Chiara Borelli



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Current position

Research fellow/Department of Education Sciences G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna Scientific Disciplinary Area: M/PED-01

Research Grant Title: Participatory research on the evaluation of nature-based socio-educational and therapeutic projects
MAY 2023 - APRIL 2024

Cultrice della materia/Department of Education G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna Subject matter expert in: Family Pedagogy; Experiential and Outdoor (nature-based) Education and Training; Adolescent Psychology.

NOVEMBER 2022 - PRESENT

Lecturer/University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), Reggio Emilia Branch. Undergraduate courses in pedagogy conducted in English and aimed at international students (more information in the section: "Teaching assignments in academia").

SEPTEMBER 2014 - PRESENT

Educational qualifications and certifications

Degrees

Master's degree in Pedagogy LM-85 - 110/110 cum laude/Department of Education Sciences G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna 2017-2019

Master's degree in Primary School Teaching - 110/110 cum laude/University of Modena and Reggio Emilia 2013-2015

Master's degree in Preschool Teaching (+ additional course in Special Education) - 110/110 cum laude/University of Modena and Reggio Emilia 2009-2013

Postgraduate qualifications

Ph.D. in Pedagogical Sciences with Honors/Department of Education G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna 2019-2023

Advanced Training Course in Education and Nature/Department of Education G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna 2017-2018

Postgraduate course in Body Communication in Education and Psychomotor Strategies (with honors)/ Department of Education Sciences G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna 2015-2017

Postgraduate course in Behavioral Techniques for Children with Autistic and Global Developmental Disorders/University of Modena and Reggio Emilia 2011-2012

Language Certifications

English Language Certification Level C2/TOEFL 2015

Other titles and courses

Additional training in Psychomotricity/Association Muovimente, Bologna 2018-2020

Course for International Cooperation Volunteers/Modena Municipality and University of Modena and Reggio Emilia 2013-2014

High School Classical Studies Diploma/Liceo Classico Statale San Carlo - Modena 2004-2009

Research activities

Affiliation with research centers and groups

Working Group on Emergency Pedagogy, of the Italian Society of Pedagogy/Italian Society of Pedagogy (SIPED)
FROM 2022

Center for Educational Research on Infancy and Families (CREIF)/Department of Educational Sciences G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna
FROM 2020

Center for Research on Experiential and Outdoor Education and Training (CEFEO)/Department of Education G.M. Bertin, University of Bologna FROM 2019

Scientific recognition and awards

Riccardo Massa Award/Department of Human Sciences for Education R. Massa, University of Milan Bicocca Prize Section: Unpublished Works NOVEMBER 2023

Research done

"The Parents' Word - Survey on the Opinions of the Parents of the Child(ren)
Attending the Early Childhood Educational Services of the Municipality of Livorno
Livorno"/Research coordinated by Prof. A. Gigli for the CREIF research center of the
G.M. Bertin Department of Educational Sciences (UNIBO)

Tasks performed within the research: co-design of the survey; transcription of focus group
recordings; data analysis (inductive thematic analysis); collaboration on report writing.

Method/instrument: focus groups
Software used: Excel for code attribution and counting, and for co-occurrence analysis
2023

"Break Away Questionnaire - Survey of Break Away Educational Programs Targeting Youth in Social Distress"/Research sponsored by the Long Walks Association (VE) as part of an Erasmus+ Project.

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: data collection by hetero-administered questionnaire; qualitative-quantitative data analysis; writing of final report; presentation of results at a conference. <u>Method/instrument</u>: questionnaire 2023

"Walking interview and other qualitative methods to monitor the effectiveness of Adventure Education projects with at-risk adolescents"/PhD research in Pedagogical Science (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: research design; data collection and analysis; doctoral thesis writing.

<u>Methods/tools</u>: different types of interviews (classic, image-elicted, walking); participant observation; documentary analysis 2020-2023

"Participatory research for the co-construction of evaluation tools for Adventure Education projects with the Equilibero Association (Padua)"/ CEFEO Research

Center, G.M. Bertin Department of Educational Sciences (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: co-designing the research together with Prof. Gigli and Prof. Melotti; conducting focus groups; participating in the process of co-constructing the instrument; participating in the presentation of the results within a national conference and a scientific article (in press).

Methods/tools: focus groups; participatory research; questionnaire

Software used: TLab Plus (for focus group analysis)

2019-2022

"Participatory research for the co-construction of evaluation tools for Adventure Education projects with the Social Cooperative Csapsa2 (Bologna)"/ CEFEO

Research Center, G.M. Bertin Department of Educational Sciences (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: co-designing the research together with Prof. Gigli and Prof. Melotti; conducting focus groups; participating in the process of co-constructing the instrument; participating in the analysis of the data collected by the operators; participating in the presentation of the results at a conference.

<u>Methods/tools</u>: focus groups; participatory research; observation sheets <u>Software used</u>: TLab Plus (for focus group analysis); Excel and SPSS (for analysis of quantitative data

collected through observation sheets)

2019-2022

"Participatory research for the co-construction of evaluation tools for Adventure Education projects with the Cooperativa Sociale Cento Fiori (Rimini)"/ CEFEO

Research Center, G.M. Bertin Department of Educational Sciences (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: co-designing the research together with Prof. Gigli and Prof.

Melotti; conducting focus groups; participating in the process of co-construction of the instrument; participant observation; participating in the analysis of the data collected by the practitioners; participating in the presentation of the results within an international conference and a scientific article.

<u>Methods/tools</u>: focus group; participant observation; participatory research; questionnaire <u>Software used</u>: TLab Plus (for focus group analysis); Excel and SPSS (for analysis of quantitative data collected through questionnaire) 2019-2022

"Pakistani families in Italy in Covid-19: a survey of problems, needs and resources in the relationship with educational and scholastic institutions"/Research

coordinated by Prof. A. Gigli and Prof. Marco Trentini for the CREIF Research Center, G.M. Bertin Department of Educational Sciences (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: co-design of the research together with Prof. Gigli, Prof. Trentini and colleague Saif Ur Rehman Raja; participation in the data analysis performed using Jamovi software; participation in the presentation of the results within two scientific articles.

Methods/tools: questionnaire

Software used: Jamovi

2021

"Practitioners' representation of adolescent well-being during the Covid-19 pandemic"/CREIF Research Center, G.M. Bertin Department of Education (UNIBO) Tasks performed within the research: research design; data collection through image-elicited interviews; data analysis (inductive thematic analysis); presentation of results within a scientific article.

<u>Method/instrument</u>: image-elicited interviews 2021

"'Making the Woods Home'. Reflections on the Effectiveness of Adventure Education with Groups of Preadolescents"/Research for Dissertation in Pedagogy Master's Degree (UNIBO)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: research design; data collection and data analysis; presentation of results within the dissertation.

<u>Methods/instruments</u>: interviews; questionnaires; participant observation 2019

"'Bye park, I'll be back soon!'. Effects of psychomotor setting in natural environment in a subject with autistic syndrome"/Research for Master's thesis in Body Communication in Education and Psychomotor Strategies (UNIBO)

Tasks performed within the research: research design; data collection and data analysis; presentation of results within master's thesis and an article in the journal "Childhood."

Methods/tools: participant observation

2017

"Educational experiments in elementary school to prevent language disadvantage: the textual cohesion plan in the 'Observing Interlanguage' project"/Research for the Master's thesis in Primary Education, elementary school focus (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

<u>Tasks performed within the research</u>: analysis of linguistic data (within an experimental project of Italian language teaching); presentation of results within the dissertation and a scientific article. 2015

Publications

- Melotti, G., **Borelli**, C., Gigli, A., Boffa, E., Ambrosani, A., & D'Alessio, M. (2023). Sailing Away the Pain: Evaluating an Adventure Sailing Therapy Program for Adults Living in a Drug Rehabilitation Center. *International Journal of Adventure Therapy*, 4. https://journal-adventure-therapy.com/shop/
- Borelli, C. (2023). Educare alle Life Skills attraverso pratiche di Adventure Education: un'opportunità per i NEET e i/le giovani in situazione di marginalità o a rischio di ritiro sociale. In: M. Fabbri, P. Malavasi, A. Rosa, I. Vannini (a cura di), Sistemi Educativi, Orientamento, Lavoro. Atti del Convegno Siped, 2-4 Febbraio 2023. Pensa Multimedia.
- **Borelli**, C., & Garzella, R. (2023). Il potenziale della formazione outdoor. In: A. Bortolotti (a cura di), *Pamphlet Management sportivo umanistico*. BUP. https://buponline.com/prodotto/il-management-sportivo-umanistico/
- **Borelli**, C. (2022). We can't leave them alone fighting against a dragon": Italian educators' representations of adolescents' wellbeing during Covid-19 pandemic through images. *Rivista Italiana di Educazione Familiare*, 21(2), 127-140. https://doi.org/10.36253/rief-12273
- Gigli, A., Scarpini, M., **Borelli**, C. (2022). La natura maestra di resilienza: aspetti teorici e metodologici delle soluzioni nature-based per gli interventi educativi in situazioni di emergenza, In: G. Annacontini, A. Vaccarelli & E. Zizioli (a cura di). *Prospettive per una Pedagogia dell'Emergenza*. Progedit.
- **Borelli**, C., Gigli, A., Melotti, G. (2022). Il rapporto tra esseri umani e natura ai tempi del Covid-19: orizzonti di possibilità e nuove problematicità nell'ambito dell'educazione esperienziale nature-based. In: L. Dozza, C. Cardinaletti (a cura di), *Questa è l'outdoor education* (pp. 89 97). Zeroseiup.
- Gigli, A., Raja, S. & **Borelli**, C. (2022). Famiglie pakistane in Italia nel Covid-19: una rilevazione su problemi, bisogni e risorse nel rapporto con le istituzioni educative e scolastiche. *Formazione&Insegnamento*, 20(1), 64-78. https://doi.org/10.7346/-fei-XX-01-22 07
- Gigli, A., **Borelli**, C. & Raja, S. (2021). Pakistani families in Italy during Covid-19: a survey on problems, needs and resources. *Studium Educationis*, 22(2), 4-17. https://doi.org/10.7346/SE-022021-01
- **Borelli**, C. (2021). Anticorpi pedagogici 2. Il corpo e la natura al centro della scena educativa. In A. Gigli (a cura di), *Oltre l'emergenza. Sguardi pedagogici su infanzia, famiglie, servizi educativi e scolastici nel Covid-19* (pp. 212-219). Edizioni Junior-Bambini.
- **Borelli**, C. (2021). La nostra relazione con la natura: dalle cause dell'attuale pandemia agli orizzonti di possibilità quanto mai inattuali dell'educazione esperienziale nature based. In A. Gigli (a cura di), *Oltre l'emergenza. Sguardi pedagogici su infanzia, famiglie, servizi educativi e scolastici nel Covid-19* (pp. 118-129). Edizioni Junior-Bambini.
- **Borelli**, C., Gigli, A. & Melotti, G. (2020). Deepening the inside: Practitioners' representations of the underlying processes in adventure education and therapy programs in Italy. In R. Zwart, C. Davidson. *Proceedings of the 2020 Symposium on Experiential Education Research presented at the 48th Annual International AEE Conference*.
 - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18tG3spzSsrYAek6v1eTqOyE2qNT6aSz8
- Borelli, C., Gigli, A., & Melotti, G. (2020). The Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Italian Nature-Based Programs in the Educational, Therapeutic, Training and Leisure Areas. Education Sciences, 10, 1-10. http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/educsci10120394

- Melotti, G., Gigli, A., & **Borelli**, C. (2020). Lo stato dell'arte dei progetti nature-based in ambito educativo, formativo, terapeutico e ricreativo in Italia: i dati di una ricerca di mappatura. *Formazione & Insegnamento*, 18(2), 210-226. http://dx.doi.org/10.7346/-fei-XVIII-02-20_18
- Gigli, A., Melotti, G., & **Borelli**, C. (2020). Lo stato dell'arte dei progetti nature-based in ambito educativo, formativo, terapeutico e ricreativo in Italia: quadro concettuale e una possibile categorizzazione dei settori/contesti. *Formazione & Insegnamento*, 18(1), 77-91. http://dx.doi.org/10.7346/-fei-XVIII-01-20 08
- **Borelli**, C. (2019). Bambini senza corpo e chiusi dentro: dualismo mente-corpo nel passaggio dalla scuola dell'infanzia alla scuola primaria. *Infanzia*, 4, 261-264.
- **Borelli**, C. (2019). Ciao parco! Torno presto... Effetti del gioco psicomotorio in natura in un soggetto con sindrome autistica. *Infanzia*, 1, 54-58.
- Rosi, F., & **Borelli**, C. (2015). Il Processo Di Produzione Scritta: La Coesione Verbale in Testi Di Scuola Primaria. *Italiano LinguaDue*, 2, 247-268. http://doi.org/10.13130/2037-3597/4700

Academic teaching assignments

Lecturer in university courses aimed at international students/University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), Reggio Emilia campus 2023 "Child Psychology" (September-December; 38h) "Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h) "Models of Teaching" (June-July; 38h) "Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 38h) "Models of Teaching" (January-May; 38h) 2022 "Child Psychology" (September-December; 38h) "Gender Issues in Education" (June-July; 15h) "Models of Teaching" (June-July; 38h) "Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 15h) "Models of Teaching" (January-May; 38h) 2020 "Models of Teaching" (January-May; 38h) "Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h) "Gender Issues in Education" (June-July; 15h) "Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 38h) "Early Childhood Education" (June-July; 38h) 2018 "Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h) "Early Childhood Education" (June-July; 38h) "Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 15h) "Early Childhood Education" (January-May; 38h) 2017 "Play Theory, Creativity and Aesthetics in Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h) "Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 15h) "Comparative Education" (January-May; 38h) 2016 "Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h) "Education for a changing world" (September-December; 38h) "Gender Issues in Education" (June-July; 15h)

"Italian/International Approaches to Education: Montessori and Reggio" (June-July; 15h)

"Comparative Education" (January-May; 38h)

2015

"Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h)

"Comparative Education" (January-May; 38h)

2014

"Early Childhood Education" (September-December; 38h)

Lectures in academic seminars/Department of Education G. M. Bertin (University of Bologna)

Didactic seminar entitled "Walking interview and other qualitative methods for monitoring the effectiveness of adventure education projects with at-risk adolescents" within the course "Experiential and outdoor (nature-based) education and training" aimed at students of Social and Cultural Educator (Rimini campus)

OCTOBER 9, 2023 - 3h

Didactic seminar entitled "Outdoor Education as an orientation for sustainable pedagogy" within the course "Experiential and Outdoor (nature-based) Education and Training" aimed at students of Social and Cultural Education (Rimini) OCTOBER 3, 2022 - 2h

Didactic seminar entitled "Our relationship with nature: from the causes of the current pandemic to the horizons of possibilities as unattainable as ever in nature-based experiential education" within the course "Educational services, social change and family pedagogy" of the Bachelor of Social and Cultural Education degree program APRIL 11, 2022 - 2h

Educational seminar entitled "The systemic and ecological paradigm through nature-based education: horizons of possibilities and methodological insights," as part of the cycle "School and university in dialogue. Unified Training Project: Civic Education and Agenda 2030," sponsored by the Dept. of Education Sciences.

OCTOBER 28, 2021 - 3h

Teaching seminar entitled "**Reflections on design and evaluation of nature-based projects**" within the Master's program in Outdoor Education at the University of Bologna OCTOBER 8, 2021 - 4h

Educational seminar titled "Our Relationship with Nature - From the Causes of the Current Pandemic to the Horizons of Possibilities as Untimely as Ever in Nature-Based Experiential Education" in twin webinars organized by the CEFEO research center, aimed at UNIBO students and open to non-university audiences

APRIL 9 and 13, 2021 - 4h

Didactic seminar entitled "**Adventure Education in the socio-educational field**" within the Master's program in Outdoor Education at the University of Bologna OCTOBER 30, 2020 - 4h

Teaching seminar entitled "The state of the art in nature-based projects in Italy: reflections on research data," within the teaching of Pedagogy and Marginality, in the Master of Science in Pedagogy degree program (Unibo)

OCTOBER 26, 2020 - 2h

Research presentations within national and international conferences

Presentation entitled "Dilation of the Field of Experience through Fragments of Everyday Life. Practices of ecological education observed in a long-term project with 'difficult' adolescents" as part of the 8th International Conference Education, Territories Nature at the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2, 2023

Co-leading a thematic group entitled "Outdoor: inclusion and adolescent distress" within the conference "Adolescents 'out of doors': outdoor education between school and out-of-school" organized by the **Bologna City Council**NOVEMBER 18, 2023

Presentation titled "Parenting difficulties, possible resources and relationship with educational services in the Livorno area" as part of the conference "Making educating community: the integrated zerosei system in the Livorno area, yesterday, today, tomorrow" organized by the Municipality of Livorno NOVEMBER 11, 2023

Presentation of a poster entitled "Intersectional lens in Outdoor Education to cope with the future" within the 20th European Outdoor Education Conference, at the Youth Centre Metsäkartano, in Rautavaara (Finland)

OCTOBER 3-7, 2023

Presentations entitled:

- "The combination of walking interview and image-elicited interview to monitor an Adventure Education project with at-risk adolescents"
- "Break Away Questionnaire Survey of Break Away Educational Programs Targeting Youth in Social Distress" (together with Long Walks Association)
- "Co-construction of observation and evaluation tools for nature-based socioeducational projects with adolescents" (together with CEFEO research center, Unibo) as part of the 9th National Conference of Montagnatherapy at the Municipal Conference Center in Nicolosi (CT) SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2023

Presentation entitled "Educating for Life Skills through Adventure Education practices: an opportunity for NEETs and youths in marginalized situations or at risk of social withdrawal" within the Junior Conference of the Siped Convention, at the University of Bologna

FEBRUARY 2-4, 2023

Presentation entitled "On the need for intersectional lens in the field of nature-based education" as part of the 7th International Conference Education, Territories, Nature, at the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano

DECEMBER 1-3, 2022

Presentation entitled "Grasping the process through walking interviews. A multiple case study on long trekking educational programs with delinquent youth in Italy" within the 50th International Conference of the Association of Experiential Education (online participation)

NOVEMBER 10-13, 2022

Presentation entitled "Keeping track of the process: try-out of a tool co-constructed with practitioners for the observation-evaluation of nature-based adventure programs with adolescents in Northern Italy" within the 9th International Outdoor Education Research Conference, at the University of Cumbria (UK) JULY 18-22, 2022

Presentation titled ""Land is, therefore we are," especially in pandemic times: experiential nature-based programs for rethinking environmental education" within the Aifref 2022 Congress, at the Salesian University IUSVE (online participation) JUNE 30-JULY 2, 2022

Presentation entitled "Sailing Away the Pain: Evaluating an Adventure Sailing Therapy Program for Adults Living in a Drug Rehabilitation Center" as part of the 9th International Adventure Therapy Conference, at the University of Agder (Norway)

JUNE 20-25, 2022

Presentation entitled "The human-nature relationship in the time of Covid-19: horizons of possibilities and new issues in nature-based experiential education" at the Earth Nature Education Conference, at the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano (online)

DECEMBER 3-5, 2020

Presentation entitled "Deepening the Inside: The Underlying Processes in Adventure Education and Therapy Programs" at the 48th International Conference of the Association of Experiential Education (online).

NOVEMBER 12-14, 2020

Training courses for teachers and educators

"The ecological paradigm in education" and "Experiences in nature aimed at children: theoretical and methodological insights from body pedagogy and psychomotricity," modules within the "Course for operators in nature-based experiential educational projects. Theoretical and methodological tools for educational practices based on contact with nature" organized by Natura in Movimento within the SILVA project (innovative systems laboratories for environmental enhancement), in Fabriano (AN).

OCTOBER 2022 - 7h

"Body communication and outdoor play with a psychomotor gaze," as part of a series of three training meetings called "The outdoors as an educational care setting in emergency: methodological insights for conducting Philosophy for Children practices and psychomotor and outdoor play practices" (edited by A. Gigli, M. Scarpini and C. Borelli), organized with the Siped group of Emergency Pedagogy, for Ravanusa.

MAY 2022 - 3h

"Welcoming homogenous families," together with A. Gigli, addressed to nursery educators and preschool teachers in the province of Reggio Emilia.

MARCH-APRIL 2022 - 12h

"Managing the classroom, supporting the development of self-regulation," aimed at municipal preschool teachers, Verona.

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2021 - 12h

"Cues from the Reggio Emilia approach," aimed at state preschool teachers, in Bordighera. NOVEMBER 2019 - 12h

"Minecraft in Education," aimed at state elementary school teachers, Modena. FEBRUARY-MARCH 2019 - 8h

"**Tools for Special and Inclusive Teaching,**" aimed at state elementary school support teachers and educators, Modena.

DECEMBER 2018-APRIL 2019 - 12h

"Cues from the Reggio Emilia approach," aimed at state preschool teachers, in San Remo. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018 - 12h

Other professional experiences

Psychomotorist/Il Tappo di sughero – Arbusto Blu APS

Co-leadership of indoor and outdoor educational and preventive psychomotricity pathways aimed at groups of children between 3 and 11 years old, at II Tappo di Sughero, Parma. The paths also involve accompanying families through group restitution meetings and individual consultations upon request.

2021 - 2023

Psychomotricist/Coop. Soc. Quadrifoglio - A.G.I.O. Project - Preschools of the Municipality of Bologna

Psychomotricity courses, both indoor and outdoor, at municipal preschools in Bologna as part of the A.G.I.O. project.

2021

Support teacher/State elementary school "Don Milani" (IC7 Modena)

Support teacher, specifically supporting a student with autism.

2017-2019

Teacher/Preschool "Zeta" (Cresci@amo Foundation, Municipality of Modena)

Tenured preschool teacher, also participating in a European project in the UK (Vital - Erasmus+). 2014-2017

Support teacher/Equal preschool "La Madonnina," Modena

Support teacher, specifically supporting a pupil with autism.

2013-2014

Tutor for DSA students/Secondary Schools - Province of Reggio Emilia

Coaching in the study of students/staff with Specific Learning Disorders.

2012

Abroad volunteering

Volunteer experience abroad in education:

- -2 months in a school for working children in Peru (2012)
- -1 month in educational projects in Burkina Faso: teacher training, street education, literacy classes (2014)
- -1 month in educational projects in Burkina Faso: starting a preschool, teacher training (2017) 2012-2017

Soft skills

interpersonal and communication skills - Organizational skills - Teamwork - Conflict management - Public speaking - Coordinating work groups - Writing projects, minutes, reports

Technical and digital skills

- Office package (of different types: Microsoft, Mac, Open Office...);
- Various uses of the Internet (research, document sharing, creating surveys, etc.);
- Sending/receiving and managing emails and pecs;
- Main social networks;
- Management of preset institutional sites;
- Bibliographic searches through online databases;
- Basic calculations with data analysis software Jamovi and TLab Plus;
- Graphic layout of posters/brochures/documents...;
- Rapidity in keyboarding;
- Transcription of audio files;
- Driver's license;
- Versatile manual skills.

Language skills

- Italian Mother tongue.
- English excellent level (TOEFL Certification level C2 of CEFR, obtained in 2015).
- French good level in reading, sufficient level in oral comprehension and production.
- Spanish good level in reading, sufficient level in oral comprehension and production.