BOARD OF SENIOR SCHOOL STUDIES

ITALIAN SYLLABUS

2 UNIT Z COURSE

YEARS 11 AND 12

Approved by the N.S.W. Board of Senior School Studies in October 1985 for implementation in Year 11, 1986, and initial examination in 1987.
ITALIAN SYLLABUS

2 UNIT Z

RATIONALE
The Italian 2 Unit Z course is a two-year course designed for those students who have not previously presented themselves for the School Certificate in Italian or an examination of equivalent standing. It is intended for students who have not studied Italian in the junior years of High School. Such students, therefore, have the opportunity of starting the subject in Year 11. Although students of Italian origin are not strictly excluded from this course it is very important to realise that Italian 2 Unit Z has been devised to cater for students of non-Italian origin who wish to study Italian for the first time in Year 11. Students with some knowledge of Italian are better directed towards 2 Unit and 3 Unit courses in Italian. Italian 2 Unit Z leads to a separate and distinct Higher School Certificate examination from the 3 Unit and 2 Unit examination. As for other 2 Unit courses, 2 Unit Z Italian requires four hours teaching per week. Unlike the 2 Unit and 3 Unit courses the 2 Unit Z course does not have a literature component. The emphasis of the course is on language, though there is also an assignment relating to an aspect of Italian culture and civilization.

AIMS
The aims are:

To develop the student's ability to communicate in situations typical of those often encountered by the visitor to Italy. Communication in Italian in an Australian context is an important additional aim, Italian being one of the languages most commonly spoken in Australia.

To teach students to read Italian without resorting to word for word translation.

To teach students to write simple Italian using basic language patterns.

To foster in the students an appreciation of Italian culture and civilization.
OBJECTIVES
In accordance with the aims, students will be required to develop the following language skills:

GRAMMAR
Students will master basic Italian grammar.

DICTATION
Students will develop listening skills so as to be able to transcribe accurately everyday Italian, including conversation.

AURAL COMPREHENSION
Students will develop listening skills sufficiently to demonstrate functional comprehension of spoken Italian. Students will be able to write answers to questions on a spoken passage or dialogue which show a clear understanding of the Italian idiom.

SURVIVAL CONVERSATION
Students will develop oral skills sufficient to be able to participate in simple conversation in Italian.

COMPOSITION
Students will develop skills in completing language exercises, especially substitution, transformation, multiple choice and completion type sentences.

CONTENT
The course emphasises the acquisition by students of the language skills of speaking, reading, writing and listening. It is intended that by the end of two years study, students will have attained a basic 'survival' level of competency in these skills as measured by the Higher School Certificate Examination. In addition, the course includes the presentation by students of the Special Interest Assignment for the award of marks. For this purpose, students may choose an aspect of Italian culture for research (see below). It is expected that by the end of the course students will have mastered, for active use, the following areas of grammar.

Address: courtesy form (forma del 'Lei')
familiar form (forma del 'tu')
Adjectives: agreement
            comparison
            demonstrative
            possessive
            superlative

Article: definite
        indefinite

Adverbs, use of 'Ci'/'ne,

Nouns: gender
        number

Numerals: cardinal
          ordinal

Prepositions: articulated
            simple

Pronouns: demonstrative
          direct
          indirect
          combined
          interrogative
          possessive
          relative
          subject

Verbs: auxiliary
        affirmative, negative, interrogative forms
        impersonal construction
        irregular (common verbs only)

Moods - indicative
        conditional
        imperative

Tenses - present
        present perfect (passato prossimo)
        past descriptive (imperfetto)
        future
        reflexive
        use of 'piacere', 'stare' + gerundio

N.B. Familiarity with other grammar points not mentioned in this list is desirable for recognition purposes.
TEACHER OBJECTIVES
It is expected that, in order to assist students to attain the knowledge
and skills objectives of this course, teachers will:
(a) use a variety of approaches to teaching and learning;
(b) employ a variety of resources, written and audio-visual;
(c) integrate the skills of reading, writing, speaking
and listening rather than teaching these separately;
(d) give particular emphasis to the students' gaining
the ability to understand spoken Italian and converse in
Italian by conducting lessons to a large extent in the
language.

SPECIAL INTEREST ASSIGNMENT
(15 marks)
Each candidate must complete a substantial assignment on an individual
basis on a topic selected either from the range suggested in the 2 Unit Z
Syllabus or after consultation with the teacher and determination of
available source material.
Topics are not to be submitted to the Examination Committee for approval.
Consequently, teachers and candidates are to be made aware that all topics
must relate to Italian society and culture from approximately the twelfth
century onwards. Topics that deal with a period prior to this date will not
be considered unless that topic is related to modern times. For instance:
a topic such as Roman Mythology would not be acceptable unless the
assignment showed how roman mythology has influenced modern Italian
society and culture.
Certification will be required that the assignment is the candidate's own
work. A form for this purpose will be provided by Examinations Division.
Teachers' comments on the assignments are not to be submitted, but in
exceptional circumstances (e.g. loss, damage, etc.) may be requested.

RATIONALE
The purpose of this assignment is to afford students an opportunity to study
in some detail one aspect of Italian civilization. In so doing students will
benefit from independent study and their individual strengths and interests
will complement other aspects of the course.

OBJECTIVES
Students are required to submit a substantial piece of work in the form of
a project. While basically an essay-form presentation is required, the project
may include the use of graphics or other illustrative material consistent with
the chosen topic and the chosen methods of treatment. Accordingly, students
will exhibit skills from among the following:
* Gathering information from a variety of sources both linguistic and cultural, including writing to overseas agencies, organizations, interviewing etc.
* Organizing information.
* Selecting a form of presentation appropriate to the subject matter.
* Integrating illustrations, surveys etc. within the text.
* Interpreting information.
* Evaluating evidence and drawing conclusions.
* Logically arguing a case.
* Being coherent and systematic in analysis.

ASSESSMENT

For the purpose of assessment special attention will be given to:
* Originality
* Introduction
* Argument
* Logic
* Use of evidence
* Sequencing of ideas
* Relevance of the information to the topic.
* Evidence of clear thinking
* Perceptiveness
* Appropriateness and integration with the text of illustrations, paintings, slides, maps, cuttings, tapes, surveys, etc.
* Organization
* Amount of information
* Bibliography and resources
* Footnotes
* Conclusions and Evaluation
* Overall quality

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR SPECIAL INTEREST ASSIGNMENT

(i) Modern Italian Writing (in translation if desired)
   (a) Study of a major 20th century Italian novel.
   (b) Study of a major 20th century play
   (c) Study of two or three contemporary Italian short stories
   (d) Study of one or more Italian or Italo-Australian authors
   (e) Study of a particular period of 'school' of Italian literature.
(ii) **Italian Cinema**
(a) Study of a particular Italian film
(b) Introduction to the work of a major Italian film director.

(iii) **The Arts**
(a) Introduction to the work of a major Italian artist, sculptor, composer.
(b) Introduction to a significant 'school' or period of Italian art, music or architecture.
(c) A study of *Canti popolari*, e.g. (dialect) folk songs, revolutionary, feminist, political, migration, pop songs, etc.
(d) A study of the history of the Italian theatre in one or more aspects, e.g. *Commedia dell'Arte*, Renaissance.
(e) A study of the Italian Opera.

(iv) **History**
(a) A study of a period of Italian history, e.g. the Risorgimento and Unification of Italy; the Renaissance; the Rise and Fall of Fascism; Anti-fascism and the Resistance.
(b) A study of Italians in Australia.

(v) **Sociology and Politics**
(a) A comparative study of Italian and Australian youth today
(b) A study of Italians in Australia
(c) A study of Italian politics today
(d) A study of Italian regionalism (Campanilismo)
(e) A study of the effect of the English language on Italian in Australia.

(vi) **Miscellaneous**
(a) A study of the Italian fashion industry
(b) A study of the tourist industry in Italy
(c) A study of Italian cooking: in general and specific aspects, viz. regional cooking
(d) A survey of Italian wines
(e) A study of Italian popular literature, e.g. *fumetti*, *fotoromanzi*, etc.

**OUTLINE OF EXAMINATION**
See Subject Rules available separately from the Board of Senior School Studies.

**CONDUCT OF ORAL/AURAL EXAMINATION**
Rules for the conduct of these examinations are available separately from the Board of Senior School Studies.
TEACHING MATERIAL
A list of suggested texts is published separately by the Board of Senior School Studies and may be obtained from the Directorate of Studies N.S.W. Department of Education Box 33, G.P.O., Sydney. 2001.

MARK ALLOCATION

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Special Interest

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Total for H.S.C. 100 marks