

Marco Petrelli

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Ph.D. in English-language literatures specializing in 20th and 21st century Anglo-American literatures, Southern Studies, American Gothic, literary space theory, and graphic narratives. Currently researching on spectralities, Afropessimism, and African American Gothic.

ASN (ITALIAN NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC QUALIFICATION)

2022 Qualified for the role of Associate Professor.

TEACHING AND OTHER ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

RESEARCH FELLOW

2021 – Present **University of Turin**

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and Modern Cultures
English and American Studies Program

2020 – Present **Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna**

Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Member of the research group WeTell – Storytelling & Civic Awareness

2020

“Sapienza” University of Rome

Department of European, American and Intercultural Studies
Bibliographical research for the project “Polysemous narrations: urban violence from mainstream to noir literature”

2017

“Sapienza” University of Rome

Department of European, American and Intercultural Studies
Member of the research group “Polysemous narrations: urban violence from mainstream to noir literature”

TEACHING HISTORY

2019 – Present University of Turin

2021 – 2022

Workshop: North-American Literatures and Cultures (6 credits/48 contact hours)
Darkness USA: Race and Terror in Contemporary African American Gothic Narratives

2020 – 2021

Workshop: North-American Literatures and Cultures (6 credits/48 contact hours)
South Bound Blues: Approaching the Southern United States

2019 – 2020

Workshop: North-American Literatures and Cultures (6 credits/48 contact hours)
“Wanna Hear Something Scary?”: The Case of the American Gothic

Advanced English Language (3 credits/24 contact hours)

2019 – Present Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

- 2021 – 2022 Anglo-American Literatures 2 (9 credits/60 contact hours)
The Literary Identity of the USA, 1900-1945
- 2020 – 2021 Anglo-American Literatures 2 (9 credits/60 contact hours)
The Literary Identity of the USA, 1900-1945
- Anglo-American Literatures 3 (4.5 credits/ 30 contact hours)
North America and New Cultural Geographies, 1950-2020

2020 – Present WeTell – Storytelling & Civic Awareness Summer School
Member of the Teaching Team

- 2019 – 2020 Anglo-American Literatures 2 (9 credits/60 contact hours)
The Literary Identity of the USA, 1900-1945
- Anglo-American Literatures 3 (4.5 credits/ 30 contact hours)
North America and New Cultural Geographies, 1950-2020

2019 – 2020 University of Parma

- 2019 – 2020 Anglo-American Literatures (6 credits/30 contact hours)
Writing America: Narrative Geographies in American Literature

2017 – 2019 University of Catania

- 2018 – 2019 Anglo-American Literatures 1 (9 credits/45 contact hours)
From Early American Literature to the 19th Century
- Anglo-American Language and Translation 2 (9 credits/45 contact hours)
Translation theory and translation workshop
- Anglo-American Language and Translation 3 (9 credits/45 contact hours)
Translation theory and translation workshop dedicated to African American
Literatures and Cultures
- 2017 – 2018 Anglo-American Language and Translation 2 (9 credits/45 contact hours)
Translation theory and translation workshop

2017 – 2018 University of Valle d'Aosta

- 2017 – 2018 English Language 1 (9 credits/45 contact hours)
English Language 2 (9 credits/45 contact hours)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**Books**

- 2021 *Nick Cave: preghiere di fuoco e ballate assassine*, Castel Negrino, Arenzano (Ge).

- 2020 *Paradiso in nero: spazio e mito nella narrativa di Cormac McCarthy*, Aracne, Roma.
- Cormac McCarthy: saggi a margine del canone*, QuiEdit, Verona (with Giulio Segato).
- Essays**
- 2022 "La versione di Nnedi Okorafor: *Black Panther* tra Afrofuturism e Africanfuturism" (forthcoming in *Ácoma*)
- "A Theory of Southern Time and Space: Memory, Place and Identity in Natasha Trethewey's *Native Guard*" (forthcoming in the special issue of *The Southern Quarterly* 59.1).
- 2021 "Introduction: The eyes on all people: Policing the City Upon a Hill," in *JAm It Journal of American Studies in Italy*, 5, pp. 5-12 (with Stefano Morello).
- "A Landscape of Fear: *From Hell* and the Twentieth Century," *Status Quaestionis*, n. 20, pp. 119-137.
- 2020 "Southern Wastelands: *Alas, Babylon, The Road*, and the A-Bomb in the Garden," in *RSA Journal*, n. 31, pp. 85-102.
- "A Darkness Endemic to Mississippi: Jesmyn Ward's Haunted Places," *Iperstoria*, n.16, pp. 278-292.
- "Post-Southern Geographies: Pastoral and Gothic in Contemporary U.S. South's Literature," in *Metacritic Journal for Comparative Studies and Theory*, 6.1, pp. 28-43.
- 2019 "Soglie d'ombra: spazio e orrore in due racconti di Stephen King," in *IF*, n.23, pp. 43-54.
- "Out of Eden: Old South, Post-South and Ur-South in Sara Taylor's *The Shore*," in *Polish Journal for American Studies*, n.13, pp. 192-204.
- "Make Arcadia Great Again: Appalachia, Southern Pastoralism and Contemporary U.S. Politics," in *Costellazioni*, n.8, pp. 109-122.
- 2018 "*Manifest Destiny*: The American West as a Map of the Unconscious," in *Between*, Vol.8 n.15.
- 2016 "*A Feeling You Cannot Name*: il Sud e la maledizione del tempo in *The Sound and the Fury* e *Suttree*," in *Annali di Ca' Foscari. Serie Occidentale*, n.50, pp. 433-447.
- 2015 "The Corpse, the Machine, the Garden: immagini di guerra e ideologia pastorale in *The Orchard Keeper*," in *Ácoma*, n.9, pp. 136-147.
- Book Chapters**
- 2023 "'I need the story to go': *Sing, Unburied, Sing*, Afropessimism, and Black Narratives of Redemption," in Keeble, Arin et al. (eds.), *Jesmyn Ward: New Critical Essays* (forthcoming for Edinburgh University Press).

2022 “‘The Haunter[s] of the Dark’: gotico, terrore e razza in *Lovecraft Country*,” in Sarnelli, Fulvia et al. (eds.), *What’s Popping? La storia degli Stati Uniti nella cultura popolare del nuovo millennio*, La scuola di Pitagora, Napoli, pp. 211-235.

2017 “*Outer Dark*: la pastorale e i labirinti del gotico,” in Lonati, Franco, e Giulio Segato (eds.), *Il gioco per eccellenza, cinquant’anni di Cormac McCarthy*, Sedizioni Diego Dejacco Editore, Mergozzo (VB), pp. 41-57.

Translations

2021 George Orwell, *Fiorirà l’Aspidistra*, Ortica Editrice, Aprilia (RM).

2020 John Frank Newton, *Ritorno alla natura*, Ortica Editrice, Aprilia (RM).

Edited Journal Issues

2021 “Watching the Watchmen: The State of Policing in US Cultural Production.” *Jam It! Journal of American Studies in Italy*, 5 (with Stefano Morello).

Reviews

2019 “Sara Taylor, *The Lauras*,” in *de genere*, n. 5, pp. 169-172.

2017 “Seba Pezzani, *Profondo Sud: Un viaggio nella cultura del Dixie*.” In *Iperstoria*, n.9, pp. 273-275.

2015 “‘Narrazioni della distruzione: scrivere la Seconda guerra mondiale.’ *Fictions-studi sulla narratività*, XIII, 2014.” In *Iperstoria*, n.6, pp.355-357.

EDUCATION

2017 “**Sapienza” University of Rome**
Ph.D in English-Language Literatures
Thesis: “A Southern Mode of the Imagination: spazio e mito nella narrativa di Cormac McCarthy.”

2013 M.A in Literary, Linguistic and Translation Studies
Cum Laude

2010 B.A. in Foreign Literatures
Cum Laude

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2022 "Possessing Home/Possessed Home: The Horrors of Pioneering in *Them*." "Family Ecologies: Family as/at Home: an international conference," Universität Bamberg.
- 2021 "Afropessimism and Narratives of Redemption in Jesmyn Ward's *Sing, Unburied, Sing*." 26th AISNA Biennial Conference: "Crossing Territories. Recognition across Time, Space, and Textuality in the US and Beyond", University of L'Aquila.
- "Crisis, Compensation, Deviation: The Space of the Southern Plantation in C.E. Morgan's *The Sport of Kings*." Citizenship, Space, Renewal, 2020 EAAS Conference, American Studies Center & Institute of English Studies University of Warsaw.
- "A Theory of Southern Time and Space: Memory, Place and Identity in Natasha Trethewey's *Native Guard*." Doing Southern Studies Today, Humboldt University, Berlin.
- 2019 "Ladies in Black, Ladies in White: History and Ghosts in Contemporary Southern Women Literature." 25th AISNA Biennial Conference: "Gate(d) Ways: Enclosures, Breaches and Mobilities Across U.S. Boundaries and Beyond," University of Catania.
- "'We Get Left Off When They Draw the Maps': Voices of Contemporary Southern Appalachia." 2019 MLA International Symposium: Remembering Voices Lost, Portuguese Catholic University, Lisbon.
- "Ballate di giovani marinai: Pratt, Melville, oceani e balene." Gli orizzonti aperti di Hugo Pratt, "Sapienza" University of Rome.
- "When the Levee Breaks: New Orleans Through Katrina." Bad Cities: Literature and Urban Violence—An International Conference, "Sapienza" University of Rome.
- 2018 "Super Doper: Post-68 Drug Culture Legacies Through Thomas Pynchon and Hunter S. Thompson." Transnational Legacies of 1968: Between Memory, Politics and Culture—International American Studies Association Symposium, Charles University, Prague.
- 2017 "*Manifest Destiny*: l'Ovest americano come mappa dell'immaginario." Convegno Internazionale "Spaced Out / Spazi tra le nuvole. Lo spazio nel fumetto," University of Cagliari.
- "Out of Eden: Old South, Post-South and Ur-South in Sara Taylor's *The Shore*." 24th AISNA Biennial Conference: The US and the World we Inhabit, University of Milan.
- "I Have Delivered it: From Hell and the Paranoiac Allegory of the 20th Century." ENCLS/REELC 7th Congress: Fear & Safety, University of Helsinki.
- 2016 "Cartografie mitiche: pastorale e spazio gotico nei romanzi appalachiani di Cormac McCarthy." AISNA Graduate Forum, University of Perugia.
- 2015 "Dinamiche Postsouthern: storia e ibridismo di genere in *The Walking Dead*." International conference "The hybrid context" - Illustration, Literature, Comics," Ca' Foscari University, Venice.

"Cormac McCarthy: spazio mitico e cartografie dell'interiorità." AISNA – Research seminar for early-career Americanists, American Studies Center, Rome.

"The Burial of the Dead from The Waste Land to The Orchard Keeper: Death and Resurrection of the Mythical Method." The Cormac McCarthy Society Conference: Fifty Years of Cormac McCarthy, University of Memphis, Memphis (TN).

INVITED TALKS/GUEST LECTURER

- 2022 "Class and Race Relationships in Poor Whites' Narratives." Guest Lecturer for the Course "Heaven's Got a Place for Country Trash," University of Milan.
- 2021 "The Blackness [in] Darkness: horror e razza in *Lovecraft Country* (2020)," Reading popular culture to re-read America: a thematic itinerary in the USA through comics, movies, TV series, Humanities Department, University of Naples Federico II.
- "Ghosts of Time and Space in Contemporary Southern Gothic: C.E. Morgan's *The Sport of Kings*," Andrew Hook Centre for American Studies, University of Glasgow.
- "The Ghost(s) in the Garden: The Southern Gothic from Thomas Jefferson to Jesmyn Ward," English and American Studies Seminar, University of Padua.
- "The Literature of the Southern United States in Context," Studies in English Literatures, Cultures and Translation PhD Seminar, "Sapienza" University of Rome.
- 2020 "*Paradiso in nero*," American Studies Center, Rome.
- "The Slave & the Devourer: A Short Ideological History of the Living Dead," guest lecturer for the course "Gothic, Contagion, and Literature", University of Turin.
- 2019 "The Violent Bear It Away: violenza e grottesco da Flannery O' Connor a Cormac McCarthy," guest lecturer for the course "Southern Gothic e il grottesco. Santuario (1936) di William Faulkner e Il cuore è un cacciatore solitario (1940) di Carson McCullers," University of Turin.
- 2018 "Landscapes of Fear: Graphic Narratives and the American Space," guest lecturer for the course "American Graphic Novels and the Literary Context," Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna.

PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2021 "Me as the Not-Me: Difference, Recognition, and Identity Formation in US Culture." 26th AISNA Biennial Conference: "Crossing Territories. Recognition across Time, Space, and Textuality in the US and Beyond," University of L'Aquila.
- "Wild Weird West: Stranger Looks at the Frontier." Visual Depictions of the American West: How the West Was Drawn and What it Showed Us, Ca' Foscari University, Venice.

- 2019 “Tearing Through the Fabric of Things: What Lies Outside, Beyond, Beneath the Page and the Screen.” 25th AISNA Biennial Conference: “Gate(d) Ways: Enclosures, Breaches and Mobilities Across U.S. Boundaries and Beyond,” University of Catania.
- 2017 “Open Spaces and Common Places: Cultural Representations of America's Shifting Geographies.” 24th AISNA Biennial Conference: The US and the World we Inhabit, University of Milan.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2021 “Voting Divide: The Changing Boundaries of Citizenship in the United States.” Graduate Student Conference. Co-Organizer. American Studies Center. Rome, Italy.
- 2019 25th AISNA Biennial Conference: “Gate(d) Ways: Enclosures, Breaches and Mobilities Across U.S. Boundaries and Beyond,” University of Catania. Member of the local organizing committee.
- 2018 3rd Sapienza Graduate Forum. “The Times are they a-changing?” “Sapienza” University of Rome. Co-organizer.
- 2017 2nd Sapienza Graduate Forum. “Dis-Integrating Identities.” “Sapienza” University of Rome. Co-organizer.
- 2016 1st Sapienza Graduate Forum: “S/s—Surveillance/Safety.” “Sapienza” University of Rome. Co-organizer.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2016 **University of Naples “L’Orientale”**
OASIS – Orientale American Studies Summer School
Full Scholarship.
- 2015 **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Visiting Fellow (February-May).
- 2014 **University of Naples “L’Orientale”**
OASIS – Orientale American Studies Summer School
Full Scholarship.
- American Studies Center Rome**
“The First Twenty Years of the Century: 1900/1920”
Seminar in US Literature, History, and Culture.

EDITORIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES

- 2022 – Present *Bibliomanie: letteratura, storiografie, semiotiche.*

Member of the editorial board.

- 2021 – Present *Quaderni di semantica Rivista internazionale di semantica teorica e applicata, An International Journal of Theoretical and Applied Semantics.*
Member of the editorial board.
- 2019 – Present *Jam It! – Journal of American Studies in Italy*
Co-founder, co-Editor in Chief, section Editor: Literature.
- 2019 – 2021 Co-Chair, AISNA Graduates
Italian Association for North-American Studies (AISNA)
Co-Chair, AISNA Graduates
- 2015 Sapienza Graduate Forum
“Sapienza” University of Rome
Co-founder

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018 – Present *il manifesto*
Literary critic
- 2017 – Present *L'indice dei libri del mese*
Literary critic
- 2017 – Present *menelique magazine*
Literary Critic

AFFILIATIONS

- 2020 – Present SSSL Society for the Study of Southern Literature
- 2017 – Present AISNA Italian Association for North-American Studies
EAAS European Association for American Studies
IASA International American Studies Association

LANGUAGE COMPETENCES

Fluent in Italian and English (spoken and written). Intermediate skills in Portuguese, beginner-intermediate skills in French and Spanish.

REFERENCES

Andrea Carosso, Full Professor
English and American Studies Program
Department of Foreign Language and Literatures and Modern Cultures
University of Turin
andrea.carosso@unito.it

Sonia Di Loreto, Associate Professor
English and American Studies Program
Department of Foreign Language and Literatures and Modern Cultures
University of Turin
sonia.diloreto@unito.it

Elena Lamberti, Associate Professor
Foreign Languages and Literatures Program
Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
University of Bologna
elena.lamberti@unibo.it