

# Selenia Anastasi

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## Personal webpage

<https://seleniaanastasi.github.io/mysite/>

## Academic Positions

- March 2026 - ongoing **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, in *Computational Social Science*, National *FIN2* project: *eDetox - Deconstructing antisocial behaviour and toxic communication online*, **University of Bologna**, Department of Political and Social Sciences.
- January 2026 - March 2026 **External Scientific Advisor**, *PRIN* project: *EUQuest: Questioning the EU. Politicisation, representation, ad agenda setting in the European Parliament*, **University of Catania**, Department of Political and Social Sciences.
- December 2024 - December 2025 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, in *Sociology of Cultural and Communication Processes*, *PRIN-PNRR* project: *CORIT - Countering online radicalization and incivility in Italy*, **University of Rome "La Sapienza"**, Department of Communication and Social Science Research (CORIS).

## Education

- 2021 - 2024 **International PhD**, in *Digital Humanities*. Curriculum: *Languages, Culture and Digital Technologies*, Università degli Studi di Genova, Department of Languages and Modern Cultures.  
*Summa cum laude*
- 2021 **Master**, in *Digital Humanities*, Università degli Studi di Catania, Department of Humanities.  
*Summa cum laude*
- 2019 **Bachelor**, in *Languages and Communication Sciences*, Università degli Studi di Catania, Department of Humanities.

## Relevant Research Themes

**Visual and transnational studies on online toxicity**  
**Research methods in the Digital Humanities**  
**Digital Ethnography**  
**Language and Sexuality/Gender**  
**NLP and Formal Ontology**

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## PhD Dissertation

- July 2025 **Misogyny beyond borders: A Cross-Linguistic Corpus Assisted Analysis of Transnational Incel Communities.** The study introduces and analyses the multilingual and multimodal corpus IDA - Incel Data Archive, designed to support comparisons across platforms and languages. Through a mixed-methods approach, such as topic modeling, keyword extraction, collocation analysis and netnography, I analyse discursive patterns in the representation of gender and ideology in the two communities of incels.is and Forum dei Brutti (FDB). By conceptualising online misogyny as a glocal phenomenon – globally coherent and locally adapted – this study provides insights into the structural mechanisms of gender-based violence in digital environments and the socio-technical systems that sustain them.

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## PhD Supervision

- April 2026 **Auxiliary Supervisor of the PhD candidate Agnieszka Włodarska, Doctoral School of Social Sciences, University of Warsaw.** Title of the dissertation: Manosphere in Poland and Italy. Analysis of a new social problem from the perspective of failure studies

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## Teaching experience

- January 2026 **Internship coordinator: Jean Monnet Chair EuDARe in European**  
- March 2026 **Politics** Traineeship coordinator for the activities at the Department of Social and Political Sciences. Supervised and mentored students during their mandatory degree placements.
- October 2023 **Internship coordinator: social media corpora annotations** Traineeship  
- July 2024 at the Department of Languages and Modern Cultures. Supervised and mentored students during their mandatory degree placements.
- October 2023 **Lecturer: Computational Linguistics and machine translation** course  
- February 2024 at the Department of Languages and Modern Cultures. *In charge: Prof. Ilaria Torre and Simone Torsani.*
- February 2023 - June 2023 **Lecturer: Computational Linguistics and machine translation** course  
at the Department of Languages and Modern Cultures. *In charge: Prof. Ilaria Torre and Simone Torsani.*
- February - September 2022 **Lecturer: Computer Science** course at the Department of Languages and Modern Cultures. *In charge: Prof. Ilaria Torre and Prof. Gianna Reggio.*

## Publications

### Books and Books Chapters

- 2025 Giaufret, A. & **Anastasi, S.** Injustice épistémique: quelle représentation dans les publications scientifiques au Québec? Du Québec-bashing à Idle No More. In M. Porciello, G. Borghi, & E. Errico (Eds.), *La conoscenza negata. Marginalità e oppressione epistemica nelle Americhe* (pp. 189–232). America e Americhe. Roma: Aracne. ISBN 979-12-218-1934-2.
- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, Fischer, T., Schneider, F., & Biemann, C. IDA–Incel Data Archive: a multimodal comparable corpus for exploring extremist dynamics in online interaction. In L. Cotgrove, L. Herzberg, & H. Lungen (Eds.), *Digital Linguistics*. De Gruyter (Open Access).
- 2024 **Anastasi, S.** Afterwords to D. Zuckerberg, *Non tutti i maschi bianchi morti: Classici e misoginia nell’era digitale* (Italian translation of *Not All Dead White Men: Classics and Misogyny in the Digital Age*, Harvard University Press, 2018), p. 238. Torino: SuiGeneris. ISBN 978-8894848519.
- 2019 **Anastasi, S.** *Verificare di essere umani. Per una teoresi del Transumanesimo*. Acireale: Lekton Edizioni. ISBN 978-88-944492-1-1.

### Journals and Proceedings

- Forthcoming* **Anastasi, S.**, Challenges in Building Multilingual Comparable Corpora in the Context of the Global Manosphere: An Interdisciplinary Analytical Framework. *Special Issue: Computer-Mediated Communication Corpora*, Language@Internet (Open access publication).
- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, & Fragalà, N. “Tinder is overrated”: Neoliberal affective economies in an Italian incel forum. In *Proceedings of CMC2025: 12th Conference on Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC) and Social Media Corpora*, University of Bayreuth (Germany), 4–5 September 2025.
- 2025 **Anastasi, S.** Book review of T. McEnery & V. Brezina (2022), *Fundamental Principles of Corpus Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. *Journal of Corpora and Discourse Studies*, 9(2), 56–63. <https://doi.org/10.18573/jcads.154>.
- 2024 **Anastasi, S.** Annotating the IDA corpus: Misogynistic and sexist content in two transnational incel communities. In C. Poudat & M. Guernut (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 11th Conference on CMC and Social Media Corpora for the Humanities (CMC 2024)*. Nice (France): CORLI; Université Côte d’Azur.
- 2024 **Anastasi, S.**, Schneider, F., Fischer, T., & Biemann, C. VIDA–Visual Incel Data Archive: a theory–oriented annotated dataset to enhance hate detection through visual culture. In *Proceedings of the 8th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH)*, co-located with NAACL, 20 June 2024, Mexico City (Mexico).
- 2024 **Anastasi, S.** Genere e geopolitica nelle discipline umanistiche digitali in Italia (2012–2023). In *Proceedings of the 13° Convegno Annuale AIUCD*. Catania (Italy).

- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Fischer, T., Schneider, F., & Biemann, C. IDA–Incel Data Archive: a multimodal comparable corpus for exploring extremist dynamics in online interaction. In *Proceedings of CMC2023: 10th Conference on Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC) and Social Media Corpora*. Mannheim (Germany).
- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, & Zolezzi, D. Breaking the canvas: a serious game to challenge stereotypes in visual culture through fine arts. In E. Carbé, G. Lo Piccolo, A. Valenti, & F. Stella (Eds.), *La memoria digitale: forme del testo e organizzazione della conoscenza. Proceedings of the XII Convegno Annuale AIUCD* (pp. 315–321). Siena (Italy). ISBN 978-88-942535-7-3.
- 2022 **Anastasi, S.**, De Domenico, A., & Nicolosi-Asmundo, M. EGITH—Engendering Data: an ontology for the representation of gender in cultural heritage. In R. Damiano, M. Striani, S. Ferilli, & G. Silvello (Eds.), *CEUR Workshop Proceedings: 1st Italian Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Cultural Heritage (AI4CH22)*, co-located with the 21st International Conference of the Italian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AIXIA 2022), 28 November 2022, Udine (Italy).
- 2022 **Anastasi, S.**, De Domenico, A., & Nicolosi-Asmundo, M. GenderedOnto-Comedy: towards a gendered representation of female characters in Dante’s *Commedia*. In F. Ciraci, G. Miglietta, & C. Gatto (Eds.), *Proceedings of the XI Conference AIUCD. Quaderni di Umanistica Digitale*, pp. 71–73. <https://doi.org/10.6092/unibo/amsacta/6848>.
- 2020 **Anastasi, S.** L’altra storia. Cartografare la postumanità. *Futuri—Rivista italiana di Future Studies*, 14, 49–61.
- 2020 **Anastasi, S.** Abitare lo schermo: la distanza sociale nell’era dell’iperconnessione. *Vita Pensata*, 23, 16–22.
- 2020 **Anastasi, S.**, & Biuso, A. G. Beyond ethics: an anthropocentric approach to artificial intelligence. *Rivista Internazionale di Filosofia e Psicologia*, 11(2), 251–258.
- 2020 **Anastasi, S.** Creature e creatori: linee di fuga e r-esistenze natural-culturali. *Vita Pensata*, 21, 5–10.

## Presentations

### Invited talks

- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, lecture for the study day on "Violences de genre en ligne: comprendre, mesurer, agir", **Cergy Paris Université**, Maison de la recherche SHS Annie Ernaux, Paris. 15 October 2025.
- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, Gender and sexuality in time of crisis: the discursive construction of gender in social media communication. Academic lecture at "Agonality in Times of Crisis: Linguistic and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Current Socio-Political Discourse", hosted by **Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (HHU)**, 21-25 July. Official website: <https://agonality.phil.hhu.de/>.

- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, Misogyny beyond borders. Studying Extremist Discourses using Cross-Linguistics CADS. Academic seminar at Zgodovina na Špici / History on the Edge cycle, hosted by **Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana (SL)**, 6 April. Official website: <https://shorturl.at/r8Fqy>.
- 2025 **Anastasi, S.**, Who is afraid of Redpill Women? Exploring intra-divisional misogyny and internalised oppression on Social Media. Academic talk at OLINDINUM: Observatoire LINGuistique du DIscours NUMérique seminar cycle, hosted by **Université de Lille**, 7 March. Official website: <https://shorturl.at/BuKcR>.
- 2024 **Anastasi, S.**, Barbie does wish to be a computer engineer, but Mattel does not. Mediated representation of Gender and Technology. Academic lecture organized by Prof. Federica Timeto, hosted by **University of Venice Ca' Foscari (IT)**, 24 April.
- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Feminist Digital Humanities and the Semantic Web. Towards an integrated research agenda, at: Semantic Web, Cultural Heritage, and Art Historical Knowledge: Conceptual Models, Ontologies, and Epistemological Implications. Workshop organized by Prof. Nuria Ròdriguez-Ortega, hosted by **University of Màlaga and Museo Picasso Màlaga**, 27-28 March.
- 2020 **Anastasi, S.**, Physis and Technè. From New Prometheus to Transhumanism. Co-organized with Ass. Prof. Fabio Grigenti at **University of Padova**, 9 January.
- 2019 **Anastasi, S.**, On Animals, Women and Machines. Natural-cultural resistances. Guest speaker at: Zoophthora - The exploitation and destruction of animals, Summer School, 4-5 September, **University of Milan**.
- 2019 **Anastasi, S.**, Biuso, A.G., What is Human Enhancement? On *cyborgs*, **Scuola Superiore di Catania, University of Catania**.

#### Peer-Reviewed conference presentations

- 2026 **Anastasi, S.**; Formato, F., The Southern Question in *Il Forum dei Brutti* in Italy: a CADS-DHA investigation. Oral presentation at *Corpora and Discourse International Conference 2026, 23-25 June 2026, Lancaster University, Lancaster (UK)*.
- 2026 Pilati, F; **Anastasi, S.**; Lavorgna, A., Top-Down, Bottom-Up, and Cross-Pollination Dynamics of Health Misinformation in Italian Telegram channels. Oral presentation at *The 24th Annual STS Conference Graz 2026 - Critical Issues in Science, Technology and Society Studies (STS Graz 2026), 4-6 May 2026, TU Graz – Graz University of Technology Science, Institute of Human-Centred Computing, Austria*.
- 2025 Boccia Artieri, G., Righetti, N., Rega, R., **Anastasi, S.** Toxicity e fringe democracy: manipolazione, polarizzazione e amplificazione algoritmica. Oral presentation at *VII Convegno della Società Scientifica Italiana di Sociologia, Cultura, Comunicazione, 19-20 June, University of Cagliari (Italy)*.

- 2025 **Anastasi, S.** From Girls to #Thatgirls: Popular feminism and the representation of femininity on TikTok. Poster presentation at *Corpus Linguistics International Conference, 30th June - 3rd July, co-organised by Aston University, Birmingham City University and the University of Birmingham. (UK)*.
- 2024 Bordon, D., Gorjanc, V., **Anastasi, S.** Narratives of a Nation. The Discourse of National Unity and Division in the Slovene Parliament. Oral presentation at *25 Sociolinguistics Symposium, 24-27 June 2024, hosted by Curtin University, Perth (Australia)*.
- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Schneider, F., Fischer, T., Biemann, T., Unraveling the incelosphere aesthetics: Memes and visual culture across the Italian and the English-speaking incel communities. Oral presentation at *1° Cultural Data Analytics Conference 2023 (CUDAN), 13-17 December 2023, hosted by Tallin University, Tallinn (Estonia)*.
- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Fischer, T., Schneider, F., Biemann, C., IDA – Incel Data Archive: a multimodal comparable corpus for exploring extremist dynamics in online interaction. Oral presentation at *CMC2023: 10th Conference on Computer-Mediated Communication and Social Media Corpora, 14 - 15 September 2023, hosted by Mannheim University, Mannheim (Germany)*.
- 2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Zolezzi, D., Breaking the Canvas. A Serious Game to challenge stereotypes in Visual Culture through Fine Arts. Oral presentation at *12° Annual Conference of AIUCD, 5 - 7 June 2023, hosted by University of Siena (Italy)*.
- 2022 **Anastasi, S.**, De Domenico, A., Nicolosi-Asmundo, M., Egith – Engendering Data. Steps Towards an Ontology for the Representation of Gender in Cultural Heritage. Oral presentation at *2nd Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Cultural Heritage, co-located with the 21nd International Conference of the Italian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AIxIA 2022), 28 November - 2 December 2022, Udine (Italy)*.
- 2022 **Anastasi, S.**, De Domenico, A., Nicolosi-Asmundo, M. GenderedOntoComedy. Toward a Gendered Representation of Female Characters in the Dante’s *Commedia*. Oral presentation at *11° Annual Conference of AIUCD, 1-3 June 2022, hosted by University of Salento (Italy)*.
- 2022 **Anastasi, S.**, I am not like all the other girls. Femcel, Pink-pilled and Women in the Incel Communities. A Qualitative Analysis of the Italian Il Forum dei Brutti. Oral presentation at *28th Lavender Language and Linguistics Conference, 23-25 May 2022, hosted by University of Catania (Italy)*.
- 2021 **Anastasi, S.**, De Domenico, A., Nicolosi-Asmundo, M. GenderedOntoComedy. Toward a Gendered Representation of Female Characters in the Dante’s *Commedia*. Oral presentation at *FOUST V, 5th Workshop on Foundational Ontology, 13 September 2021, part of FOIS 2021, the 12th International Conference on Formal Ontology in Information Systems, Università di Bolzano (Italy)*.

2021 **Anastasi, S.**, Venuti, M., Giordano, D., Transformer-based Topic Modelling. Towards a re-evaluation of Topic Modelling in Critical Discourse Analysis. Oral Presentation at *Corpus Linguistics International Conference, 13-16 July 2021, University of Limerick and Mary Immaculate College (UK)*.

2021 **Anastasi, S.**, Inhabit the screen. Social Distancing in the Hyper-connected Era, Oral presentation at *New Materialist Informatics Conference, 23-25 March 2021, University of Kassel (Germany)*.

#### Conference presentations without peer review

2023 **Anastasi, S.**, Feminist Digital Humanities and the Semantic Web. Towards an integrated research agenda. Oral presentation at *Arts and Humanities in Digital Transition, 6 - 7 July 2023, hosted by Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, NOVA Institute of Communication, Lisbon, (Portugal)*.

2022 **Anastasi, S.**, No Documents, No Past? Il problema della conservazione della memoria storica delle donne dentro e attraverso le opere letterarie. Oral presentation at *PhD Conference: Past, History and Memory in Language and Literary Studies, 23-25 June 2022, hosted by University of Verona (Italy), Verona*.

#### Peer-review activities

2025 *AI and Ethics*, Springer Nature

2025 *Journal of Men's Studies*, Sage

2025 *Mind the AI-GAP 2025: Co-Designing Socio-Technical Systems*, Pisa (Italy)

2024 *Journal of Posthuman Studies: Philosophy, Technology, Media*, Penn State University Press

2024 *Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference 2024*, University of Brighton

#### Language skills

##### English

C1 level *Cambridge Advanced*

#### Technical Skills

Natural language processing Python Libraries: NLTK, Spacy, Gensim, BERTopic, Pandas, Numpy.

Database Microsoft Access, Microsoft PowerBI (Basics), Protégé.

Web Development Quarto; Google Sites; WordPress; Canva.

Markup Languages XML/XML-TEI; R and RStudio; Markdown.

Semantic Web and Ontologies RDF, RDFSchema, OWL 2.

Text editors LateX, OverLeaf, Microsoft Office and Libre Office.

Corpus management tools SketchEngine, No-SketchEngine, LancsBoxX, WMatrix, AntConc, D-WiSe Tool.

Annotation tools IncepTion, Label Studio, UamCorpusTool6.

Repository GitHub: <https://github.com/SeleniaAnastasi?tab=repositories>.

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## Other

2026 Development of EuQuest project website, University of Catania.

2024-ongoing Social Media Manager and member of the non-profit organisation Salmastra (Catania, Italy): <https://www.salmastra.org>.

2021-2024 Student Representative of the PhD in Digital Humanities (37th cycle), University of Genoa.

2021-2024 Responsible for website content and development of the Website of the Doctoral School in Digital Humanities, University of Genoa.

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## Visiting

March 2025-May 2025 **Visiting Scholar (fully funded)** at *Institute of Contemporary History*, Ljubljana (SL). - Supervisors: Prof. Vojko Gorjanc and Ksenija Bogetić Pejović, PhD. Official webpage: <https://inz.si/en/gostujoci-raziskovalec/selenia-anastasi-visiting-fellowship-2024-25/>..

April 2024-June 2024 **Visiting PhD Student** at *Centre for Transforming Sexuality and Gender*, School of Humanities and Social Science, University of Brighton (UK). - Supervisor: Federica Formato, PhD (Senior Lecturer in Linguistics).

October 2022-March 2023 **Visiting PhD Student (with Fellowship)** at *Language Technology Group*, Dept. of Informatics, MIN Faculty, Universität Hamburg (DE). - Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Chris Biemann (Head of the Language Technology Group).

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## Grants

2019 **Grant** Erasmus+ Youth Pass, TAKE Part, *Transnational Activities for Key Digital Skills* at Italian Institute for the Future, Naples.

2020 **Grant** Erasmus+ at Ghent University, Belgium. (Interrupted due to the Corona virus pandemic).

2021 **Grant** Erasmus+ Traineeship at *Language Technology Group*, Dept. of Informatics, MIN Faculty, Universität Hamburg (referee: Prof. Dr. Chris Biemann).

2021 **Grant** Scholarship for deserving students enrolled in the Academic year 2020/2021 at the *University of Catania* at the Master's Course in Digital Humanities (LM-43).

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## Events organization and service

May 2024 Board Member – Doctoral Symposium in Digital Humanities, University of Genoa (Italy), 20-21 May 2024

- May 2022 Committee Member – 28th Lavender Language and Linguistics Conference, University of Catania (Italy), 23-25 May 2022
- September 2022 Committee Member – XXX AIA Conference: "Experiment and innovations: branching forwards and backwards", University of Catania (Italy), 15-17 September 2022

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## Summer Schools

- September 2025 Digital Humanities Summer School 2025: Data, gender and society, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg (Germany), *Department of Digital Humanities and Social Science Studies*, 22 – 26 September 2025.
- August 2024 Summer School of Linguistics - SSoL2014, České Budějovice (Czech Republic) 17 - 24 August 2024.
- June 2023 Lancaster Summer School in Corpus Linguistics: Corpus linguistics for analysis of language, discourse and society, *Lancaster University*, 26 - 30 June 2023.
- May 2023 Helsinki Digital Humanities Hackathon 2023, *University of Helsinki* (Finland) 24 May - 2 June 2023. Research output: <https://www.helsinki.fi/assets/drupal/2023-06/dhh23-disc-poster-comp1.pdf>.
- May 2023 CLS INFRA Training School: Digging for Gold: Knowledge Extraction from Text, Madrid (Spain) 9 - 11 May 2023.

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## Dissemination

- 2025 **Woman-in-the-loop**: a Spotify podcast on gender and digital culture.
- 10 October 2023 **Against Hate Speech Day**: Educational activities about Hate Speech online, through and beyond texts. *In charge: Nora Gattiglia, PhD.*
- 6 October 2023 **Genova Book Pride**: Laboratory with elementary and high schools: Voglio fare l'astronauta!. Educational activities about gender gaps in work environments at Genova Book Pride 2023. *In charge: Prof. Alessandro Castellano.*
- 20 March 2021 **Milano Digital Week**: Interview with Andrea Daniele Signorelli, author of the book *Technosapiens*, D-Editore, 2021.

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## Non-academic internships

- January - March 2021 Industrial stage at Neodata Group: development of a tool for Emotion Detection in social media contents (PATHOS).
- September - December 2020 Academic stage at Perceive Lab - Pattern Recognition and Computer Vision Lab at the Department of Computer Engineering and Intelligent Systems, University of Catania.
- 2017 - 2018 Social Media Manager and Copywriter of Radio Lab Catania.
- 2016 Stage at Villaggio Maori Edizioni S.p.a.: book editing and proofreading.

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## Referee

- 1 **Federica Formato**, Senior Lecturer. School of Humanities and Social Science, Centre for Transforming Sexuality and Gender, University of Brighton (UK)

- 2 **Chris Biemann**, Full Professor of Computer Science and Language Technology. Head of the Language Technology group at Universität Hamburg
- 3 **Anita Lavorgna**, Assistant Professor of Sociology of Law and Deviance. University of Bologna, Department of Social and Political Sciences.