduled time follows **Eastern Time (U.S.)**. Attendance is not mandatory but is highly encouraged, as these sessions will help students develop and strengthen their oral communication skills in Italian. Students who attend at least **three meetings** will receive **one extra point** toward their participation grade.

**Our first meeting will be on Monday, May 19.**

All the meetings will be recorded and made available in Canvas. Attending students are expected to have their video on.

This is the Zoom link we will use for our weekly (optional) meetings.

<https://georgetown.zoom.us/j/93662860551>

**Professor:** Fulvia Musti, Ph.D.

**Contact Information:** [mustif@georgetown.edu](mailto:mustif@georgetown.edu)

**Virtual Student Hours:** M-F **by appointment** on Zoom. Please email **24** hours in advance to make an appointment M-F between 9 am - 5 pm EST. Use the same Zoom link listed above.

**Communication:** I strive to reply to emails as promptly as possible. During the week (**Monday–Friday**), please allow **up to 24 hours** for a response. Emails sent over the weekend may take longer, but I will do my best to reply as soon as possible.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This six-week intensive beginning course devotes attention to the four skills of speaking, understanding, reading, and writing with a progression from greater emphasis on listening and speaking to a balance of all skills as the semester progresses. The course provides a first approach to the Italian language for absolute beginners. Aspects of Italian history, culture, and contemporary life are also introduced through readings, listening materials, videos and films and through the use of language technologies (like Canvas and other web tools). The general objectives are to provide students with basic tools for oral and written communication in Italian, but also to offer them the opportunity to learn about Italian culture and life and to reflect about intra and intercultural differences and similarities.

**Class Format:** Activities throughout the course include both (optional) live online encounters with the instructor, individual as well as group activities, and exercises completed in Canvas.

Besides assignments in Canvas, you will also complete assignments in [Blinklearning](#), the online platform for the **Workbook**. You will receive **daily** homework assignments via an email generated by Blinklearning. You will have to click on “MyMessage”, which will take you to the assignments. The assignments must be completed daily by 11:59 pm US EST.

Credits: 6

## COURSE LEARNING GOALS

The main objectives of this course are the following:

1. Students will be able to communicate both orally in basic situations of everyday life such as informal encounters, transactions in shops or tourist facilities, and in writing, through the composition of simple texts such as letters, messages and brief essays on cultural topics.
2. Students will develop analytical language skills through reading and writing in Italian.
3. Students will use language both functionally (for example, to introduce themselves, ask for information, order food at a restaurant) and expressively (for example, to describe what kind of people they are, or their likes and dislikes).
4. Students will explore intercultural awareness and contact through discussions and reflection on Italian customs, traditions, and daily life.

## COURSE BOOKS

### Required books

The textbook for this class is *New Italian Espresso* (beginner and pre-intermediate **updated edition**) by Alma Edizioni. Students are expected to purchase a paper copy of the textbook which will be available at the Georgetown University bookstore or from online sellers. The ISBN is 9788861827240.



2. Workbook: Students are also required to buy an access code for the digital Workbook by going directly to the publisher's website at the following link:

[https://shopusa.blinklearning.com/en/planescolar39-16659/47053-NEWITALIANESPRESSO-BEGINNERANDPRE-INTERMEDIATEUPDATEDITIONWORKBOOK.html?search\\_query=new+italian+espresso&results=235](https://shopusa.blinklearning.com/en/planescolar39-16659/47053-NEWITALIANESPRESSO-BEGINNERANDPRE-INTERMEDIATEUPDATEDITIONWORKBOOK.html?search_query=new+italian+espresso&results=235)

Once you purchase **the access code** for the online workbook, you will need our **class code** to access our Blinklearning class. Use this **Code: CL93615234**

Unless you follow these instructions, you will not be able to receive the daily assignments in the workbook via "my message".

## Technology

Canvas, the textbook web resources, VoiceThread, and other technologies are used in class to provide further practice on specific grammar points, to offer guided access to culturally salient internet sites and up-to-date materials for the development of oral and written skills.

## Video and Films

Students will watch one film and different types of video materials.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

### GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

**Grades will be assigned according to the following criteria:**

#### 1. Homework and Participation (20%)

The homework and participation grades are based on daily homework assignments in Canvas and Blinklearning. **One extra point** is awarded for attending and actively participating in at least one class meeting.

## 2. Multiple Lesson Quizzes( 4) (20%)

You will be required to complete four multiple lesson quizzes, accessible through Canvas. The quizzes are short, 25 points vocabulary and grammar quizzes covering two or three lessons each. A format and reviews will be provided for each quiz.

## 3. Writing Assignments (2) (15%)

You will be required to complete two writing assignments associated with that week's module/topic. For each assignment, you will need to write approximately 250 words.

## 4. Oral Performance (20%)

You will have an opportunity to practice speaking in Italian throughout the course. In all 6 module weeks, you will have presentations, and individual and pair recordings. You will receive **20% of your oral performance grade on a task** (a formal oral presentation). Please reach out to your peers via Canvas to establish a contact, so that you can do pair work.

## 5. Final Oral Exam (25%)

You will complete a synchronous oral exam with a partner (mandatory) during the last week of instruction. Your final oral exam will be scheduled in the Canvas Calendar. You will know your schedule the week prior to the final oral exam.

There is no written final exam.

## Proctoring Assessments

All written exams are monitored by **LockDown Browser**, a Georgetown University authorized proctoring software used in online courses. **LockDown Browser will not record your exam session, but will monitor your computer activities during the exam.** You will have to download LockDown Browser on your computer at the beginning of the course, and **take a practice quiz** during the Orientation in order to familiarize yourself with this tool. **Students must take this practice quiz within the first two days of the course.**

## Important Notice

All faculty are required to document a student's academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, **complete the "Quiz A | Lezioni 1- 2 -3 [LockDown Browser]" academic activity by the end of the first week of classes** or as soon as possible after adding the course.

## **Timeline for Completing Assignments - due daily by 11:59 pm EST (US, East Coast time)**

*Daily*, allocate 2- 3 hours to:

1. complete assignments in Canvas (reading, writing, watching Panopto lectures, speaking)
2. study and review (particularly the glossary at the end of each chapter)
3. complete Workbook assignments in BlinkLearning daily

*Weekends*, allocate 2-3 hours to complete assignments.

## **Late Work Submission Policy**

Late assignments are automatically downgraded in Canvas. After three days, they will no longer be accepted. Failure to actively participate in the course activities will result in a request to drop the course. Students who enroll in this course must pledge to be actively engaged and participate in all the activities on a daily basis. Contact me right away if you have any questions regarding this course's objectives and expectations.

## **Grading Note**

No late submissions or extensions are available for the last week. All assignments must be completed and submitted by Friday, June 27, at 11:59 pm EST. Assignments will not be accepted past this date.

## **GRADING SCHEME**

93 - 100% = A

90 - 93% = A -

87 - 90% = B+

83 - 87% = B

80 - 83% = B -

77 - 80% = C+

73 - 77% = C

70 - 73% = C

67 - 70% = D+

65 - 67% = D

65% or below =F

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Please read this section to review module topics. You are required to move through each module in sequential order. Beginning with Module 2, each module will be released (unlocked) on Saturday, 8 am ET before its start date, except Module 6, which will be released the Thursday before the module start date.

### ORIENTATION: Opens May 18 at 8 AM EST

The orientation provides an overview of the course and introduces you to your professor and peers. You will also learn about the technology requirements and where to get support. **This module must be completed before the following Settimana 1 module.**

### SETTIMANA 1 | Lezioni 1,2,3. May 19 - May 23

In Settimana 1, we will complete three lessons: **Lezione 1, Lezione 2, and Lezione 3**. In this first week, you will start building basic skills including introductions, counting, and basic routines like ordering food. You will learn the alphabet, numbers 0-100, and the present tense of verbs. You will practice introducing yourself, asking where a person is from, their telephone number, their address, their age, and what they do. There will be a **quiz on lezioni 1-2-3** at the end of the week.

### SETTIMANA 2 | Lezioni 4 e 5. May 26- May 30

In Settimana 2, we will cover **Lezioni 4 and 5** in which you learn to talk about the activities that you and your friends like to do in your free time. You will learn the plural forms of both regular and irregular verbs, adverbs of frequency, and prepositions used to locate shops and museums in a city. You will also practice to give and understand directions on a map. By the end of the week, you will prepare your first graded presentation for which you have to work with a partner.

### SETTIMANA 3 | Lezioni 6 e 7. June 2 - June 6

In Settimana 3 we will complete two lessons: **lezione 6 and lezione 7**. In lezione 6 you will learn and practice vocabulary to describe a hotel room, and in lezione 7 you will learn a new tense: passato prossimo (present perfect). There will be a **quiz on lezioni 4-5-6** at the end of the week.

### SETTIMANA 4 | Lezioni 8 e 9. June 9 - June 13

In Settimana 4 we will study **Lezioni 8 and 9**. In Lezione 8 you will learn to discuss different types of professions and what they entail in terms of skills and schedule. In this context, you will practice reflexive verbs and possessive adjectives. Lezione 9 deals with *la famiglia* - the family. You will practice possessives with names of relatives. At the end of the week, students will present their family.

## SETTIMANA 5 | Lezione 10. June 16 - June 20

In **lezione 10**, we will talk about Italian food and recipes. They are very interesting and culturally relevant topics. You will be able to make a short video while making one of your favorite Italian recipes. Please read the glossary at the end of lezione 10 (p. 154) before you begin each activity. You will also watch an Oscar winning film, *La vita è bella* (*Life is beautiful*) by Roberto Benigni. There will be a **quiz on lezioni 8-9-10** at the end of the week.

## SETTIMANA 6 | Lezioni 11 e 12. June 23 - June 27

In Settimana 6, we will cover **Lezione 11 and 12**. You will learn how to shop for clothes and practice essential expressions and vocabulary related to fabrics, colors, and sizes. We will also explore the imperfetto (imperfect), a fundamental tense often used with the passato prossimo to describe ongoing or habitual actions in the past. Building on previous discussions, we will revisit Made in Italy products and manufacturing, with a focus on the fashion industry, a key cultural and economic pillar of contemporary Italy. There will be a **quiz on lezioni 11- 12** at the end of the week.

## INFORMATION ABOUT TOOLS AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

As an online student your "classroom" experience will be very different than a traditional student. As part of your online experience, you can expect to:

1. Communicate with your professor and classmates regularly via email, discussion boards, and other platforms.
2. Navigate the internet using a web browser (note that certain tools may require a specific browser). Google Chrome usually works well with Canvas and most tools.
3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office or Google Docs to create documents.
4. Submit assignments in Canvas and in Blinklearning (workbook online platform)
5. Upload and download saved files (including text, audio, and video).
6. Use a microphone to record audio.
7. Use an internal or external camera to record video.

## TOOLS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

In this course, we will use Canvas, BlinkLearning, LockDown Browser, VoiceThread and Zoom.

- **Canvas.** An online space that allows professors to post your grades, share information, and add online assignments. It gives you access to your class content and tools in order to complete the course. As an online student you have 24/7 access to Canvas technical support, including [Canvas live chat](#) and support hotline at **855-338-2770**. In Canvas, click the "[Help](#)" icon in the far-left Canvas menu. A Canvas window will show you all

available support and feedback options. If you're looking for help on a specific feature, check out the [Canvas Student Guide](#).

- **BlinkLearning:** Educational publisher that provides access to digital content, exercises, and a place for interaction. You will complete workbook activities and access your textbook. For technical support, please message them at [help@blinklearning.com](mailto:help@blinklearning.com) or visit their [FAQ page](#).
- **VoiceThread:** This collaborative tool offers video, voice, and text commenting. To get started, review the [Getting Started with VoiceThread page](#). For support, you can find more guides or request help on the [VoiceThread at Georgetown page](#).
- **Zoom.** This live video-conferencing tool enables users to conduct live discussions, presentations, lectures, office hours, etc. via audio, video, text chat, and content sharing. You can also use it to create audio or video recordings. Visit the [Web Conferencing with Zoom](#) page if you have technical issues.

## COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

- You will need access to a computer (Windows or Mac) and adequate Internet service to complete this course. Although you can use other devices such as smartphones and tablets for some online coursework, please note that some tools may not work on tablets or smartphones.
- *You will also need an internal or external microphone and camera to complete this course.* While you can use any browser to access Canvas please note that some tools only work with certain browsers. The minimum requirements needed to use Canvas can be found in this [Canvas guide](#).

## COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

### STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

This course consists of 6 modules. You are expected to complete all readings, assignments, and activities on time. Participation is essential to your success in this class. Students are expected to actively participate in discussions with your peers, and contribute to the group assignments. It is important to subscribe to the course announcements so that you receive notifications when new messages are posted. In order to get full credit for participation, you will have to complete all of your module assignments and quizzes on time.

### TIME EXPECTATIONS

Our online classes are designed to meet the same academic standards as our place-based (face-to-face) courses. You can think of each module equal to the same level of participation, commitment, and academic rigor as a face-to-face class. Students should plan on spending approximately 15+ hours per week on the work for each online module.

*Daily, allocate 2-3 hours to:*



4. complete assignments
5. study and review
6. complete daily Workbook assignments in BlinkLearning *after* you have completed the assignments in the textbook.

*Weekends*, allocate 2-3 hours to complete assignments.

## ACCENTS IN ITALIAN

You will have to learn how to use two different types of accents in Italian, acute and grave.



I have provided this [Google Doc](#) on our Canvas site in the Orientation module. Practice typing these two accents on your computer during the first week of class. Words you can type are: caffè, perché.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, individuals with disabilities have the right to specific accommodations that do not fundamentally alter the nature of the course. Some accommodations might include note takers, books on tape, extended time on assignments, and interpreter services among others. Students are responsible for communicating their needs to the [Academic Resource Center](#), the office that oversees disability support services, (202-687-8354; [arc@georgetown.edu](mailto:arc@georgetown.edu); <https://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/disability/>) before the start of classes to allow time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. The University is not responsible for making special accommodations for students who have not declared their disabilities and have not requested an accommodation in a timely manner. Also, the University need not modify course or degree requirements considered to be an essential requirement of the program of instruction. For the most current and up-to-date policy information, please refer to the [Georgetown University Academic Resource Center website](#). Students are highly encouraged to discuss the documentation and accommodation process with an Academic Resource Center administrator.

### ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

I am committed to creating a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). Italian is a gendered language which has not yet developed a gender-neutral code. We use “**tu**” (you singular, informal, both masculine and feminine), or **Lei** (you formal, both masculine and feminine). We will discuss which of these pronouns and registers (formal/informal) we will be comfortable using when addressing each other. You can address me by *professoressa*, or *professoressa Musti*.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at Georgetown University are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic and personal integrity. Although most Georgetown students conduct themselves in accordance with these standards, occasionally, there are students who violate the code of conduct. To be clear, no translators, books, and outside help are allowed during exams, or written and oral assignments. All work must be strictly yours at all times.

Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offense, and students found in violation are subject to academic penalties that include, but are not limited to failure of the course, termination from the program, and revocation of degrees already conferred. All students are expected to fully adhere to the policies and procedures of [Georgetown's Honor System](#) and to take the Honor Code Pledge.

## HONOR CODE PLEDGE

In pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life I commit myself to respect and to uphold the Georgetown University honor system; to live out a commitment to integrity in all my words and actions; to be honest in every academic endeavor; and to conduct myself honorably, as a responsible member of the Georgetown community as we live and work together; to live out the ideals of Georgetown University I commit myself to be a person for others in my daily life, respectful of difference and disagreement; To care for this venerable campus and all of those with whom I share it; and to fulfill in all ways the trust placed in me to carry on the Georgetown tradition.

## PLAGIARISM

Stealing someone else's work is a terminal offense in the workplace, and it will wreck your career in academia, too. Students are expected to work with integrity and honesty in all their assignments. The Georgetown University Honor System defines plagiarism as "the act of passing off as one's own the ideas or writings of another." More guidance is available through the [Gervase Programs](#). If you have any doubts about plagiarism, paraphrasing, and the need to credit, check out [Plagiarism.org](#).

**All submissions must be your original work.** Any submission suspected of plagiarism will be immediately referred to the Honor Council for investigation and possible adjudication. All students are expected to follow Georgetown's honor code unconditionally. If you have not done so, please read the honor code material located online at the [Honor Council website](#).

## SUPPORT SERVICES

In addition to reaching out to your instructor and your advisors when in need, Georgetown offers a variety of support services for students that can be accessed online and has put together [this newsletter](#) which aims to provide you with information about well-being resources and virtual meetings that can connect you with mental health professionals on and off campus during this time. Below are some resources available to you:

- [Academic Resource Center](#)  
202-687-8354 | [arc@georgetown.edu](mailto:arc@georgetown.edu)
- [Counseling and Psychiatric Services](#)  
202-687-6985
- [Institutional Diversity, Equity & Affirmative Action \(IDEAA\)](#) (202) 687-4798

## SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Georgetown University and its faculty are committed to supporting survivors and those impacted by sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, and stalking. Georgetown requires faculty members, unless otherwise designated as confidential, to report all disclosures of sexual misconduct to the University Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If you disclose an incident of sexual misconduct to a professor in or outside of the classroom (with the exception of disclosures in papers), that faculty member must report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator, or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. The coordinator, will, in turn, reach out to the student to provide support, resources, and the option to meet. [Please note that the student is not required to

meet with the Title IX coordinator.]. More information about reporting options and resources can be found on the [Sexual Misconduct Website](#).

## TITLE IX PREGNANCY MODIFICATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS

Georgetown University is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive environment for pregnant and parenting students. Students may request adjustments based on general pregnancy needs or accommodations based on a pregnancy-related complication. SCS students must complete the [Pregnancy Adjustment Request Form](#) and submit it to the SCS Deputy Title IX Coordinator at [titleixscs@georgetown.edu](mailto:titleixscs@georgetown.edu). Upon receiving the completed form, the Deputy Title IX Coordinator will schedule a meeting with the student to discuss the requested adjustments and implementation process. More information about pregnancy modifications can be found on the [Title IX at Georgetown University Website](#). Discrimination based on sex, including sexual misconduct and discrimination based on pregnancy or parenting status, subverts the University's mission and threatens permanent damage to the educational experience, careers, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff.

### Office of the Student Ombuds (OSO)

*Confidential | Independent | Impartial | Informal*

The Office of the Student Ombuds (OSO) serves all undergraduate and graduate students, including SCS and BGE, on the main campus. Consider contacting the Student Ombuds when you want to talk to a caring professional about a University-related issue but don't know where to turn. The OSO is a confidential and safe space that is independent of formal university organizations or structures where students can discuss their concerns, share their experiences, ask questions and explore their options. The student ombuds can help you problem-solve, identify your goals, and empower you to think through ways to navigate complex situations. Some reasons for you to visit the office may be to address academic concerns, clarify administrative policies, discuss interpersonal conflicts, seek coaching, mediation or facilitation to handle a sensitive situation, advise you on the process to file a formal complaint if you are experiencing bias, harassment, bullying or other forms of intimidation, identify other appropriate campus resources, and allow you to safely express your frustrations and concerns.

Request an in-person or zoom appointment with the Student Ombuds by writing [studentombuds@georgetown.edu](mailto:studentombuds@georgetown.edu) or calling 202-784-1081. The OSO is located in Room 207 of the Reiss Building (across from Arrupe Hall). Find more information at <http://studentombuds.georgetown.edu>.