COURSE DETAIL

ADVANCED ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
Country Italy
Host Institution University of Bologna
Program(s) University of Bologna
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Italian
UCEAP Course Number 132
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ADVANCED ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
UCEAP Transcript Title ADV ITAL LANG-CULTR
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This intensive language and culture course is conducted in Italian and is designed for students who have generally completed 2 years of Italian or have an entrance test that places them between the B and C levels according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The course is offered by inlingua with supervision from the Bologna Study Center and is designed for students in the UCEAP year-long and semester programs. The course prepares students for coursework in Italian at the Università di Bologna and focuses on writing, reading, listening, and especially speaking in preparation of the traditional final oral exams. The principal subject of the course is the history and culture of the city of Bologna and the Emilia Romagna region as microcosms of Italy itself. The course includes a major review of Italian grammar naturally linked to the topics of the course. The course has two parts. The first part of the course focuses on Bologna from its origins (5th century BCE) through the Middle Ages. Special attention is placed on the Etruscans and the Romans in Bologna, the Celtic heritage of the Emilia Romagna area, and the birth of the Università di Bologna (1088), considered to be the oldest university in the Western world. A special section of the course is dedicated to the birth of the Comune and the construction of towers (originally about 100) and porticoes (slightly over 38 km within the city walls), both outstanding examples of Medieval architecture. Students visit museums and historical sites and are introduced to historical documents such as the Liber Paradisus, which decreed the liberation of the serfs with public funds from the Comune in 1256. This part of the course also introduces students to the Italian university system, with special attention devoted to the Università di Bologna today. Between the first and second part of the course, students participate in a major field trip. The second part of the course focuses on Italy from the Renaissance to the present. It includes guided tours to Renaissance Palazzi in Bologna, as well as the Pinacoteca di Bologna. Among the themes highlighted in this part of the course are the creation of the unified Italian state (1880), WWII and Bologna's role in the resistance movement, U.S. casualties on the Gothic Line, and the Nazi massacre of civilians in the Marzabotto-Monte Sole area in the Fall of 1944. Topics in recent history (post-1980) include analyses of terrorist acts: the bombing of

the Bologna train station by neo-fascist forces (1980), and the murder of Professor Marco Biagi in 2002 by members of the Red Brigade. This part of the course also provides an analysis of contemporary Italy through various media: cinema, newspapers, magazines, and graphic novels, and focuses attention on census reports regarding birth rate, marriage, abortion, divorce, life expectancy, immigration, schooling, work force composition, unemployment (North vs. South), retirement, tax evasion, corruption, and political participation. A review of the principal grammatical structures of Italian is incorporated and naturally linked to specific topics. For example, in the section devoted to the Italian university system, the grammar points reviewed include the “Lei” form with the use of imperatives and double object pronouns while in the section devoted to Italy today and the media, the grammar points reviewed include the subjunctive, the passive voice, and “reported speech.” The course includes formal lectures, visits to museums and local historical sites, a night at the movies, and an all-day field trip. Students are required to keep a daily journal and to complete daily workbook assignments. Other requirements include a quiz, a longer test, compositions, a 10-minute ppt presentation on a topic related to the student's principal field of study at the Università di Bologna, and a final oral exam modeled on a typical final exam at the Università di Bologna. All course materials are provided by inlingua. Students select the number of quarter units from a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 6.

Language(s) of Instruction
Italian

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
inlingua

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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