

Italian IV Honors – Course Outline

Course:	Italian 4
Level:	Honors
Credits:	5 credits
Date:	July 2006
Prerequisite:	Italian I, II, III

I. INTRODUCTION

The emphasis in the World Language program is on active oral and written communication. Goals, objectives, materials and class activities are designed to help and encourage students to speak and write with a greater degree of accuracy, fluency and spontaneity. Advanced grammar mastery and assimilation is reinforced through varied oral tasks as well as through the practice of reading authentic literature and reading materials and writing essays on selected themes and topics. Cultural knowledge is greatly emphasized in this level through the integrated study of art, literature, music and history of various historical time periods.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Italian IV course is designed to increase students' communicative competency in speaking, writing, listening and reading while simultaneously expanding their cultural awareness, knowledge and appreciation. Students learn and use more sophisticated vocabulary and more complex grammatical structures with the aim of increasing and improving spoken and written self-expression and cultural knowledge and understanding. At this level students will progress beyond using the target language to express their basic daily needs, opinions and preferences. They will demonstrate an ability to comprehend, discuss, analyze and debate more sophisticated topics and issues with increasing accuracy to form and structure.

High Points Regional High School's curriculum and instruction are aligned to the State's Core Curriculum Content Standards and address the elimination of discrimination by narrowing the achievement gap, by providing equity in educational programs and by providing opportunities for students to interact positively with others regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affect ional or social orientation, gender, religion, disability or socioeconomic status.

III. Core Curriculum Content Standards:

Standard 7.1 (Communication)

All students will be able to communicate in at least one world language in addition to English. They will use the language to do as follows: engage in conversation; understand and interpret spoken and written language; present information, concepts, and ideas while making connections with other disciplines; compare the language/culture studied with their own; and participate in multilingual communities.

Standard 7.2 (Culture)

All students will demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives of culture(s) through experiences with its products and practices.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the fourth year of Italian, students will:

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to comprehend more complex spoken language not only spoken by the instructor, but also by a variety of native speakers as heard on tapes, in films and in person**
- 2. Demonstrate the ability to speak with a greater degree of fluency, accuracy, complexity and spontaneity**
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to read short stories, selected authentic writings in Italian and some printed media intended for native speakers.**
- 4. Demonstrate the ability to take notes, write compositions and reports using syntactical constructions appropriate to their level. They can also write short creative pieces such as poems, skits and stories.**
- 5. Demonstrate a deeper awareness of historical, literary, artistic and contemporary highlights of Italian culture**

V. Evaluation

In addition to receiving satisfactory teacher evaluation of classroom and individual activities, students shall satisfactorily pass criteria referenced quizzes, tests and examination both orally and in writing. A chapter test will be given at the end of each unit, and individual and group oral assessments will be given on a regular basis.

Mid-term and final examinations will be administered to all students. The mid-term examination will consist of listening comprehension and a written section. The final

examination will consist of a written section and an oral (face-to-face) achievement section.

Grades will be calculated according to the school grading policy and the following guidelines:

Test Grades	70%
a. Oral tests, quizzes and oral presentations	
b. Written tests, quizzes and projects	
Homework	15%
Class Participation/Small Group Work	15%

The proficiency level of each Level IV student will be assessed at the end of the year by means of an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) conducted by the instructor. The oral interview is based on a wide range of topics including topics that the student may not have studied previously in class. In addition to the oral component of the final examination, students are also assessed on writing skills. The oral and written sections of the exam are weighted equally to determine the final exam grade.

Class Participation

Class participation grades are subjectively based on the students' performance in meeting the following expectations to:

1. Effectively work within the classroom guidelines, policies, and procedures set forth by the instructor
2. Take an active role in class activities in ways that make a positive contribution to these activities, to the atmosphere of the class and to the students' own learning
3. Contribute positively to general discussions; volunteer to give appropriate responses and pertinent information; willingness to accept constructive criticism
4. Cooperate with other members of the class in the learning process and in class activities; stay on task in paired and small group activities
5. Contribute positive remarks and encouragement to other members of the group
6. Have class materials ready when class begins; demonstrate respect for school property loaned to the student and in the classroom.

VI. Materials, Resources, Text

The following materials and resources will be used throughout the course:

A. Base texts:

1. **Prego** (sixth edition) base and all ancillary materials
 - a. Workbook
 - b. Lab manual
 - c. Online lab manual and website
 - d. Video series on location in Italy featuring Italian students
 - e. Transparencies
2. **Con Fantasia** (Danesi, Lettieri, Bancheri, 2004)
3. **Da capo** (Graziana Lazzarino, Annamaria Moneti, 2003)

B. Selected Readings from other books and readers:

1. **Manuale della Grammatica Italiana** (Annamaria de Nicolais Napolitano, 1979)
2. **Italian Through Film** (Antonello Borra, Cristina Fausini, (2004)
3. **Five Centuries of Italian American History** (Richard Capozzola, 2003)
4. **Un Proverbio al Giorno** (Caterina Cicogna, 1992)
5. **Teatro, Prosa, e Poesia** (Caterina Cicogna, 1992)
6. **Bar Italia** (Annamaria Di Francesco, Ciro Massimo Naddeo, 2002)
7. **Introduction to Italian Poetry** (Luciano Rebay, 1969)
8. **In viaggio** (Olson, Edwards, Foerster, 2003)
9. **Discovering Italian Literature** (Maria Roos Grant, 1990)
10. Graded Reader: “Andreuccio da Perugia” (Giovanni Boccaccio, adapted 1972)
11. Graded Reader: “Gli imbianchini non hanno ricordi” (Dario Fo, adapted 1972)

C. Feature Films:

1. “La Strada” (Federico Fellini, 1954)
2. “Matrimonio all’italiana” (Vittorio De Sica, 1964)
3. “Il borghese piccolo, piccolo” (Mario Monicelli, 1977)
4. “Il postino” (Michael Radford, 1994)
5. “La meglio gioventù”, (Marco Tullio Giordana, 2003)

D. Cultural Documentaries:

- 1. Dante's Inferno e La Divina Commedia**
- 2. Florence: history, architecture, artists and the Renaissance**
- 3. Contemporary Italian Society**
- 4. La Commedia dell'Arte**

E. Magazines and Newspapers

- 1. "Oggi" (weekly)**
- 2. "Tutti insieme" (student magazine- monthly)**
- 3. "Panorama"**
- 4. "Lei"**
- 5. "La Repubblica" (newspaper – Rome)**
- 6. "Il Corriere della Sera" (newspaper- Milano)**

F. Audio –Visual and Internet Resources:

- 1. Acquerello italiano – Audio series on Italian culture**
- 2. Audio program to accompany Prego**
- 3. Video program to accompany Prego**
- 4. "Canta che ti passa" – Grammar through song program (Ciro Massimo Naddeo e Giuliana Trama)**
- 5. "Golden Treasury of Italian Verse", read by Giorgio Strehler**
- 6. Several CD's on a large range of Italian music:**
 - Antonio Vivaldi (1675-1741) "Le Quattro Stagioni"**
 - Gioacchino Rossini (1792-1868) "Il barbiere di Siviglia", "William Tell Overture"**
 - Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) "La Traviata", "Aida"**
 - Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924) "La Tosca", "Madame Butterfly"**
 - Domenico Modugno (1928-1994) "Volare"**
 - Gino Paoli (1934-) "La Gatta"**
 - Angelo Branduardi (1950-) "Domenica e lunedì", "La fiera dell'est"**
 - Lucio Dalla (1943-) "Stella di mare", "Caro amico ti scrivo"**

- **Madreblu (selected songs)**
- **Francesco de Gregori (selected songs)**
- **Gianna Nannini (selected songs)**
- **Andrea Bocelli (selected songs)**
- **Paolo Conti (selected songs)**
- **Zucchero (selected songs)**

6. Internet Resources: In addition to the websites listed on the HP World Languages webpage, students can also access the following sites:

- **italian.about.com**
- **spaziohobby.com**
- **italianstudies.org/aati**
- **italcultny.org**
- **fati.edu**
- **italyontheweb.org**
- **allaboutitaly.com**
- **italianculture.net**
- **polyglot.Iss.wisc.edu**
- **uni.edu/becker/italiano2**
- **italiamia.com**