

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

ITALIAN III H: COURSE #535

Contact Information

Claire Dix
Regional Department Leader, World Languages
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School
36 Charter Road
Acton, MA 01720
Telephone: (978) 264-4700, x3414
E-mail: cdix@mail.ab.mec.edu

The Department's Educational Philosophy

The study of a language that is not our own provides new opportunities to communicate with speakers of other languages, understand how others think and express their thoughts, perceive the world around us differently, and enhance our appreciation and understanding of ourselves and of others.

Because of the unique rewards of this discipline, we believe that all students should become proficient in at least one language other than English. We believe that language learning is a lifelong undertaking that ideally should begin in elementary school and continue beyond high school. We believe that the study of language cannot be separated from the study of its culture, including daily living, history, literature, and the arts. We believe that there are natural connections between the study of language and other disciplines. We believe that language learners should interact with other speakers of the language locally and globally.

Our philosophy parallels that of the Massachusetts Foreign Languages Curriculum Framework and the national Standards for Foreign Language Learning.

Guiding Principles

All students of modern languages should:

- Develop proficiency in the target language through listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing, and presenting in the target language.
- Develop an understanding of the target culture – its daily life, history, literature, arts, mathematics, and science.
- Develop insight into languages and cultures through comparison and contrast.
- Acquire information in and make connections with other disciplines, such as the arts, English, history, and social studies.
- Communicate with local and international speakers of the language.
- Develop critical and creative thinking, organizational, cooperative, and study skills.
- Use technology as a tool for communicating, developing language skills, and accessing authentic cultural material from around the world.

ITALIAN III H: COURSE #535

Course Frequency: Full-year course, five times per week

Credits Offered: Five

Prerequisites: C or higher in Italian II H

Background to the Curriculum

The *Con Fantasia*, Heinle Cengage Learning program was adopted, starting in September 2009.

The Italian III curriculum is aligned to national and state standards.

For more information, contact the department chair as indicated on the A.B.R.H.S. World Language website.

Core Topics/Questions/Concepts/Skills

Vocabulary for Communication: Friends and enemies; asking for information; negations; people; greetings and introductions; colors; speaking about oneself; metaphoric uses of colors; expressing various sentiments; the human body; expressing how you feel; metaphoric expressions; at the doctor's office; television; stock phrases; useful terms of media; speaking on the phone; writing a letter (formal and informal); days/months/seasons; time; numbers; time expressions; giving the date; family members; physical descriptions; parents and relatives; emphatic expressions; countries and nationalities; traveling; languages; directions; food; quantities; meals; ordering at a restaurant; food shopping

Structure for communication nouns (part one); personal pronouns that function as subjects; the present indicative; irregular verbs in the present indicative; use of the present indicative; the indefinite article; descriptive adjectives (part one); the present subjunctive; irregular verbs in the present subjunctive; use of the present subjunctive; expressing like/dislike; the definite article; commands with regular verbs; commands with irregular verbs; nouns (part two); the present progressive; descriptive adjectives (part two); other uses of the subjunctive; reflexive verbs; demonstratives; possessive adjectives; possessive adjectives regarding family members; prepositional articles; the present perfect tense; the present perfect subjunctive tense; direct object pronouns; indirect object pronouns; the imperfect indicative tense; double object pronouns; infinitives

Culture for Communication: titles; social cues; "il dolce stil nuovo" (style of poetry); marriage in Italy; Italian health system; differing professional titles; television today; the use of the internet; traditions; the metric system; Italian families; the Medici family; geography; vacationing; Italian cuisine; meals

Skills for Communication: reading, writing, listening and speaking

Note: Students enrolled in the Italian course for Honors credit will have a supplementary reader, along with quizzes that include Italian vocabulary and structure in more depth. These students will also have supplementary grammar assignments and will be held to different expectations in their performance throughout the course.

Course-End Learning Objectives

<u>Learning objectives</u>	<u>Corresponding state standards, where applicable</u>
<i>By the end of the course, successful Italian III H students will:</i>	
1) Communicate through reading, writing, listening and speaking at the appropriate level of proficiency.	1, 2, 3
2) Incorporate the afore-mentioned vocabulary and structures in their communication.	1, 2, 3
3) Compare and contrast this vocabulary and these structures with those of the English language.	5
4) Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the cultures of the Italian regions studied.	4
5) Be able to compare and contrast these cultures with their own.	6
6) Be able to make connections to other disciplines, specifically science, English, social studies, history, art and music.	7
7) Have had opportunities to communicate with speakers of Italian.	8
8) Have used the technology of the language lab and computer labs to practice their language skills, to view and hear Italian language media, and to access authentic material from the Italian world.	1-8

Assessment

Assessment is an integral part of World Language instruction and learning. At a minimum, students are given four major assessments per term, one of which measures the students' speaking proficiency. When feasible, this assessment is administered in the language laboratory. Modern language students are assessed in a variety of ways: written tests and quizzes, oral proficiency tests, compositions, journal writing, projects, and oral presentations. When appropriate, students are encouraged to incorporate technology in their written assignments, projects and presentations. Due to the building block nature of language learning, homework is assigned nightly to reinforce class work. Students are encouraged to participate in the classroom by using the target language individually, in pairs, and in group work. In addition, all modern language students are encouraged to access the language laboratory for individual practice. The final examination evaluates the four major modern language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Technology and Health Learning Objectives Addressed in This Course

(This section is for faculty and administrative reference; students and parents may disregard.)

<u>Course activity: skills and/or topics taught</u>	<u>Standard(s) addressed through this activity</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Students will use software in the classroom and the computer lab to practice verb tenses, moods, vocabulary and spontaneous reactive communication in oral and written form.2) Students will use the technologies of the language lab (digital audio, digital video, DVD, laser disk, VID) to practice language skills.3) Students will use the technologies of the language lab to make presentations in Italian.4) Students will use the Internet to prepare class projects and to access online learning activities available through the publisher.5) Students will use online resources to access information from and about the Italian world for class use.6) Student will create multimedia presentations in Italian.	

Materials and Resources

Print

- Danesi/Lettieri/Bancheri. *Con Fantasia* text book, chapters 1-8. Boston, MA., Heinle Cengage Learning, 2009
- Tursi/Cincinnati. *Italian Two and Three Years* workbook, Second Edition. New York, N.Y., Amsco Publications, 1997
- Gobetti. *Better Reading Italian* honors reader (various selections), New York, N.Y., McGraw Hill, 2003
- Hall. *Novelle Italiane* honors reader (various short stories), Mineola, N.Y., Dover Publications, 1989.