



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

JOHN FELICE ROME CENTER

Italian 103
John Felice Rome Center
Spring 2026
Date and time: TBA
Classroom:
Professor:
Email:
Office Hours:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Second – year Italian language courses are designed for students who have completed Italian 102. The aim of the course is to further develop students’ knowledge of the target language (communicatively relevant patterns and common exceptions in interactive discourse) and culture through communicative in-class activities and out- of-class assignments. Authentic material in Italian (songs, films, short prose narratives, etc.) will complement this course. The purpose of this course is to acquire basic structures of the Italian language and culture.

Through in-class activities and homework assignments, students can also expect to learn about modern Italy, including geography, culture, history, and society. Given the unique cultural context in which this course is placed, students will be particularly encouraged to begin speaking Italian outside the classroom as soon as possible.

LEARNING GOALS

Learning Outcomes:

Students will build upon their foundational Italian language skills to strengthen their ability to communicate on a variety of topics related to daily life and responsibilities, travels, and future plans. They will expand their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of Italian grammar by learning object pronouns and more complex verb tenses, in order to reflect on past and hypothetical events. They will also learn how to incorporate more complex sentence structures in both their spoken and written production. Through in-class activities and short writing assignments, students will express more nuanced opinions on both personal topics and more general topics related to Italian society and culture. Finally, they will increase their intercultural awareness by reflecting on the differences in cultural practices, norms, and social structures between Italy and the United States.

Course Objectives:

By completing Italian 103, students will be familiar with:

- Direct and indirect object pronouns
- The past absolute
- The imperfect tense together with either the *passato prossimo* or the past absolute
- Comparatives of adjectives and adverbs
- The conditional tense
- Formal and informal imperatives (commands or invitations)
- Impersonal expressions
- The present subjunctive to express opinions, wishes, and emotions
- The past subjunctive and hypothetical statements using the imperfect subjunctive

Students will be able to:

- Read and comprehend short narrations
- Talk about daily life and responsibilities, vacation time and travels, future plans and professions
- Express ideas in the conditional (e.g. I *would* go)
- Situate actions in the past according to when they occurred
- Formulated commands
- Recognize and describe issues characterizing the Italian social climate
- Express more complex opinions and formulate hypotheticals
- Ask and respond to increasingly complex and open-ended questions about art, society, culture, and politics



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In order to attain the learning outcomes outlined above and to ensure that the course proceeds efficiently, students are encouraged and expected to:

- Attend class. Not attending class will lower a student's grade.
- Participate actively and constructively, both with the instructor and with other students.
- Take all the quizzes and exams on their scheduled dates and at their scheduled times. In accordance with the JFRC Examination Policy, students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam, at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reason; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.
- Complete homework on their due date.
- Comport themselves in a manner conducive to learning and with respect for other students.
- Speak Italian during class meetings.
- Cell phones are not allowed in class. Feel free to use a laptop but ONLY to class related work.

REQUIRED TEXT/MATERIALS:

NUOVO ESPRESSO 2- *Libro dello studente e esercizi + ebook*, GIOVANNA RIZZO, MARIA BALI-ALMA EDIZIONI
ISBN 978-8861823211

The books required are to be purchased **within the first week of class**. You are free to order the books online, using the links provided below. We encourage you to physically go to **La Feltrinelli bookstore in Largo di Torre Argentina 5a** (<https://www.lafeltrinelli.it/punto-vendita/roma/ms-roma-argentina/555>) where Loyola students have 5% *discount* on books and stationery. Please bring the ISBN of the texts required.

Suggested links for purchasing online:

<https://www.amazon.it/>

<https://www.amazon.com/>

<https://www.almaedizioni.it>

Chosen names and personal pronouns

Everyone has the right to be addressed by the name and pronoun that corresponds to their gender identity, including non-binary pronouns. Rosters do not list gender or pronouns so if you use a chosen name or pronoun, please let me know (you are not obliged to do so).

Chosen names and pronouns are to be always respected in the classroom. Mistakes in addressing one another may happen, so I encourage an environment of openness to correction and learning. I will not, however, tolerate repeated comments with disrespect or antagonize students who have indicated pronouns or a chosen name. Chosen names and personal pronouns may evolve over time so, if at any point during the semester you would like to be addressed differently, please let me know.

Title IX

As an instructor, I am a Responsible Campus Partner ("RCP") under Loyola's Comprehensive Policy and Procedures for Addressing Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, and Retaliation (available at www.luc.edu/equity). While my goal is for you to be able to engage fully and authentically with our course material through class discussions and written work, I also want to be transparent that as a RCP, I am instructed to notify the Office for Equity & Compliance ("OEC")/Title IX Coordinator when I have any information about conduct that reasonably may constitute Title IX Sex-Based Discrimination.



Title IX Sex-Based Discrimination (Discrimination or discriminatory harassment based on sex, Sexual harassment, Sexual assault, Dating and/or domestic violence, Stalking) applies when the conduct was within the University's education program or activity.

As the University's Title IX office, the OEC coordinates the University's response to reports and complaints of sexual misconduct (as well as discrimination of any kind) to ensure students' rights are protected.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the Rome Center mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, and in compliance with full-time student visa status, all courses adhere to the following attendance policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student and synonymous with academic success. Attendance is mandatory at every class meeting for each course. Lateness or leaving class early will impact the course grade at the professor's discretion. All absences, including medical absences, will be treated the same, unless they are documented in long-term conditions or emergencies. Such situations will be evaluated case-by-case by the Academic Affairs office.

Once-a-week classes: After 1 absence, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class. • Missing 3 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Twice-a-week classes: After 2 absences, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for for each missed class. • Missing 6 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Three-times-a week classes: After 2 absences, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class. • Missing 6 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

This course meets 2 times a week, thus a total of 2 absences will be permitted. The final course grade will drop by 2% for each additional absence.

It is the student's responsibility to check homework assignments, class notes, etc. and come to class prepared in case of absence.

***Assessment Components**

• Participation	12.5 %
• Oral Assignments (2)	10 %
• Rome Project	10%
• Italian Culture Presentation	5%
• Homework	12.5%
• Quizzes (3)	15%
• Midterm Exam	15%
• Final Exam	20%

* Detailed information concerning these assignments (expectations, deadlines, etc.) will be discussed during the semester.

***Progetto Roma** is an on-site guided activity that will encourage students to explore sites of the city while practicing structures and vocabulary learned in class interacting with local people.*

***Cultural Presentation:** You will be asked to make a presentation of your choice on topics which will focus on the Italian culture in accordance with the teacher's instructions. Further details will be given during the semester.*



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

JOHN FELICE ROME CENTER

***Extra credit:** students who wish to gain an additional 2% credit points to their score are encouraged to take advantage of the **Laboratori Didattici** dedicated to extra credit by notifying their professor at the beginning of the course.*

FINAL EXAM

DATE: | **TIME:** | **PLACE:**

Grading

94-100: A
90-93: A-
87-89: B:
84-86: B
80-83: B-
77-79: C+
74-76: C
70-73: C-
67-69: D+
60-66: D
59 or lower: F

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are unacceptable at the Rome Center and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago's guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola's standards here: <https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/undergraduate/>. You are responsible for complying with the LUC University Catalog.

Late or Missed Assignments and Examination Policy

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor. As per the JFRC academic policies, students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reasons; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center, the first week of classes.

SAKAI

This course requires that each student activate and maintain access to the Sakai on-line learning tool. Through this medium such tasks can be accomplished such as communicating homework assignments, submitting homework, and communicating important course-related information. In addition, specific files can be accessed through Sakai (e.g., course syllabus, lessons, language-learning files).



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

JOHN FELICE ROME CENTER

CLASS SCHEDULE: the following schedule can be modified

Dates	Nuovo Espresso 2	Communicative Functions	Grammar /Vocabulary	Formal assessment
Week 1		introduction to the course getting to know each other	Recap of main 102 contents	
Week 2	Lezione 2	recounting a story, describing people and feelings	Imperfetto	
Week 3	Lezione 2	talking about childhood memories	Imperfetto/Passato Prossimo	Quiz 1
Week 4	Lezione 3	expressing desires, asking for and giving advice, providing information	present conditional of regular and irregular verbs the verbs “farcela” and “andarsene”	Oral 1
Week 5	Lezione 3/4	inviting and responding to invitations	the particle Ci, review object pronouns and Ne partitivo, past participle-direct object pronouns agreement	Quiz 2
Week 6	Lezione 4		relative pronouns (che,cui,chi)	Progetto Roma
Week 7	MIDTERM			Midterm Exam
	SPRING BREAK			
Week 8	Lezione 5	expressing feelings in Italian (anger, surprise, distress etc.)	passato prossimo/ imperfect/ past perfect	
Week 9	Lezione 5	Migration and Integration in Italy	the particle Ne	Oral 2
Week 10	Lezione 6	getting someone’s attention, asking for and providing information, giving street directions, instructions, advice	imperative forms	Quiz 3
Week 11	Lezione 6/7		imperative forms with pronouns	
Week 12	Lezione 7	talking about future events, making plans, expressing uncertainty	the Future Tense	Italian Culture Presentation
Week 1	Review	Review for final	Review	