

## ITALIAN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

### ITAL 201: The Florence Experience III: Intermediate Italian I

Credits: 4

Instructor: Italian Staff

Schedule: TBA

Prerequisite: Elementary Italian I and II

Site visit fee: \$ 35.00

#### Course Description:

The Florence Experience III is an interdisciplinary course which builds on two semesters of previous work. It focuses on achieving an intermediate level in cultural and linguistic-communicative competences regarding familiar matters, personal experiences and events, a various range of conversational topics and situations likely to arise whilst traveling while introducing students to various, relevant aspects of contemporary Florentine life and Italian culture. The course offers students an interdisciplinary experience in language learning made possible only by direct immersion in the target culture. Since language and culture are deeply connected (language IS culture and culture IS language), each class will introduce students to linguistic skills such as communicative structures, grammar structures, vocabulary and pronunciation, but will, at the same time, provide them with a deeper knowledge of Italian culture.

The city of Florence becomes a cultural laboratory: with its world-famous fashion concerns, its beautiful theaters and lively markets, its young writers and actors, and its characteristic stores and artisans' workshops, it is a composite of contemporary Italian culture to be explored by the student.

In addition to classroom work based on the standard content of the third semester of language study, the course includes a series of on-site encounters, which will range from interviews with various exponents of Florentine society, to encounters with young Florentine actors who will offer interactive performances; field-trips and treasure hunts at the most vivacious markets in town, and encounters with students of the University of Florence. Students will encounter the author Camilla Trinchieri, who will conduct with them an interactive dialogue about her recent book *Il prezzo del silenzio*. Students will have to read selected passages from the novel during the first part of the semester, and they will successively meet the author. Camilla Trinchieri will also hold a 4-hour workshop on creative writing (in Italian).

- a) Textbook: Gruppo Italiaidea, *Italian Espresso 2. Italian Course for English Speakers*. Textbook, Alma Edizioni – Firenze 2007
- b) Supplementary Textbook: Gruppo Italiaidea, *Italian Espresso 2. Italian Course for English Speakers*. Textbook, Alma Edizioni – Firenze 2007
- c) Supplementary Text: selected exercises and readings excerpted from other language texts and workbooks, activities and handouts created by instructors.
- d) Readings: Camilla Trinchieri, *Il prezzo del silenzio*, Marcos y Marcos – Milano 2008

Course descriptions may be subject to occasional minor modifications at the discretion of the instructor.

Textbooks: TBA

During orientation at the Institute, students will receive a list of textbooks they are required to purchase. Students should not purchase any texts before orientation.