



Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts
Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri - PLIDA 105

The PLIDA program

PLIDA stands for Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri (Dante Alighieri Project for Italian Language). The *PLIDA* program aims at creating a modern course of study in Italian that will be more dynamic, engaging and proficiency-oriented than in the past. In this important process and in order to ensure our students the best of this program, the Cambridge Dante is working in close cooperation with the Central Headquarters of the Dante Alighieri Society* in Rome, its language committee, and the Scholastic Office of the Boston Consulate General.

The *PLIDA* program follows the guidelines of the European Committee for the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Hence, the program aims to implement the procedures for language learning concerning the four basic linguistic competencies (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) with a particular focus on cultural matters, as suggested by this Committee. Students will learn to hone their language skills and to develop strategies that they can employ progressively to improve their expertise in each of the above competencies.

Our approach

As *PLIDA* instructors, our most important objective is to enable our students to *communicate* in Italian (i.e. to be able to transmit information back and forth in a given context), rather than just speak it with rigid, memorized phrases. Our approach is *communicative*, meaning that students will solely be addressed in Italian from day one and that functions, vocabulary, and grammar will be introduced in a conversational and contextualized atmosphere. Practice in the target language and interaction with both the instructor and with peers will be critical, as well as students' active participation in *discovering* grammar rules with help from the instructor. We design our classes to be proficiency-driven, therefore we will provide our students with as many opportunities as possible to hear and speak Italian. We believe that our students are the real center of our classes and we like to think of ourselves more as coordinators than as teachers. This is because we trust that the more students participate in the class the more easily they will master the target language.

Course description and objectives

This course continues level A2 (Elementary) of language proficiency as according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. It is designed for students with a

elementary knowledge of Italian and it aims to help students further enrich their knowledge of verb tenses, refine their vocabulary related to common and familiar contexts, and exchange simple information with greater precision and confidence.

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

- Express like or dislike about specific activities and motivate their reasons;
- Talk about a pleasant experience as well as about an unexpected accident in the past;
- Talk about their eating habits;
- Describe, understand, and talk about a recipe;
- Describe to a doctor how they feel;
- Ask and give advice about good health habits;
- Generally understand the information sheet of a medication package;
- Talk about their traveling habits and give advice about how to travel safely;
- Generally understand traffic information given on the radio;
- Report the loss or the theft of their belongings and describe them.

By the end of this level, students will also:

- Have a good knowledge of how varied and different Italian regional food can be;
- Have an idea of how things work in an Italian emergency room;
- Be informed about Italian news on traffic and about Italian emergency numbers.

Textbooks

- Savorgnani/Alberti, *Chiaro! A2, Corso di italiano, Libro dello studente e eserciziario*. Prima edizione. Alma Edizioni, Firenze, Aprile 2011. (The textbook can be purchased at the Dante Alighieri in Cambridge)
- Recommended grammar of reference: *Practice Makes Perfect: Complete Italian Grammar* (Practice Makes Perfect Series), by Marcel Danesi, McGraw-Hill Companies, 2009.
- Students are also encouraged to purchase an Italian/English dictionary.

Attendance and Participation

Although attendance is not mandatory for this class, we recommend that you come regularly. In class, you will be invited to participate actively and constructively in all the activities in order to practice acquired knowledge and make the best of your communication skills in Italian. It's in class that you will find people to practice with and someone who will help you understand your mistakes. And remember: Don't be shy! You are here to learn and making mistakes is a natural part of the learning process. After all mistakes are part of the fun!

Emergency Contacts:

In case of an emergency, students can receive the school cancellation notice on the TV stations NBC Channel 7 News and CW Channel 56. They can also be notified on their cell phones by going to www.whdh.com and click on "Snow Day Alert". Students will need to input their cell phone number, the name of the carrier and can choose the schools they are interested in hearing about. Students can easily add or remove schools from their profile at any time.

Calendar:

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
Lezione 1	<p>Rinfreschiamo il nostro italiano!</p> <p>Obiettivi comunicativi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentarsi e presentare, chiedere e dare informazioni personali, chiedere e parlare delle abitudini e delle attività quotidiane e del fine settimana, esprimere preferenze, raccontare e chiedere di un evento passato, parlare delle abitudini del passato. <p>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- La concordanza del sostantivo e dell'aggettivo, il <i>Presente</i> indicativo di verbi regolari, di alcuni verbi irregolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i> e dei verbi riflessivi, il <i>Passato Prossimo</i> dei verbi regolari e di alcuni verbi irregolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i>, l'<i>Imperfetto</i> dei verbi regolari e di alcuni verbi irregolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i>, la differenza tra <i>Passato Prossimo</i> e <i>Imperfetto</i>, il <i>superlativo relativo</i>; vocabolario relativo a: la vita quotidiana, espressioni di tempo (<i>da bambino, da giovane, ecc.</i>).

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
<p>Lezione 2</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 3</p>	<p>Lezione 5: Cibo come cultura</p> <p>Obiettivi comunicativi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicare se si ama o no una particolare attività e spiegare le ragioni delle proprie scelte - descrivere, capire e parlare di una ricetta - parlare delle proprie abitudini alimentari - raccontare un'esperienza passata <p>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - il <i>Passato Prossimo</i> dei verbi riflessivi - il pronome relativo <i>che</i> - il <i>superlativo assoluto</i> - lessico relativo al cibo ed alle ricette <p>Note culturali:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gastronomia italiana, gastronomie regionali.

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
<p>Lezione 4</p> <p>Lezione 5</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 6</p>	<p>Lezione 6: Imprevisti delle vacanze</p> <p>Obiettivi comunicativi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parlare di un imprevisto durante le vacanze - descrivere un disturbo fisico ad un dottore - chiedere e dare consigli sulla salute - capire le informazioni principali sul foglietto illustrativo di un medicinale <p>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - forme plurali irregolari di alcuni sostantivi - l'<i>Imperativo</i> (con il <i>Lei</i>) - posizione dei pronomi con l'<i>Imperativo</i> - revisione della coniugazione e della differenza tra l'uso di <i>Passato Prossimo</i> e l'<i>Imperfetto</i> - lessico relativo alle parti del corpo ed espressioni relative alla salute <p>Nota culturale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Il linguaggio del corpo: fammi un gesto e ti dirò chi sei!
<p>Lezione 7</p>	<p>Revisione delle lezioni 5 e 6</p> <p>Quiz I sulle lezioni 5 e 6</p>

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
<p>Lezione 8</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 9</p>	<p>Lezione 7: Vacanze in macchina</p> <p>Obiettivi comunicativi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - parlare delle proprie abitudini di viaggio - capire e dare consigli su come viaggiare sicuri - capire informazioni sul traffico - denunciare il furto o lo smarrimento di un oggetto e descrivere lo stesso oggetto <p>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - l'Imperativo (con il <i>tu</i> ed il <i>voi</i>) - lessico relativo all'automobile ed alla sicurezza in viaggio - lessico relativo alla descrizione di oggetti <p>Nota culturale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Info sul traffico e numeri d'emergenza in Italia
<p>Lezione 10</p>	<p>Revisione della lezione 7</p> <p>Quiz II sulla lezione 7</p> <p>Presentazioni finali</p>