**Italian Language and Grammar (with Workshop)**

Prof. Angela Ida Villa

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

The aim of the course is to consolidate and foster the grammatical and linguistic knowledge of future teachers, trying to fill any gaps. The aspects relating to the teaching practice will be covered during the course workshops.

At the end of the course, students will:

– have acquired a good level of knowledge of the correct grammatical and linguistic rules of written and spoken Italian;

– be able to write different types of texts (including e-mails and paper letters to different types of recipients), that will be grammatically and linguistically correct, and stylistically accurate (including setting up Word pages); to express themselves orally in a correct and appropriate way for the interlocutors and context; to recognise the semantic complexity and educational responsibility of words; in particular through the course workshop activities, the future teacher will be able to create both micro-lessons for primary school and recreational activities for kindergarten, as well as to help their future students to acquire skills related to the main linguistic, grammatical and syntactic structures of the Italian language through the development of an “authentic task”;

– be able to use the acquired notions with independent judgment to self-correct both their written texts and their oral expression, so as to transfer accurate and relevant grammatical and linguistic notions to their future students;

– be able to convey the knowledge acquired not only in the disciplinary sphere of Italian language and grammar, but also in other disciplinary fields, especially the extensive pedagogical planning area and their own study and work activities;

– be able to develop learning skills to carry out educational and training interventions, being aware of the grammatical dynamics and linguistic implications.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Fundamentals of Italian grammar and language, with particular attention to the correction and self-correction of frequent mistakes. The theoretical part will be supplemented with practical exercises requiring student involvement and including simulations and the use of IT supports.

The Italian language and grammar course is complemented by didactic-laboratory activities held by experts and characterised by specific themes and methodologies agreed with the course lecturer. Each laboratory edition will be aimed at the production of a project/artefact assessed by the experts based on parameters shared with the lecturer and on criteria of: completeness, consistency, originality, didactic use.

***READING LIST***

The exam is divided into two parts. Part one: oral exam with closed-ended questions on the first part of the programme. Part two: interview with open-ended questions on the second part of the programme.

I. Reading list concerning Part one of the exam (oral exam with closed-ended questions)

Compulsory textbooks:

1) A.M. Mandelli – A. Degani, *Facciamo il punto* (single vol. + CD-ROM + Summary schemes and tables)*,* SEI, Turin, latest reprint available, code 978-88-05-07629-1 (students are recommended to carry out the exercises systematically).

2) V. Della Valle-G. Patota, *Ciliegie o ciliege? E altri 2406 dubbi della lingua italiana,* Sperling&Kupfer, Milan, latest reprint available (students are recommended to repeat, aloud and several times, the verbal conjugations included in part II - *Difficult verbs*, pp. 149-224 -, and in particular those relating to the past tense).

3) V. Della Valle-G. Patota, *Viva il congiuntivo! Come e quando usarlo senza sbagliare,* Sperling&Kupfer, Milan, latest reprint available (study: pp. 77-134; exercises: pp. 138-159).

4) Handouts on frequent errors uploaded to Blackboard.

Recommended text (therefore, not mandatory, but useful for individual investigations in order to dispel any doubts that may arise during the study, aimed at both taking the exam and developing the "authentic task" of the laboratory):

L. Serianni, *Grammatica italiana,* Utet, Turin, latest reprint available.

Recommended vocabulary:

*LoZingarelli 2024. Vocabolario della lingua italiana. Plus digitale. Con app. Con DVD-ROM. Con Contenuto digitale per download*, Zanichelli, Bologna, 2023.

II. Reading list concerning Part two of the exam (oral, with open-ended answers)

Compulsory textbooks:

1) A. Degani-A.M. Mandelli-P.G. Viberti, *Si può dire. Vol. B: Comunicazione, abilità linguistiche, testi, scrittura (con e-book ed espansione on-line)*, SEI, Turin, latest reprint available, code 9788805078349.

2) L. Carrada, *Scrivere un’email*, Zanichelli, Bologna, latest reprint available.

3) L. Rospigliosi, *Piccolo manuale di corrispondenza* [cartacea], Tau editrice, Todi, latest reprint available

Recommended textbooks (therefore not compulsory) for the Italian language and grammar laboratories:

- Recommended primary-school book:

S. Sironi-S. Sironi-C. Zappa, *Esplorare… il pensiero,* *le parole. Quaderno di ITALIANO*, La Scuola, Brescia, latest reprint available.

- Recommended text for preliminary theoretical insights useful for the performance of the "authentic task":

L. Serianni, *Grammatica italiana,* Utet, Turin, latest reprint available.

- Other recommended textbook:

E. Fornasari, *Linù. Una nonna da “colorare”*, Paoline Editoriale Libri, Milan, 2019, 32 pp.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in the classroom, during which students will be personally involved in a series of Italian language and grammar exercises related to the theoretical topics covered throughout the course. Some course-packs will be uploaded to Blackboard. Lectures may sometimes be held in seminar form in co-presence with scholars or academics.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam will take place in a single session.

Part one: oral test on the first part of the programme; the test will consist of a series of questions (about fifty) with closed-ended answers.

Part two: open-ended questions on the second part of the programme.

Additional clarifications relating to the exam

1. During the oral exam, students will have to produce their marks obtained in the Italian language and grammar laboratory.
2. There is a single final mark for the exam. It will be obtained through the mathematical average of the marks obtained in the first part and in the second part of the exam.

The workshop assessment may be considered during the exam for the awarding of the final mark according to the methods illustrated below:

* assessment C: no raise in the final mark,
* assessment D: no raise in the final mark,
* assessment B: possible raise of a point, at the discretion of the lecturer,
* assessment A: possible raise by one or two points, at the discretion of the lecturer.

1. In the oral exam on the first part of the programme, students will have to demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of all aspects of phonology, morphology, sentence syntax and period syntax; they will also have to prove their ability to avoid or correct the most frequent linguistic and grammatical errors, as well their good command and correct use of the subjunctive and the hypothetical period.
2. In the oral interview on the second part of the programme, students will have to demonstrate their knowledge of the different ways of writing text types as well as their ability to express themselves correctly in Italian, using the linguistic, stylistic and rhetorical registers suitable for the recipient, the purpose, the content and the context. In addition, they will have to demonstrate that they can write paper letters or e-mails to different categories of recipients. The assessment of the interview will consider the following criteria: level of knowledge of the topics, relevance of the answers, presentation skills, appropriate use of specific terminology, and reasoned and consistent structuring of the speech.

Some clarifications relating to the laboratory

1. Students with a previous career admitted to the third year should bear in mind - for the sake of clarity - that the "Laboratory on Reading and Writing Methods" is held in the second year, linked to the General Didactics course.
2. Considering that students will complete the Italian language and grammar laboratory before taking part I and part II of the exam, they must preliminarily and individually study the theory of the linguistic and grammatical aspects inherent to the chosen topic in order to be able to carry out an “authentic task” of excellent quality. This theoretical study will be carried out first of all by consulting the volumes listed above in the reading list relating to the first and second parts of the exam (i.e., both the compulsory volumes and the recommended volumes). The laboratory teacher will verify that students actually carry out this theoretical study in order to perform their “authentic task”.
3. The following files will be posted to the Blackboard page of both the lecturer and the lab teachers: 1) Programme of the Italian language and grammar course; 2) Programming guidelines shared by all laboratories and agreed with the course lecturer; 3) Programme of the five meetings shared by all the laboratories and agreed with the course teacher; 4) Assessment criteria shared by all laboratory teachers and agreed with the course lecturer.
4. More specific information will be provided by the laboratory teacher during the first meeting.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Prerequisite for attending the course is basic knowledge of the Italian language and grammar required by the course of study, from first grade secondary school to second grade secondary school.

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.