

The American University of Rome

ITL 502 - MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE TEACHING SUMMER 2020 July 13-17 2020

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Course description:

This 1-week seminar offers professional development for teachers of Italian. Composed of 30 academic hours, the seminar helps participants improve their teaching strategies through the study of innovative methods in language and culture instruction and creative ways to tackle learning problems.

2 credits. Pre-requisites: Bachelors degree or 24 university credits in Italian.

Topics:

Proficiency and communication; Exploring songs; Film viewing comprehension; Unlocking the potential of Italian culture instruction; Intercultural awareness and competence.

Course requirements:

- 1) Attendance and active participation in in-class activities and one off-campus movie night; daily homework; oral and written final projects.
- 2) Participants will bring: a very personal object.
- 3) Participants will bring the lyrics and mp3 recording of their favorite Italian song.
- 4) Participants will watch two films and will be given activities to guide film analysis and discussion. Films will be made available through a shared google site.

Students will be provided with all course materials. PPT slides will be shared at the end of each class.

Grading system:

The grade for this part of the course will be calculated in the following way:

- Active participation in in-class activities and evening off-campus film screening: 30%
- Final in-class oral presentation (15 minutes): 30%
- Final written project: 2.500 words in Italian: 40%
 - a) a theoretical introduction to your project;
 - b) a teaching unit including all language skills and culture component

Due by July 31

SCHEDULE

Monday July 13

9am-12:30pm *Inward and outward communication*

Participants will explore ways to promote communication starting from non-verbal communication and gradually moving toward interactive speaking:

- Intra- and inter-personal speaking
- The emotional, experiential and situational elements of communication
- Bringing the inner out *versus* using the outer as a stimulus for oral production

Speaking is a language skill strongly connected with one's body as much as it is with one's intellect. Participants will explore activities that foster speaking both 'inwardly' and 'outwardly'.

12:30-1:30pm Lunch break

1:30-4:00pm *Oral proficiency*

Participants will familiarize themselves with activities geared toward promoting students' oral proficiency starting from talking about 'the self' and moving to 'their community' and 'the world', while exploring strategies to develop the ability to describe, compare, narrate and express ideas.

Tuesday July 14

9am-12:30pm *Teaching songs: Listening in-action and inter-active exploration of culture*

Songs are extraordinary teaching tools, rich forms of art, and exceptional expressions of culture. Participants will be involved in the exploration of in-action and inter-action approaches to the teaching of songs, and in the implementation of a dynamic and multi-skill use of songs in the classroom.

- Songs as stories set to music
- A multimodal use of songs
- Collaborative listening
- How culture is intermeshed with song narrative.

12:30-1:30pm Lunch break

1:30-4:00pm *Your favorite song*

Each participant will share his/her Italian song and will explain why it is relevant for teaching Italian language and culture.

Wednesday July 15

9am-12:30pm *Film viewing comprehension*

Participants will be introduced to *viewing comprehension* of the narrative languages of cinema through the following activities:

- The multimodal performative texts of a film
- The seamless interweaving of the visual with the aural in films
- How soundtrack is intermeshed with film narrative and filmmaking practices
- *Visual listening* and *auditory viewing* to understand artistic film meanings

12:30-1:30pm Lunch break

1:30-4:00pm *Film analysis and discussion*

Two films will be selected for in-class discussion.

7:00pm *Movie Night*

Thursday July 16

9am-12.30pm *Discussion of the film viewed the evening before*

12:30-1:30pm Lunch break

1:30-4:00pm *Unlocking the potential of Italian culture instruction*

Participants will engage in activities that foster the ability to: describe, explore, reflect on, express an idea, explain, compare, understand, accept, respect, and value aspects of the Italian culture.

Friday July 17

9am-12.30pm *Intercultural awareness and competence*

Intercultural competence refers to a set of cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills that support effective and appropriate interaction in diverse cultural contexts. Participants will explore the features of intercultural sensitivity and adaptability.

12:30-1:30pm Lunch break

1:30-4:00pm *Final oral presentations and Course evaluations*