



YLENIA CAPUTO

P.H.D.,
RESEARCH FELLOW
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

CONTACTS

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KEY SKILLS

- Educational & Cultural Communication
- Academic Publishing & Dissemination
- Project Coordination
- Event organization & stakeholder engagement

LANGUAGES

- Italian (native speaker)
- English C1
- French A1

IT SKILLS

- WordPress
- OJS (Open Journal Systems)
- Photoshop
- Basic SEO
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

SHORT BIO

I am a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Adjunct Professor in the Department of the Arts at the University of Bologna (Italy), where I teach Celebrity Cultures. I also serve as Adjunct Professor at CIELS - Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici in Padua, where I teach Film History.

My research is situated within media studies – spanning cinema, television, and digital cultures – with a specific focus on celebrity culture and transgenerational perspectives. I am the author of several essays and of the monograph *Italian Gen Z Celebrity. L'analisi delle celebrità teen nella produzione audiovisiva italiana contemporanea* (2024).

I am a member of the Italian Girlhood Studies Research Network (GIRL'S EYE VIEW), the Italian Research Network on Celebrity Culture (INC), and the International Research Centre Culture, Fashion and Communication (CFC). I am also Journal Manager of the A-rated academic journal *ZoneModa Journal* and editor for the A-rated academic journal *Cinergie*.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, QUVI DEPARTMENT, ITALY

NOVEMBER 2019 - JULY 2023

PhD in Science and Culture of Well-being and Lifestyles, University of Bologna, XXXV cycle

Dissertation: *Italian Gen Z Celebrity. Teen Celebrities in Contemporary Italian Audiovisual Production: Reconfigurations, Communicative Models, Classifications.*

Supervisor: Prof. Roy Menarini

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS, ITALY

SEPTEMBER 2016 - MARCH 2019

MA in Cinema, Television and Multimedia Production (CITEM)

Thesis: *Beyond Stereotypes (?) Gender Representations in Contemporary American Sitcoms.*

Final grade: 110/110 cum laude

Supervisor: Prof. Claudio Bisoni; co-supervisor: Prof. Luca Barra

UNIVERSITY OF SALENTO (LECCE), ITALY

SEPTEMBER 2013 - NOVEMBER 2016

BA in Communication Sciences

Thesis: *The Female Initiatory Journey: Gendered Narrative Structures in Contemporary Cinema and Television Seriality.*

Final grade: 110/110 cum laude

Supervisor: Prof. Luca Bandirali

TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA (ITALY) - DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

Adjunct Professor

Celebrity Cultures (6 ECTS - 30 hours)

CIELS UNIVERSITY, PADUA (ITALY)

ACADEMIC YEARS 2023/2024, 2024/2025 - ONGOING

Adjunct Professor

Film History (6 ECTS - 36 hours)

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA (ITALY) - DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS

JUNE 2024 - AUGUST 2026

Research Fellow (PRIN PNRR 2022 project "CELEBR-AGE: Ageing Celebrity in Contemporary Media and Sport Contexts: A Model of Social and Cultural Well-being.")

- Research and academic writing on ageing in media and sports celebrity culture
- Content creation, communication strategy, and research dissemination
- Coordination of internal workflows and liaising with project partners and stakeholders
- Contribution to the planning and organization of public events, workshops, and outreach activities

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA (ITALY) - DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS

SEPTEMBER 2023 - JUNE 2024

Research Fellow (Project "Culture, Fashion, Communication, Media: New Research Strategies" - International Research Centre Culture, Fashion, Communication)

- Research on Gen Z cultures, media trends, fashion, television, cinema, and social media
- Dissemination activities through seminars, public talks, and academic events
- Publications related to youth cultures, media industries, and contemporary celebrity and fashion studies

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA - DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS

2023 - NOVEMBER 2025

Teaching Tutor

- Coordination of the annual academic calendar and scheduling for four undergraduate and graduate degree programmes.
- Developing strong organizational and project management skills, ensuring the efficient delivery of academic services and continuous support to faculty and students.

EDUCATIONAL PROJECT AGISCUOLA EMILIA-ROMAGNA

2023 - 2025

Project Coordinator and Teacher

- Coordination of educational and workshop activities addressing gender representations in film and television
- Design and management of the project website "Le Parole dello Sguardo".
- Teaching (video lessons and labs), liaison with schools and institutional partners.

CULTURAL EVENTS AND FESTIVAL

LA SETTIMA ARTE CINEMA E INDUSTRIA - RIMINI

Project Coordinator & Communication Consultant (2020-ongoing)

In charge of organizational planning, content development, guest relations, and institutional communication.

IL CINEMA RITROVATO - BOLOGNA

Project and Content Assistant (2018-2023)

Support in event planning, coordination and audience engagement; content creation for promotional and editorial materials (catalogues, programs, web); liaison with guests, volunteers and institutional partners.

PUBLICATIONS

- Caputo, Y. (2025). "Rai Fiction Teen Series for Mainstream Channels: Programming and Production". In *Contemporary Italian Youth Television*, Barra, Luca, Danielle Hipkins, Cathrine O'Rawe e Dana Renga (edited by). London: Palgrave Macmillan. pp. 95-107.
- Caputo, Y. (2025). "Eternal Youth. Gymnasts, Ageing and Body Narratives across Sport, Media and Post-Career Trajectories." In Mascio, Menarini, Pesce and Tirino (eds.), *Celebr-AGE: Celebrity and Ageing in Media and Sports Contexts* (*Mediascapes Journal*, open access).
- Caputo, Y. (2024). *Italian Gen Z Celebrity. L'analisi delle celebrità teen nella produzione audiovisiva italiana contemporanea*. Milano - Udine: Mimesis, Collana Cinergie.
- Caputo, Y. (2024). "Ridurre le distanze. La Generazione Z e l'immagine divistica italiana ai tempi dei social media". In *D'inchostro, d'argento, di pixel. Rapporto tra parola e fotografia nel mondo dell'immagine*, Casero, Cristina e Federico Marzi (eds.). Postmedia Books.
- Caputo, Y. (2022). "Brand New Social Life: Forms and Practices of Self-Promotion of Italian Teen Celebrities during the Pandemic". *Cinergie - Il Cinema E Le Altre Arti*, 11(21), 85-101. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2280-9481/14259>.
- Caputo, Y. and F. Piancazzo (2021). 1951: "The First Italian High Fashion Show. Conference Report and Interview to Neri Fadigati". *ZoneModa Journal*, 11(1), 125-131. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2611-0563/13198>.
- Caputo, Y. (2020). "We Are Who We Are: Futuristic Teen Agers". *ZoneModa Journal*, 10(2), 147-148. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2611-0563/11958>.
- Caputo, Y. (2020). "Together at Home. Il culto delle celebrità ai tempi del Coronavirus". *ZoneModa Journal*, 10(1), 143-147. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2611-0563/11352>.

Forthcoming:

- Caputo, Y. "The Vulnerable Body: Illness Narratives of Female Actors in the Afterlife of Stardom". In Menarini, Roy, Ylenia Caputo e Simona Castellano (eds.), *Celebrity and Post-Career - The Renegotiation of Celebrity Capital in the Post-Career Era between Media Narratives, Self-Representation Practices and Audience Perceptions*. Mimesis International.
- Mascio, A., Caputo, Y. "From 'Smarmella' to 'F4 - Basito': Boris as a Cultural Reference for Generation Z." In Teti & Caputo (eds.), *Boris - la fuoriserie italiana*.
- Caputo, Y. "Alice Pagani"; "Gabriel Garko"; "Viola". In *Atlante dell'erotismo nel cinema italiano*, Federico Zecca, Gabriele Landrini e Giovanna Maina (eds.). Milano: Mimesis.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Bologna, October 2025 - "Bella così. The Mediated Construction of the 'Famous Body' and Ageing in Italian Fashion and Lifestyle Magazines (2020-2024). Conference: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Italian Audiovisual Media.
- Bologna, September 2025 - The Vulnerable Body: Narratives of Illness in Post-Career Female Celebrity. Conference: The Older, the Better! Ageing Celebrity in Contemporary Media and Sport Contexts.
- Gorizia, July 2024 - Emerging Voices: The Cultural Metamorphosis of Italian Television through Second-Generation Narratives and Identities. Conference: Work and Play: Studying the Labour of and Around Acting in Contemporary European Cinema.
- Salerno, March 2024 - From "Smarmella" to "F4 - Basito": Boris as a Cultural Reference for Generation Z. Conference: Boris - Il convegno: The Sitcom, the Media and Italian Society.
- Bologna, December 2023 - I Don't Care about Being Cool, I Care about Having Fun. The White Lotus, Sabrina Impacciatore and the Transnational Circulation of Italian Female Stardom. Conference: Italian Na(rra)tives. The International Circulation of Brand-Italy Through Media (PRIN 2017).
- Sassari, October 2023 - Fashioning Afrodescendancy. Representations of Afrodescendant Italian Film Celebrities in Fashion Magazines (with Nadica Maksimova). Conference: FAScinA Annual Forum.
- Montréal, May 2023 - Exporting Teen-oriented Italianity: RAI and the Mare fuori Case. CAIS Annual Conference.
- Rome, June 2022 - Second-generation Italians. New Celebrities in Netflix Italian TV Series. Third International Conference - Italian Cinema and Media.
- San Marino, May 2022 - And Just Like That... Women Aged, Queered, and (Do Not?) Apologize. International Conference - Media and Gender.
- Bologna, October 2021 - The State of Celebrity Studies in Italy. Round table on celebrity culture research.
- Bologna, June 2021 - Young and Authentic. Skam Italia, a New Standard for the Teen Genre. International Conference - Fashion Tales.
- Bologna, May 2021 - ASK ME A QUESTION. Italian Teen Celebrities Between Authenticity and Fiction. International Conference - Celebrity and Crisis.
- Parma, November 2020 - Celebrity and Teen Studies in Italy: Methods, Challenges and New Perspectives. CUC Doctoral Workshop.

CURATORIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Conferences and Workshops

2025 - Co-curator of the following events within the PRIN PNRR 2022 project CELEBR-AGE:

- The Older, The Better! Ageing Celebrity in Contemporary Media and Sport Contexts (Bologna, 15-17 September).
- Celebrity, Ageing and Media Narratives Between Sports and Entertainment (Salerno, 31 March - 1 April).

2024 - Co-curator of the workshop Celebr-età (Bologna, 17 October).

2021 - Collaborated in organising the international conference Celebrity and Crisis, Celebrity in Crisis (Bologna-Rimini, 11-13 May).

Co-curator of the round table CELEBRITY. Themes and Research on Celebrity Culture in Italy (Bologna, 29 October).

Volumes

- Menarini, Roy, Ylenia Caputo and Simona Castellano (eds.) (forthcoming), *Celebrity and Post-Career - The Renegotiation of Celebrity Capital in the Post-Career Era between Media Narratives, Self-Representation Practices and Audience Perceptions*. Mimesis International.
- Teti, Marco and Ylenia Caputo (eds.) (forthcoming), *Boris - la fuoriserie italiana. Media Cultures, Transgenerational Imaginaries and Reflections on Italian Society*. Avanguardia 21 Edizioni.
- Martin, Sara, Roy Menarini and Ylenia Caputo (eds.) "Fashioning Masculinities. The Art of Cinematic Menswear." *ZoneModa Journal* 14(1), July 2024.

EDITORIAL ROLES

ZONEMODA JOURNAL

(2020 - ongoing)

Journal Manager

CINERGIE

(2020 - ongoing)

Editorial Assistant

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

University of Exeter (UK)

Visiting PhD researcher (September-Dicember 2022)

Supervisor: Professor Danielle Hipkins