

Curriculum Vitae

Paola Vernillo

Biosketch

I am a research fellow at LILEC as part of the 2021 ERC project “ABSTRACTION: Unlocking meaning from experience through language”. I have participated in national and international projects, including MODELACT (MIUR – Futuro in Ricerca 2012), IMPAQTS (PRIN 2017), MetaphAN (MUR – AlmaIdea 2022), and EPICA (PRIN 2022). I also served as Principal Investigator (PI) for the project “How about metaphors for dinner? A digest of metaphorical conceptualizations in pro-ana communities” (RaAM Research Grant 2022). I am a member of the “R. Carati” Experimental Linguistics Laboratory (LLiS) (FICLIT, University of Bologna). My research falls within the cognitive approach to the study of language and focuses on the role of metaphors in the representation of abstract concepts, with particular attention to verbal semantics in metaphorization processes.

Personal Data

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Education

PhD in Philology, Italian Literature, and Linguistics (curriculum in Linguistics), 32nd cycle, University of Florence (double degree with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; PhD in Humanities), with the distinction of *Doctor Europaeus*. Dissertation: “*Metaphors and actions: an image-schematic approach to the analysis of Italian action verbs’ semantics.*” Supervisors: Prof. Alan Cienki (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam); Prof. Alessandro Panunzi (University of Florence). Date of defense: 1 July 2020.

Master’s Degree (Laurea Magistrale) in Modern Philology (curriculum in Italian Linguistics and Digital Humanities, LM-14), University of Florence. Date: 12 October 2015.

Bachelor’s Degree (Laurea Triennale) in Modern Literature (L-10), University of Naples Federico II. Date: 12 July 2012.

Academic Positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, **ERC project “ABSTRACTION: Unlocking Meaning from Experience through Language”** (ERC 2021; Prof. Marianna Marcella Bolognesi). Period: 1 June 2025 – 31 May 2026.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, **ILC – CNR, PRIN project “EPICA – Empowering Public Interest Communication with Argumentation”** (PRIN 2022; Dr. Irene Russo). Period: 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2025.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, project “*Semantic Biomarkers of Anorexia Nervosa*” (AlmaIdea 2022 – MetaphAN; Prof. Gloria Gagliardi). Period: 1 October 2022 – 31 May 2024.

Research collaborator, **PRIN project “Implicits and Persuasive Strategies in Political Discourse: Annotation and Analysis of the IMPAQTS Multimedia Corpus”**, in collaboration with Università Roma Tre (Prof. Edoardo Lombardi Vallauri).

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Università degli Studi di Firenze, **PRIN project “Implicits and Persuasive Strategies in Political Discourse: Annotation and Analysis of the IMPAQTS Multimedia Corpus”**, in collaboration with Roma Tre University (Prof. Edoardo Lombardi Vallauri). Period: 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2022.

Research Fellow, Università degli Studi di Firenze, project “*Metaphorical and Marked Uses of Italian Action Verbs: Classification of IMAGACT Corpus Occurrences and Relations with Primary Variation*” (Prof. Massimo Moneglia). Period: 1 February – 31 July 2016.

Funding, Awards, and Scholarships

Research Mobility Grant (Marco Polo Programme), Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, 1 March – 31 May 2024 (approx. €3,450).

Best Research Project Award (with Prof. Gloria Gagliardi), RaAM – Researching and Applying Metaphor. Project title: “*How about metaphors for dinner? A digest of metaphorical conceptualizations in pro-ana communities, 2022*”, (approx. £2,000).

PhD Scholarship (November 2017 – November 2019), Università degli Studi di Firenze (approx. €36,000).

Research Grant (February – July 2016), Università degli Studi di Firenze (€6,000).

Visiting

Research stay, 1 March – 31 May 2024, Universität Zürich (UZH); Supervisor: Prof. Moritz Daum.

Research stay, 26 June – 31 August 2019, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU); Supervisor: Prof. Alan Cienki.

Research stay, 1 February – 23 July 2018, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU); Supervisor: Prof. Alan Cienki.

Linguistics Schools

LOT Summer School 2019, 1–12 July 2019, Utrecht University, Utrecht.

Metaphor Lab Amsterdam Winter School 2018, 21–26 January 2018, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam.

CARLA Summer School 2018 (limited enrollment), 6–10 August 2018, Institute of Cognitive Science, Osnabrück University, Osnabrück.

Metaphor Lab Amsterdam Winter School 2017, 22–27 January 2017, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam.

SIT 2017 – TRIPLE Laboratory (limited enrollment), Lexical expansions: New words, new formats, new meanings, 13–17 February 2017, Università Roma Tre, Rome.

Other Research Experiences

Internship at Dr. Wolf s.r.l., Florence (data collection and annotation of action verbs), December 2015 – March 2016.

Publications

International Journals (peer-reviewed)

Vernillo, P. & Bolognesi M. (in preparation). The Role of Specificity in Metaphor Evaluation: Behavioral Evidence from Italian Predicate Metaphors.

D'Angelo, M. & Vernillo, P. (in preparation). Corpi che parlano, voci che pesano: un'analisi secondo il metodo MIP delle metaforizzazioni dell'anoressia nervosa in un contesto terapeutico italiano.

Russo, I. & Vernillo, P. (under review). Seeing the Unsaid: Visualizing English Idioms with Text-to-Image Generation Models. *Acta Linguistica Academica* (Special Issue).

Hinrichs, N., Foradi, M., Lorenzi, A., Vernillo, P., Viridiano, M., Belcavelo, F., Torrent, T. & Czulo, O. (submitted). Eyes on the Prize: a Frame-Semantic Gaze at Referents of Action. *Language and Cognition*.

Vernillo, P. (2023). MIP-IT: Identificazione delle metafore linguistiche in italiano. Una proposta preliminare, tra questioni teoriche e problemi pratici. *AION* ("Annali del Dipartimento di Studi letterari, linguistici e comparati. Sezione linguistica"), 12, 345–382.

Cacioli, C. & Vernillo, P. (2023). How did you break that? Semantic Boundaries of Italian and English action verbs encoding breaking events. *Languages in Contrast*, 23(1), 93–120.

Bolognesi, M. & Vernillo, P. (2019). How abstract concepts emerge from metaphorical images: The metonymic way. *Language & Communication*, 69, 26–41.

Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

Bolognesi, M. & Vernillo, P. (in print). Abstraction Through Metaphor: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives. In: Laura Speed, Stefan Hartmann (eds.). *Handbook of Language and Cognition*.

Vernillo, P. & Gagliardi, G. (in print). Parlare "pulito". Analisi metaforica delle biografie linguistiche del corpus CHISONO. In: Serenella Baggio, Fabio Ardolino (eds.). *Chi siamo, come ci raccontiamo*. Università degli Studi di Trento, Trento.

Gagliardi, G. Vernillo P. & Donati M. (2025). Metaphors and Anorexia Nervosa: a Pilot Study on Pro Recovery Italian Accounts. In Maria Roccaforte (a cura di). *La comunicazione parlata/Spoken Communication Roma 2023 - I venti anni del GSCP*, Aracne, Roma, 666 – 675.

Donati M. & Vernillo P. (2024). La linguistica dei corpora nell'era dei Social Media: le nuove sfide poste da TikTok. In: Maya Miličević Petrović, Simone Mattiola (eds.). *CLUB Working Papers in Linguistics*, vol. 8.

Vernillo, P. (2021). Grounding abstract concepts in action. The semantic analysis of four Italian action verbs encoding force events. In: Mingya Liu, Lucas Bechberger (eds.). *Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application*. Springer series "Language, Cognition, and Mind", 167–194.

Panunzi, A. & Vernillo, P. (2019). Metaphor in action. Action verbs and abstract meaning. In: Marianna Bolognesi, Gerard J. Steen (eds.). *Perspectives on Abstract Concepts. Cognition, language and communication*. John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 215–237.

Edited Volumes

Gagliardi, G. & Vernillo, P. (2023). IPAN – Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Anorexia Nervosa: Book of Abstracts. Bologna: Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna – Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies. URI: <https://amsacta.unibo.it/id/eprint/7248>.

Conference Proceedings (peer-reviewed)

Baroni, P., Bistarelli, S., Fazzinga, B., Fellin, G., Flesca, S., Furfaro, F., Giacomini, M., Parisi, F., Proietti, C., Russo, I., Santini, F., Taticchi, C., Vernillo, P. (2025). Empowering Public Interest Communication with Argumentation - Project Report. In: Mario Alviano, Bettina Fazzinga (eds). 9th Workshop on Advances in Argumentation in Artificial Intelligence (AI³ 2025). <https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-4025/short2.pdf>.

Russo, I., Taticchi, C. & Vernillo, P. (2025). AVAPla: A Tool for Supporting Public Interest Communication via Computational Argumentation. In: Mario Alviano, Bettina Fazzinga (a cura di). 9th Workshop on Advances in Argumentation in Artificial Intelligence (AI³ 2025). <https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-4025/short4.pdf>.

Donati, M., Polidori, L., Vernillo, P. & Gagliardi, G. (2023). Building a corpus on Eating Disorders from TikTok: challenges and opportunities. In: Federico Boschetti, Gianluca E. Lebani, Bernardo Magnini, Nicole Novielli (eds.). CLiC-it 2023 Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics, CEUR WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS, vol. 3596. <https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3596/short10.pdf>.

Vernillo, P., Donati, M. & Gagliardi, G. (2023). Metaphors and anorexia nervosa: a research study on TikTok recovery accounts. In: Gloria Gagliardi, Paola Vernillo (eds). IPAN "Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Anorexia Nervosa, pp. 47–48. URI: <https://amsacta.unibo.it/id/eprint/7248>.

Vernillo, P. (2019). The role of the image schemas in the analysis of the semantic variation of action verbs. Data from IMAGACT. In: Oliver Kutz, Maria Hedblom (eds). Tricolore 2018. Creativity-Cognition-Computation. Bozen-Bolzano, 13 – 15 dicembre 2018. [ISSN: 1613-0073].

Vernillo, P. & Panunzi, A. (2017). Analisi della variazione marcata di verbi di azione generali ad alta frequenza nell'italiano parlato. In: Anna De Meo, Francesca Dovetto (eds). La comunicazione parlata. Spoken Communication. Napoli, 13 – 15 Giugno 2016. Aracne Editrice, Roma, 469–489. [ISBN: 978-88-255-2064-4].

Linguistic Resources

Donati, M., Vernillo, P., Polidori, L., Gagliardi, G. (2023). RAC - Recovery from Ana/Anorexia Corpus, ILC-CNR for CLARIN-IT repository hosted at Institute for Computational Linguistics "A. Zampolli", National Research Council, Pisa".

Donati, M., Vernillo, P., Polidori, L., Gagliardi, G. (2023). PAC - ProAna/Anorexia Corpus, ILC-CNR for CLARIN-IT repository hosted at Institute for Computational Linguistics "A. Zampolli", National Research Council, Pisa".

Technical Reports

Baroni, P., Bistarelli, S., Fazzinga, B., Fellin, G., Flesca, S., Furfaro, F., Giacomini, M., Parisi, F., Proietti, C., Russo, I., Santini, F., Taticchi, C., Vernillo, P. (2025a). Deliverable 1.2: Technical report on conceptual analysis, use cases and requirements. Technical report.

Baroni, P., Bistarelli, S., Fazzinga, B., Fellin, G., Flesca, S., Furfaro, F., Giacomini, M., Parisi, F., Proietti, C., Russo, I., Santini, F., Taticchi, C., Vernillo, P. (2025b). Empowering Public Interest Communication with Argumentation - Project Overview. Technical report.

Baroni, P., Bistarelli, S., Fazzinga, B., Fellin, G., Flesca, S., Furfaro, F., Giacomini, M., Parisi, F., Proietti, C., Russo, I., Santini, F., Taticchi, C., Vernillo, P. (2025c). Deliverable 2.1. Technical report on new models dealing with the properties of interest in a PIC context. Technical report.

Baroni, P., Bistarelli, S., Fazzinga, B., Fellin, G., Flesca, S., Furfaro, F., Giacomini, M., Parisi, F., Proietti, C., Russo, I., Santini, F., Taticchi, C., Vernillo, P. (2025d). Deliverable 3.3: Technical report and scientific publications describing the analysis of PIC case studies. Technical report.

Ad-hoc Reviewer for Academic Journals

Psychological Research [ISSN: 0340-0727 | E-ISSN 1430-2772] (2026).

Review of Cognitive Linguistics [ISSN: 1877-9751 | E-ISSN 1877-976X] (2026)..

Discourse Processes, Taylor & Francis. [ISSN: 1532-6950] (2025).

Text & Talk. An Interdisciplinary Journal of Language, Discourse & Communication Studies, De Gruyter Mouton. [ISSN 1860-7330] (2025).

DIVE-IN – An International Journal on Diversity and Inclusion, Dipartimento LILEC dell'Università di Bologna, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna. [ISSN 2785-3233] (2025).

Volume Miscellaneo di Studi Dipartimentali, Dipartimento di Lingue e Culture Moderne, Università di Genova (2024).

Folia Linguistica, De Gruyter Mouton. [ISSN: 0165-4004] (2023-2025).

Language Resources and Evaluation, SpringerNature. [ISSN: 1574020X] (2023).

Editorial assistant for *CHIMERA, Revista de Corpus de Linguas Romances y Estudios Lingüísticos* [ISSN: 2386-2629] (2020-2022).

Italiano LinguaDue [ISSN: 2037-3597] (2021).

Review of Cognitive Linguistics [ISSN: 1877-9751 | E-ISSN 1877-976X] (2020).

Lingua [ISSN: 0024-3841] (2019).

Conference Organization and Service on Scientific Committees

Member of the Scientific Committee, “**PhD CLUB**”, 4 June 2024, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna.

Member of the Scientific Committee, “**The Seventh Image Schema Day**”, 20th International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (KR 2023), 2–4 September 2023, Rhodes,

Co-organizer and Member of the Scientific Committee, **IPAN “Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Anorexia Nervosa**”, 26 May 2023, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, Bologna.

Co-organizer and Member of the Scientific Committee, **CARLA 2022, “Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application**”, 22–24 August 2022, HU Berlin.

Member of the Scientific Committee, “**The Sixth Image Schema Day**”, 20–21 January 2021.

Co-organizer, Moderator, and Member of the Scientific Committee, **CARLA 2021, “Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application**”, 16–17 September 2021 (online event).

Session Moderator (invited): “Metaphors and Religion” **Metaphor Festival 2018**, 30 August – 1 September 2018, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam.

Conference Attendance and Presentations

Invited Speaker

Le metafore multimodali: teorie, analisi e applicazioni educative - Giornata di studi, “How to Break the Ice, Rendered: Visualizing Idioms with Generative AI”, 13 April 2026, Reggio Emilia, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (invited by Prof. Annamaria Contini).

Forms of Embodiment International Conference on Language, Mind, Image, and Mediation, “Embodiment Beyond Concreteness: Specificity as a Missing Dimension of Metaphor Quality,” 18–20 May 2026, Messina, University of Messina (invited by Dr. Valentina Cuccio).

Oral Presentations

6th Experimental Pragmatics in Italy Conference - **XPRAG.it 2026**, 24-25 September 2026, Genova; Oral presentation (pending acceptance; with Marianna Bolognesi): “How does language-mediated abstraction affect metaphor quality? Verb specificity and lexical frequency as predictors of metaphor ratings in Italian predicate metaphors”.

SALC10 — Language, Cognition and Learning, June 23–25, Umeå, Sweden; (with Marianna Bolognesi): “The long journey of specificity. How a neglected variable became a predictor of metaphor goodness.”

RaAM Seminar – Metaphor in vitro: from texts to brains, June 16–17, Pavia, Italy; (with Marianna Bolognesi): “Under the Microscope: The Impact of Specificity on Metaphor Quality.”

9th Workshop on Advances in Argumentation in Artificial Intelligence (**AI³ 2025**), 13 September 2025, Rende, Italy; Oral presentation (with Irene Russo and Carlo Taticchi): “AVAPla: A Tool for Planning and Supporting Public Interest Communication via Computational Argumentation.”

Circolo Linguistico dell’Università di Bologna, **Club Day 2025**, “The Method in Linguistic Research: Challenges and Solutions,” 19 June 2025; Oral presentation (with Irene Russo): “Illustrating Meaning: Using Text-to-Image Models for Visual Representation of Idiomatic Expressions.”

8th Workshop on Advances in Argumentation in Artificial Intelligence (**AI³ 2024**), 28 November 2024, Bolzano, Italy; Oral presentation (with Pietro Baroni, Stefano Bistarelli, Bettina Fazzinga, Giulio Fellin, Sergio Flesca, Filippo Furfaro, Massimiliano Giacomini, Francesco Parisi, Carlo Proietti, Irene Russo, Francesco Santini, and Carlo Taticchi): “Empowering Public Interest Communication with Argumentation – Project Overview.”

Circolo Linguistico dell’Università di Bologna, **Club Day 2023**, “The Method in Linguistic Research: Challenges and Solutions,” 29 June 2023; Oral presentation (with Melissa Donati): “Corpus Linguistics in the Era of Social Media: New Challenges Posed by TikTok.”

UkCLC Conference (online event), 27–29 July 2020; Oral presentation (with Rossella Varvara): “Semantic Similarities and Action Events: An Image-Schematic Approach to the Linguistic Categorization of Action Space.”

SLE Conference (online event), 26 August – September 1, 2020; Oral presentation (with Rossella Varvara): “The Linguistic Categorization of Actions: An Image-Schematic Approach.”

“**New Perspectives in Metaphor Research** – researching metaphor – cognitive and other – autour de la métaphore – au-delà de l’approche cognitive”, 13–15 May 2019, University of Genoa; Oral presentation: “Metaphors in Action.”

12th Conference of **RaAM** – the Association for Researching and Applying Metaphor, 27–30 June 2018; Hong Kong Polytechnic University; Oral presentation: “The Action Roots of Abstract Concepts.”

Metaphor Festival '18, 30 August – 1 September 2018, University of Amsterdam; Oral presentation (with Marianna Bolognesi): “How Are Abstract Concepts Represented in Visual Metaphors? Towards a Metonymy-Based Account.”

“TriCoLore 2018 - C3GI - ISD – SCORE”, 13–14 December 2018, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano; Oral presentation: “The Role of Image Schemas in the Analysis of Semantic Variation of Action Verbs: Data from IMAGACT.”

Metaphor Festival 2017, 31 August – 2 September 2017, University of Amsterdam; Oral presentation: “Grounding Metaphorical Concepts in Action.”

Metaphor Festival Amsterdam 2016, 31 August – 3 September 2016, University of Amsterdam; Oral presentation (with Alessandro Panunzi): “Action Verbs and Metaphor Processes: Data from the IMAGACT Ontology of Actions.”

GSCP 2016, 13–15 June 2016, University of Naples Federico II; Oral presentation: “Marked Variation of Action Verbs in Spoken Language: Metaphoric and Phraseological Uses.”

Advances in Metaphor Studies, 20–22 May 2016, University of Genoa; Oral presentation (with Alessandro Panunzi): “Metaphor in Action: How Action Verbs Encode Abstract Meanings.”

Posters

LIX Congresso internazionale **SLI** – I dati nelle scienze del linguaggio, 10 – 12 September 2026, Bologna, Italy; Poster (with Marianna Bolognesi): “Dalla distinzione teorica alla variabile osservabile: la specificità lessicale nel giudizio metaforico”.

Psycholinguistics in Flanders (PiF), 12–13 May 2026, Pavia, Italy; Poster (with Marianna Bolognesi): “Specificity and Concreteness in Metaphor Evaluation: Behavioral Evidence from Italian Predicate Metaphors.”

GSCP, 8–10 June 2023, Università di Roma “La Sapienza”; Poster (with Gloria Gagliardi e Melissa Donati): “Metafore e Anoressia Nervosa: uno studio su comunità italofone pro-ana”.

IPAN “Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Anorexia Nervosa”, 26 May 2023, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna; Poster (with Gloria Gagliardi e Melissa Donati): “Metaphors and anorexia nervosa: a research study on TikTok recovery accounts”.

CARLA - Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application (online event), 16–17 September 2021; Poster (with Caterina Cacioli): “Breaking Events: Semantic Categorization of Action Concepts in English and Italian. Focus on the Metaphorical Potential of Action Verbs.”

CARLA - Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application, 11–12 August 2018, Osnabrück University; Poster: “Grounding Abstract Concepts in Action.”

MODELACT Conference, 6–7 June 2016, CNR, Rome; Poster: “Marked Annotation of High-Frequency General Action Verbs.”

Invited Research Seminars

Seminar (Research Colloquium), “**Metaphors and Anorexia Nervosa: Theory, Methods, and Applications**”, 14 March 2024, Universität Zürich (UZH).

Seminar, Language, Use, and Cognition Research Group (VU), “**Metaphorization Processes in Italian and English Action Verbs**”, 5 March 2018, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

Seminar, Metaphor Lab Amsterdam, “**The Action Roots of Abstract Concepts**”, 12 June 2018, Universiteit van Amsterdam.

LABLITA seminar, “**Processi metaforici nei verbi di azione: dati dal corpus IMAGACT**”, 25 May 2016, Università degli studi di Firenze.

LABLITA seminar, “**Studio sulla variazione marcata di 15 verbi generali ad alta frequenza**”, May 2015, Università degli Studi di Firenze.

Invited Teaching Seminars

Master’s seminar, “**Visual Metaphors: From MIP to VISMIP**”, 23 March 2026, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Master’s in Italian Language and Culture for Foreigners).

Master’s seminar, “**Metaphors in Language: From MIP to MIPVU**”, 23 February 2026, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Master’s in Italian Language and Culture for Foreigners).

Master’s seminar, “**Figurative Meanings in the Visual World**”, 2 and December 2025, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (online lecture).

Master’s seminar (with Caterina Cacioli), “**How Did You Break That**”, 25 November 2025, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Master’s in Data, Methods, and Models for Linguistic Sciences and Master’s in Italian Language and Culture for Foreigners; course: “Lexical Theory”).

Master’s seminar “**Storia clinica della metafora: profilo linguistico dell'Anoressia Nervosa**”, 21 March 2025, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Laurea Magistrale in Dati, metodi e modelli per le scienze linguistiche, FICLIT).

Master's seminar, **"Figurative Meanings and Visual Communication"**, 3 and 6 December 2024, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (online lecture).

Master's seminar, **"Metaphors and Other Tropes in the Visual Mode"**, 28 November and 1 December 2023, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (online lecture).

Master's seminar, **"Azioni, metafore e image schema"**, 13 October 2023, Università degli Studi di Firenze.

Master's seminar, **"The Power of Metaphor"**, 29 November and 2 December 2022, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (online lecture).

Crash course di Semantica, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, Master di I livello in Linguistica Clinica (2022).

Crash course di Pragmatica, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, Master di I livello in Linguistica Clinica (2022).

Master's seminar, **"The Power of Metaphor"**, 30 November 2021, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (online lecture).

Doctoral seminar, **"Il significato linguistico tra cognizione e corporeità: modelli sperimentali e statistico-computazionali"** (with prof. Alessandro Panunzi), 9–17 June 2021, Università degli Studi di Firenze (lezione online).

Master's seminar, **"The Power of Metaphor"**, 27–29 November 2019, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

Master's seminar, **"Metafore e multimodalità: le metafore visuali"**, Laurea Magistrale in Comunicazione, 15 December 2017, Università degli Studi di Firenze.

Outreach and Public Engagement

Science communication event with short film screening "Certe brutte compagnie" and Round table on EDs (**Project "BEN-Benessere e Nutrizione"**); 25 November 2025, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna.

Science communication seminar, **"Alimentare la cultura: metafore per vivere il corpo"**, 30 October 2025, Recovery College Unibo.

Science communication event, "Bright Night", Aspettando la Notte Europea dei Ricercatori, **"Che broccolo sei? Le campagne pubbliche per l'incremento del consumo di frutta e verdura tra argomentazione e persuasione"**, 26 September 2025, ILC-CNR.

Science communication event (invited), "AperiScienza", Aspettando la Notte Europea dei Ricercatori, **"In-verso. Le metafore dell'anoressia nervosa"**, 6 September 2023, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna.

Science communication event (with Gloria Gagliardi e dr. Jacopo Pruccoli) for the **dissemination of the MetaphAN project** (in collaboration with Centro regionale per i disturbi della Nutrizione e dell'Alimentazione, IRCCS-ISNB Istituto delle Scienze Neurologiche, Bologna), Istituto di Istruzione Superiore "I.P.C. Manfredi - I.T.C. Tanari", Bologna, 31 March 2023.

Teaching Activity

Adjunct Lecturer in General Linguistics (9 ECTS, 60 hours), Block C, Bachelor's Degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Modern Cultures, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (2022 - 2025).

Teaching Assistant (Cultrice della Materia) in General Linguistics (L-LIN/01), University of Florence (2021 - 2022).

Tutor in General Linguistics (9 ECTS), Block D, Bachelor's Degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures, in collaboration with Prof. Marianna Bolognesi, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Modern Cultures, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (2020 - 2023).

Undergraduate/Graduate Thesis Supervision

Sara Soldera: "All's Fair in Love and Poetry: Poetic Metaphors of LOVE in English Poetry" (2025).

Ileana Cailotto: "“Basta! Non voglio più farmi controllare da una vocina dentro la mia testa”. Analisi esplorativa delle espressioni linguistiche metaforiche con cui gli utenti pro-recovery narrano l'anoressia nervosa su TikTok" (2025).

Adele Loia: "The Words of the Body: Metaphors and Self-Narration in the Recovery from Anorexia Nervosa" (2025).

Federica Mattedi: "Metafora e politica: analisi delle strategie persuasive nel discorso di Marine Le Pen" (2025).

Ludovica Polidori: "Progetto E-COO: Caratteristiche acustiche dell'eloquio di bambini con disturbo dello sviluppo della coordinazione motoria (DCD)" (2023).

Federica Russo: "Linguaggio, azione e cognizione: implicazioni delle prospettive Embodied Cognition nei processi cognitivi legati al linguaggio" (2023).

Alessia Veronesi: "Speech Sound Disorders in età evolutiva e lingue d'Italia: l'influenza della variazione diatopica sulle manifestazioni dei disturbi" (2023).

Alice Braschi: "Prospettive della comunicazione non-verbale: dal gesto alla lingua dei segni" (2023).

Maria Pia D'Angelo: "Applicazione MIP a produzioni verbali di pazienti affetti da anoressia nervosa". Il caso della docuserie RAI *Fame d'amore*" (2023).

Marianna Ceravolo: “Una proposta metodologica: speaker profiling” (2023).
Valentina Saladino: “Le funzioni esecutive e il linguaggio” (2022).
Gaia Bianchi: “Il ruolo del gesto nell’acquisizione del linguaggio” (2021).
Gianna Marchi: “Analisi del messaggio pubblicitario: storia, semiotica e strategie” (2021).
Ilaria Brandolini: “La comunicazione nel mondo animale” (2021).

Membership in Scientific Societies

AixIA, Associazione Italiana per l’Intelligenza Artificiale (2024).
SLI, Società di Linguistica Italiana (2023).
RaAM, Researching and Applying Metaphor (2022).
SLE, Societas Linguistica Europaea (2020).
RaAM, Researching and Applying Metaphor (2018)
SLI, Società di Linguistica Italiana (2016).

IT Skills

Tools and Work Environments: Operating systems: Windows, macOS; Office suites: Microsoft Office, OpenOffice;
Academic writing and typesetting: LaTeX

Linguistic Data Analysis and Management: Statistical analysis in R (mixed-effects models; corpus analysis);
Annotation and analysis of linguistic and multimodal data (ELAN, WebAnno); Corpus management and querying
(Sketch Engine)

Experimental Design and Data Collection: Design of online experiments and surveys (Qualtrics); Data collection via
crowdsourcing platforms (Prolific)

Language Technologies and Modeling: Ontology management (IMAGACT); Prompt engineering for LLMs and
text-to-image generative systems

Languages

Italiano: **Native**
English: **Proficient**
French: **Basic**

Pisa, 24 April 2026