# Teaching Italian as a Second Language

## Prof. Silvia Gilardoni

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to illustrate the fundamental dimensions of learning and teaching Italian as a second language, identifying the characteristics of the different learning contexts and profiles in Italy and abroad.

Starting from the study of the research carried out in the field of language teaching, the course will introduce the theoretical, methodological, and practical aspects of the teaching of Italian as a second language, with a focus on the peculiarities of the different learning contexts.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

– recognise the key elements that help to increase and spread the interest towards Italian, and identify the main characteristics and the linguistic-communicative needs of different types of learners;

– understand and define the theoretical and methodological foundations of the teaching of Italian as a second language in different learning contexts;

– identify new methodologies to carry out linguistic reflection and text analysis through the application of the grammatical model based on the concept of valence.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will focus on the following topics:

– attractiveness and diffusion of Italian as a second language in the world;

– different learning profiles and contexts in the teaching of Italian as a second language in Italy and abroad;

– theoretical and methodological foundations of the teaching of Italian as a second language;

– the grammar based on the concept of valence and the correlated textual model for the teaching of Italian as a second language.

***READING LIST***

P.E. Balboni, *Didattica dell’italiano come lingua seconda e straniera,* Bonacci-Loescher, Turin, 2014 (only some parts).

S. Gilardoni, *La didattica dell’italiano L2: approcci teorici e orientamenti applicativi,* EDUCatt, Milan 2005 (reprint 2012).

S. Gilardoni, *Diffusione e attrattività dell’italiano nel mondo,* in G. Del Zanna (a cura di), Geopolitica delle lingue, Maggioli, Rimini, 2018, p. 11-32.

M. Vedovelli, *Guida all’italiano per stranieri: dal Quadro comune europeo per le lingue alla Sfida salutare,* Carocci, Rome 2010 (only some parts).

F. Sabatini-C. Camodeca-C. De Santis, *Il modello valenziale, e un modello testuale correlato, nella didattica dell’italiano L1 e L2*, in M.T. Bianco-M. M. Brambilla-F. Mollica, *Il ruolo della grammatica valenziale nell’insegnamento delle lingue straniere*, Aracne editrice, Rome 2015, p. 33-58.

Further information will be made available in class and on Blackboard.

International students will have the possibility to define with the lecturer an *ad hoc* course syllabus.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures and practical activities aimed to guide text analysis.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral assessment in which students will be tested on their knowledge of the topics explained during the course, and on their ability to discuss the possible practical applications of specific aspects of the teaching of Italian as a second language in different learning contexts. The assessment is divided into two parts: the first will be based on the discussion of specific topics explained during the course, such as the spread of Italian language around the world, the definition of the different teaching and learning contexts for Italian as a second language, the theoretical and methdological foundations of the subject, and the application of the grammatical model based on the concept of valence (60% of the final mark); the second part will be focused on the practical aspects of teaching, and the analysis of an application proposal for the teaching of Italian L2 as a second language to a specific learning context (40% of the final mark). Other assessment criteria include: accuracy of answers; ability to create a structured argumentation; use of appropriate terminology; knowledge of the course syllabus; ability to reflect on the application of teaching models in real contexts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students are invited to regularly check Blackboard where they can find communications and material for the course.

There are no prerequistes for attending the course. However, students should ideally show a certain curiosity towards language teaching, especially Italian as a second language.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.