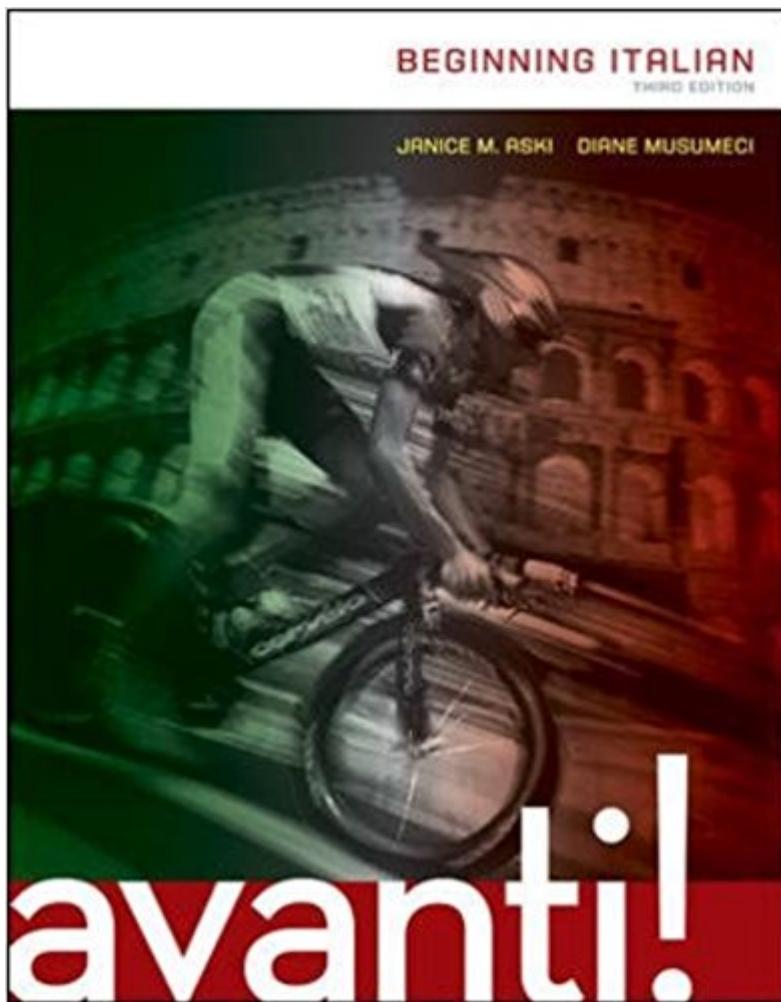


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# AVANTI: BEGINNING ITALIAN



## Synopsis

NOTE: This ISBN includes only PRINT Book. It does not include Access card

As the fastest growing introductory Italian title, *Avanti! Beginning Italian* continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of instructors and students. Professors are offering more hybrid and online courses, technology is providing functionality we could not envision just a few years ago, and the types of students we teach are ever-changing. Thus, in planning the third-edition revision, it was critical to retain the best parts of our program while responding to the changes around us. The title *Avanti!* conveys the forward-thinking approach of this program, which is designed to guide experienced and inexperienced instructors in creating a truly communicative, interactive environment for their students. In preparation for this edition, we employed a wide array of market research tools to identify a number of areas for digital innovation. As a direct result of our research, this new edition offers McGraw-Hill's Connect and LearnSmart with their game-changing, adaptive, and digital learning resources. These powerful, digital tools, now an integral part of the third edition, complement and support the goals of the *Avanti!* program and address the needs of the evolving Introductory Italian course.

How does *Avanti!* with Connect and LearnSmart support the needs of Italian instructors and students?

**Communicative Competence:** One of the major challenges of any introductory language course is to give students ample exposure to the language and sufficient opportunity for speaking practice to inspire them to communicate with confidence. *Avanti!* satisfies students' desire to communicate in everyday situations right from the start. In Connect Italian students have access 24/7 to the digitally enhanced eBook, the interactive textbook activities, the online Workbook / Laboratory Manual activities, all of the accompanying audio and video resources, and the voice tools that allow for out-of-class practice of important oral skills.

**Review and Recycling:** Since introducing and practicing each grammatical structure once in a year-long course is simply not enough to promote acquisition, recycling vocabulary and structures for maximum exposure is a key feature of *Avanti!* Every fourth chapter provides practice of four previously taught grammar points, which are then followed by a related topic. With the addition of LearnSmart, a super-adaptive learning system, students can practice key vocabulary and grammatical structures outside of class. This powerful system helps students identify their weaknesses and provides them with an individualized study program based on their performance.

**Manageable Scope and Sequence:** *Avanti!* responds to instructors' concerns that most programs attempt to cover too much material in the first year. We have designed an elementary course that reflects reasonable expectations for the amount of material that most beginning learners can acquire in one year of classroom instruction, while providing the necessary practice students

need to acquire these structures. The Connect Italian platform includes an assignment builder feature that allows instructors further flexibility to fully customize the course content to meet the needs of their particular students. Instructors may choose to assign all (or a subset) of the textbook and workbook activities as well as some or all of the grammar points presented in *Per saperne di più* based on their course goals. Cultural Competence: *Avanti!* is meaningful and extensive exploration of Italy's rich and unique culture is fully supported in Connect Italian through audio and video resources and interactive activities. Throughout each chapter, brief readings and interactive, culture activities promote an understanding of products, practices and perspectives. All chapters end with reading, listening, and writing activities that explore cultural topics in depth. Each chapter also includes an analysis of film clips where students can see Italian society and culture in action. Student-centered Classroom: A significant goal of *Avanti!* is to engage the learner inside and outside of the classroom and promote students' personal sense of responsibility to interact with the material and maximize learning. To this end, the inductive presentations of vocabulary and grammar, which encourage language processing and cognitive engagement, can be successfully completed in the classroom or by using the interactive versions in Connect. Administrative Challenges: The *Avanti!* program provides the online tools to reduce the amount of time and energy that instructors have to invest in administering their course. The Assignment Builder allows instructors to easily sort activities according to a variety of parameters that are important to them, including by learning objective, language skill, topic, amount of time on task, or by activity type (multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and so on). With Reports instructors can pull full administrative reports about students' performance, and coordinators will be able to integrate these reports across all sections to see the performance of the entire program. The at-risk student report also allows instructors to quickly identify at-risk students, based on numerous criteria, who may need additional help to successfully complete the course.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Janice M. Aski is assistant professor and director of the Italian language program at The Ohio State University. She specializes in foreign language pedagogy and historical Italian/Romance linguistics. Her research in foreign language pedagogy explores a variety of topics, such as testing, teaching reading at the elementary level, and how first-year Italian textbooks and grammar practice activities reflect the most current research in second language acquisition. Her publications in historical Italian/Romance linguistics focus on the social, pragmatic and cognitive aspects of phonological and morphological change. Diane Musumeci is Associate Professor of Italian and SLATE (Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she is Head of the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese. She received her Ph.D. in Italian linguistics with a Certificate of Advanced Study in SLATE from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1989. For sixteen years she was the Director of the Italian language program. She conducts research in content-based instruction and classroom language acquisition. She teaches a wide range of courses from Italian language and linguistics to doctoral seminars on the history of second language teaching. She has published numerous articles and chapters in books and is the author of *Il carciofo: Strategie di lettura e proposte d'attività* (McGraw-Hill, 1990) and *Breaking Tradition: An Exploration of the Historical Relationship Between Theory and Practice in Second Language Teaching* (McGraw-Hill, 1997).

I am content with the book but I was disappointed that the book did not come with the Access Code. I paid \$160 for a book that said it came with an Access Code but it did not and now I have to spend \$50 or more on an Access Code in the middle of the semester. I could have spent \$30 more and get my book from my school's Bookstore that had an Access Code included. I am not sure if I am going to continue to get my books from .com because this is not the first time it has happened. This is why I am rating it 2 stars.

I bought this book as requested by my university for my Beginning Italian I course. 's price was a

few dollars cheaper than other online sources and almost \$100 dollars cheaper than my school's bookstore.Pros:-- The book is colorful and uses images as well as text to teach.Cons:-- Very limited activities are able to be completed individually, most require a classmate/partner or further instruction from the professor. This made studying difficult.-- Even with 's cheaper price the book was very expensive for the information provided. I felt that a lot of key terms were absent due to the belief that we already knew them -- but since it is a beginners book, we didn't.Conclusions: I would not reinvest in this book. However if it is required that you buy this text book and the online code separate...once you buy the online code the company offers to send you a full color loose leaf textbook for about \$15. As others have stated this book, and the accompanying online connect product, are just a lazy excuse for a teaching tool. Teachers lean of this book and the online software to teach and the students suffer. This book in no way advanced my education, I ended up renting another Italian book that was not assigned/suggested to help complete my education. What a waste of money.THE ONLINE CODE DOES NOT COME WITH THIS BOOK

It's not cheap, but if you are teaching yourself Italian, this is the book to use. Lord, even movie suggestions, which have worked out very well. An excellent language textbook.

Hidden in the long description about this item it says that the access code to Connect is NOT included however it also goes on to describe how this textbook is beneficial because of the online integration. I found other textbook offers online with the access code for similar price. Do NOT buy this item!

I was very disappointed when I purchased this item only to receive the TEACHER'S EDITION of this book. My student cannot use this in his high school class! It has a big yellow stripe across the top that states it is the teacher's edition....so it does not accurately reflect the picture shown.

came on time, the book had written things in it, and the pages had seemed to be wet before. But overall price is perfect.

You owe me and everyone an access code!! What a ripoff!

I needed the online access code for my class so this was useless. It should be very clear when ordering that you do NOT get the access code.

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