Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: TBA
Telephone and E-Mail: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course is for students who have already passed FLIT1020 or equivalent and wish to increase their proficiency in writing. The student will consolidate and improve his/her knowledge of the Italian language through different readings and written practice in class and at home. The student’s written skills will develop through a detailed analysis of the structure of the Italian language.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
Textbooks of Beginning and Intermediate Italian courses can be used as references. In addition a good bilingual dictionary is highly recommended and should be brought to class. The following text, together with hand-outs provided by the instructor and in-class film screenings, are required for this course:

FILMS TO SCREEN IN CLASS WILL BE:
*Caro Diario* (N. Moretti)
*Storia di ragazzi e ragazze* (P. Avati)
*L'ultimo bacio* (G. Muccino)
*Caterina va in città’ (P. Virzi’)
*Nuovomondo* (E. Crialese)

GRADING AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES:
Weekly Compositions 40%
Participation/Attendance 20%
Mid-Term Exam 20%
Final Exam 20%

The final course grade will be determined by the final class average using the scale below:
90% or above A
80%-89% B
70%-79% C
60%-69% D
Less than 60% F
There will be a weekly composition, which the students are to write twice (brutta copia – rough draft and bella copia – final version). In the first draft the instructor will only mark errors (but not correct them). Students will revise their own compositions for a grade. Compositions will be based on themes from the various sources used, i.e. text, films, and hand-outs, as needed. NO late composition will be accepted. Students not completing their compositions on time may lose the privilege to the second writing. The second writing must be done within one week. These rules are strictly enforced for pedagogical reasons. There is no learning value in writing more than one composition at the same time to catch up. No more than one new composition may be handed in at one time. All compositions have to be typed and double-spaced. Number of words, themes, and due dates will be announced throughout the course, as necessary. The grade will only be given to the corrected version of the composition.

Classroom work will include: presentation and discussion of the assigned readings, analysis of samples of students’ writings, study of the structure of the Italian language: morphology (i.e., use of the proper gender of nouns and adjectives) and basic elements of syntax (study of the word order in a sentence).

The mid-term exam will consist of two-three essay questions, based on material studied up to that point, to develop.

The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of some essay questions and some grammatical exercises as deemed necessary.

**PARTICIPATION:**
To fully participate in class activities, students have to study the assigned readings before coming to class and be ready to answer and ask questions, work efficiently in all group and individual activities.

**ATTENDANCE:**
Not only it is mandatory, but it is essential since a good percentage of the work will be done in class. After the 4th unexcused absence, ten points will be taken off your final grade. Attendance will also affect your participation grade. Tardies or early departures are disruptions. Two tardies or early departures equal one absence.

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:**
Students who need special accommodations have to make an appointment with the instructor to present the memo received from the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) and to discuss their situation confidentially. If students do not have a memo, they should arrange an appointment with the staff of the PSD Office, in 1244 Haley Center (844-2096).

**HONOR CODE:** In this class, as in all classes at AU, the rules of the Honor Code must be observed. Please refer to the recent Tiger Cub.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT ITALIAN:
If you live on campus, take advantage of Channel 32, RAI International. Also, if you are interested in studying in Italy, please contact Dr. Giovanna Summerfield, the director of Taormina, Italy Summer Program (summegi@auburn.edu). You can find information about this program on our departmental page, www.auburn.edu/forlang (click Study Abroad, then Italy Program). At AU, we also have an Italian Club to further understanding of Italian culture, history, and language. Several activities are planned during the academic year. You are strongly invited to participate. You can earn extra points attending and being active in the Italian Club. Ask your instructor or Dr. Giovanna Summerfield (summegi@auburn.edu or 844-6359).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 – Introduction to the course and Free Writing
Start watching Caro Diario by Nanni Moretti
Unita’ 1-3, Bar Italia

WEEK 2 – “Caro Diario” How to write a journal entry (present tense)
(1st composition due on Fri)
Unita’ 4-5, Bar Italia

WEEK 3 – “La mia storia” – How to narrate something that happened to you
(2nd composition, due on Fri)
Unita’ 6-8, Bar Italia

WEEK 4 – “Raccontami una favola” – How to write a short story/rewrite a tale
(3rd composition, due on Fri)
Start watching Story of Boys and Girls by Pupi Avati
Unita’ 9-10, Bar Italia

WEEK 5 - “Eggr. Sigg…” – How to write professional letters (also personal letters)
(4th composition, due on Fri)
Unita’ 11-12, Bar Italia

WEEK 6 - “Convincimi” – How to write a persuasive paper
(5th composition, due on Fri)
Unita’ 13-14, Bar Italia

WEEK 7 - “Dimmi cosa pensi…. ” – How to express an opinion
(6th composition, due on Fri)
Start watching L’ultimo bacio by Gabriele Muccino
Unita’ 15, Bar Italia
WEEK 8 - MID-TERM EXAM
“Dimmi cosa pensano…. “ - How to interpret opinions
(7th composition, due on Fri)
Unita’ 16, Bar Italia

WEEK 9 - Ricerca – How to write a research paper
(8th composition, 1st re-write due)
Start watching Caterina va in città by Paolo Virzì’
Unita’ 17-18, Bar Italia

WEEK 10 - Ricerca – How to write a research paper
(8th composition, 2 re-write)
Unita’ 19, Bar Italia

WEEK 11 - Davanti ad un pubblico – How to write a speech
(9th composition + in class presentation)
Unita’ 20, Bar Italia

WEEK 12 - Recensioni – How to write a book review
(10th composition, due on Fri)
Unita’ 21, Bar Italia

WEEK 13 - Start watching Nuovomondo by Emanuele Crialese
Unita’ 22, Bar Italia

WEEK 14 - Recensioni – How to write a film review
(11th composition, due on Fri)

WEEK 15 – Conclusions (Reviews for FINAL)