

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Federica Cavicchio



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Orcid: 0000-0002-2795-8396

Nationality: Italian

EDUCATION

November 2006- March 2010

PhD in Cognitive and Brain Sciences

CIMEC (Interdepartmental Center for Mind/Brain Science), University of Trento (IT)

- Computational modelling of language and cognition
- Advanced statistical analysis
- Experiment design, programming and managing
- Data annotation

WORK EXPERIENCE

December 2020-ongoing

Associate Professor and Principal Investigator of the project “From the brain to the voice: teaching methods and techniques for the phonological learning of second languages in the classroom”, financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF 2014-2020).

Department of Human Studies, University of Salento (IT)

- Experimental studies (online and in the classroom) on the phonetic acquisition of English as a second language (L2) by native Italian speakers (high school students) with a variety of training methods (e.g., high variability phonetic training)
- Statistical analysis (mostly multilevel models) on the data collected
- I am designing an application that helps students' identification of L2 phonemes

August 2018-November
2020

Scientific consultant

TELUS int.

- Development of an automatic grammatical error correction software
- Annotation supervision for a Computer-Assisted Language Learning system
- Annotation supervision for an automatic translation software

May 2017- May 2018

Postdoctoral researcher, project “Encoding meaning in a second language: the role of gestures and prosody”.

Language and Communication Lab, Università degli Studi di Padova (IT)

- Experimental studies on the improvement of second language fluency following different typologies of in-class training
- Preparation of training stimuli and in class experiments programming and managing

- Statistical analysis (longitudinal analysis)
- Manuscripts preparation

August 2014 – April 2017

Post-doctoral researcher in the ERC Project “The Grammar of the Body (GramBy)”

Sign Language Linguistic Lab, Department of Linguistics-University of Haifa (IL)

- Supervision and collection of a corpus of pictures portraying athletes after victory or defeat
- Supervision of emotion annotation
- Training of a statistical model for multimodal emotion recognition
- Design of experimental studies on the perception and recombination of emotional displays and empathy
- Preparation of stimuli and experiments programming and experiment managing
- Statistical analysis (multilevel data)
- Manuscripts preparation

June 2011- June 2014

Marie Curie Fellow, PI of the project “CoByGest: Concepts beyond Words: Speech and gestures use in Italian/English Bilinguals”

School of Psychology, University of Birmingham (UK)

- Design of experimental studies on the perception and production of gestures and speech in English/Italian bilinguals
- Experiments programming and managing
- Statistical analysis (multilevel data)
- Manuscripts preparation

April 2010-May 2011

Post-doctoral researcher, project LiveMemories (active digital memories of collective life)

Department of Cognitive Science and Psychology, University of Trento (IT)

- Data annotation supervisor for coreference resolution in online texts
- Design of experimental studies on linguistic and visual information salience
- Experiments programming and managing
- Statistical analysis (multilevel data)
- Manuscripts preparation

EXTERNAL FUNDINGS ACQUISITION

December 2020: PI of the project “From the brain to the voice: teaching methods and techniques for the phonological learning of second languages in the classroom”, European Regional Development Fund (ERDF 2014-2020): (250.000 euros)

March 2014: Co-Pi of the project “Motion Tracking System for Body of Grammar Extraction”. The Caesarea Edmond Benjamin de Rothschild Foundation for Interdisciplinary Application of Computer Science (CRI) (100.000 shekels, in collaboration with D. Feldman and W. Sandler, University of Haifa).

December 2010: Marie Curie fellowship co-funded by European Research Council (180.000 Euros)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

a/a 2022/2023: Linguistics 101, Department of Human Studies, University of Salento

a/a 2021/2022: Linguistics 101, Department of Human Studies, University of Salento

a/a 2017/2018: Nonverbal Communication, Master in Strategie di comunicazione, University of Padua.

2014/2015 and 2015/2016: Teaching assistant in Linguistics 101, University of Haifa.

a/a 2007/2008 and 2008/2009: Teaching Assistant in Human-Computer Interaction. Cognitive science, University of Trento.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue Italian

Other languages English: Written C2, Spoken C2, Listening Comprehension C2

Hebrew: Written A2, Spoken B1, Listening Comprehension B1

Analytics skills Advanced knowledge of frequentist statistics
Intermediate knowledge of Bayesian statistics

Programming skills R (advanced)
Python (intermediate)
Javascript (intermediate)
Regex, linux and bash shell (advanced)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Cavicchio, F. (accepted). Guidelines and recommendations for second language pronunciation teaching. *Formazione & Insegnamento*.

Cavicchio, F. & Busà, M. G. (accepted). Lending a Hand to Speech: Gestures Help Fluency and Increase Pitch in Second Language Speaker. *Language, Interaction and Acquisition*.

Cavicchio, F. (2021). Causality influences speech about manner of motion in Italian. *Lingue e Linguaggi*, 46. <https://doi.org/10.1285/i22390359v46p25>

Uryupina, O.; Artstein, R., Bristot, A., **Cavicchio, F.**, Delogu, F., Rodriguez, K. J., & Poesio, M. (2020). Annotating a broad range of anaphoric phenomena, in a variety of genres: The ARRAU corpus. *Journal of Natural Language Engineering*.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1351324919000056>

Cavicchio, F., Dachkovsky, S., Leemor, L., Shamay-Tsoory, S., & Sandler, W. (2018). Compositionality in the language of emotion, *PLoS One*,13,8, e0201970,2018, Public Library of Science. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0201970>

Cavicchio, F., Melcher, D., & Poesio, M. (2014). The Effect of Linguistic and Visual Salience in Visual World Studies. *Frontiers in Language Studies. Frontiers in Psychology, Language Science*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00176>