



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
**Teachers of Italian**

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**AATI 2025  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
April 25-27, 2025**



*Princeton University*



# American Association of Teachers of Italian Executive Council

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## Message from the President



On behalf of the AATI Executive Council, Officers, and Conference Committee, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 AATI Annual Conference. We are especially honored to host this year's gathering at Princeton University. As you may have already noticed, the campus is both strikingly beautiful and steeped in history—its oldest buildings date back to 1756, the year the institution, then known as the College of New Jersey, relocated to Princeton. I hope you'll find a moment this weekend to stroll through the grounds, enjoy the surroundings, and reflect on the rich academic tradition that frames our discussions of research, pedagogy, and professional growth.

Over the next two and a half days, you'll have the chance to attend 50 sessions featuring more than 160 presenters. This year's program reflects a deliberate effort to represent the full breadth of our association's community—from undergraduate students and K–12 educators to advocates of the Italian language and culture. The schedule offers an impressive range of topics and approaches, ensuring that there's something to engage everyone.

We're also introducing several new elements this year, including a small but impactful digital poster session and an Advocacy Roundtable developed in collaboration with our colleagues at AAIS. This roundtable is part of a two-part initiative, the first of which took place at the AAIS conference earlier this year. Another initiative, first introduced last year, is our move away from printing physical copies of the program—an environmentally conscious decision aimed at reducing both our carbon footprint and operating expenses. Additionally, we invite you to support our sustainability efforts by returning your badge holders for reuse at the end of the conference.

This year's keynote experiences also reflect a refreshing departure from tradition, and we couldn't be more excited. On Friday evening, rather than a standard keynote lecture, we will host a hands-on workshop led by Noemí Rodríguez, founder of Lo Logramos Consulting, titled *Reading and Speaking with Purpose: Bridging Literacy and Oral Proficiency in Italian*. An award-winning educator who has worked across all instructional levels, Ms. Rodríguez previously led a virtual AATI workshop that received enthusiastic praise and left attendees eager for more.

Our second keynote address will be delivered by Jeffrey Schnapp, founder and faculty director of Harvard's metaLab. Dr. Schnapp also holds the Pesocolido Chair in Romance Languages and Comparative Literature at Harvard and is a widely respected scholar in the field of digital humanities. His talk, *Humanities Innovation (Now)*, speaks directly to the evolving challenges and opportunities in our field, offering critical insights for navigating an increasingly digital academic landscape.

As many of you know, organizing a conference of this scale is a tremendous undertaking, requiring the dedication of many volunteers and the support of outside contributors. I want to express my deep appreciation to Daniele De Feo, our Conference Committee Chair and VP of Colleges and Universities. In addition to his leadership role with AATI, Daniele is also a Princeton faculty member and has worked tirelessly to coordinate local logistics and academic programming. His efforts have been central to the success of this event.

Daniele's work has been supported by a devoted conference committee, co-led by Annalisa Mosca, who has served for three years as Vice-Chair and keeps all of us—myself included—on schedule and task. The rest of the

committee includes a remarkable group of AATI members: Barbara Bird, Daniela Dal Pra, Sara Mattavelli, Cristina Modica, Madga Novelli Pearson, Megan Tomlinson, and Melissa Wells. I also want to recognize the Executive Council for their continued guidance and support throughout the planning process. A special note of gratitude goes to our Treasurer, James Goetschius, whose behind-the-scenes work ensures that everything runs smoothly, to our Director of Communication, Sara Mattavelli, for keeping everyone regularly informed and updated, as well as creating all the graphics for this event, and to our former president, Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, for his ongoing willingness to answer questions and share insight.

Beyond the AATI, this event could not have happened without the help of key individuals and partners. We extend our sincere thanks to Francesca Casapietra, owner and chef at Pastiamo Pasta Bar & Café, who is responsible for the delicious food and coffee you'll enjoy throughout the weekend.

Speaking of coffee—please take note of the designated coffee breaks generously sponsored by our vendors. We encourage you to stop by the vendor hall, connect with sponsors, and explore what they have to offer.

In addition to Daniele, the conference committee, the Executive Council, and Francesca, I want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the staff and faculty at Princeton University who have worked tirelessly to make this conference possible. Their professionalism, attention to detail, and collaborative spirit have been invaluable. We are especially grateful to Kelly Eggers, Sena Hill, and the Department of French and Italian, for their essential contributions—many of which have taken place quietly in the background, often without recognition but critical to the event's success. Princeton University has been extremely supportive of this event and we would like to thank the Humanities Council and the Italian Studies Program for their generous support and sponsorship, making this conference possible. Because of them, we were able to have Chancellor Green be the main space for our keynotes and dinner.

Lastly, I want to thank each of you for your continued support of AATI. Whether through membership, financial contributions, committee work, organizing or presenting sessions, or simply attending this event, your involvement is vital. At a time when language programs, educators, and students face mounting challenges, your engagement with AATI's mission—to promote, support, and sustain the study of Italian language, literature, and culture—matters more than ever.

I wish you a stimulating, collegial, and memorable conference.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marina".



## AATI Conference Committee

**Chair** – Daniele De Feo

**Vice Chair** – Annalisa Mosca

Barbara Bird

Daniela Dal Pra

Sara Mattavelli

Cristina Modica

Madga Novelli Pearson

Megan Tomlinson

Melissa Wells

### *With Special Thanks to*

James Goetschius

M. Marina Melita

*and*

*for their generous sponsorship*



**Vista Higher Learning,**

*for its generous sponsorship of the undergraduate research session.*



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**Follow AATI on social media and tag us in your conference posts!**  
**Use #AATI2025**



[www.instagram.com/teachers\\_of\\_italian/](https://www.instagram.com/teachers_of_italian/)



[www.facebook.com/AATIofficial/](https://www.facebook.com/AATIofficial/)

## Thursday, April 24, 2025

### 8:00 pm Informal Meet & Greet (optional)

**Organizer:** AATI Conference Committee

**Location:** [Dinky Bar & Kitchen](#)

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## Friday, April 25, 2025

### 8:30 am Onsite Participant Check-in (On-going throughout the day)

*Main entrance of East Pyne Hall through the courtyard.*

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All rooms are located in East Pyne Hall (**EP**), Chancellor Green (**CG**), or Scheide Caldwell House (**SCH**). Click [here](#) for the campus map.

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### 9:00 – 10:30 am

#### **PEDAGOGY K-12: Workshop** (EP 010) ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS: IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE STATION-BASED ACTIVITIES IN THE LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

**Organizer & Presenter:** Concetta Fazio, Guilford High School

This workshop offers a practical, hands-on approach to implementing effective station-based activities. Participants will explore a variety of station formats designed to develop all facets of communication while fostering collaboration, independence, and creativity.

This session will delve into the logistics of setting up and managing successful stations, including strategies for grouping students, providing clear instructions, and ensuring accountability. We will explore ten different station models, each adaptable to various proficiency levels and language contexts. These models include:

- Interactive Activities
- Independent Practice
- Integrated Skills Work
- Creative Expression

Participants will receive practical tips for creating engaging station materials, incorporating technology, and assessing student learning. Leave this workshop with a toolkit of ready-to-use station activities and the confidence to implement this effective instructional strategy in your own classroom.

#### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:** (CG 103) TRAVELING THROUGH THE SOUTH: RACE, GENDER, AND ETHNICITY IN PETER FARRELLY'S GREEN BOOK

**Organizers & Chair:** Ryan Calabretta Sajder, University of Arkansas

- Alan Gravano, Rocky Mountain University, "Reassessing 'The Negro Travelers' Green Book in Green Book (2018) and Its Documentary Counterparts"

- Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas, “Queering Peter Farrelly’s Green Book: Place, Space, Travel”
- M. Marina Melita, Marist University, “Teaching The Green Book: A Toolkit for the University Classroom”

**CURRENT ISSUE IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: (CG 105) NON SOLO GONDOLE:  
INSEGNARE IL TERRITORIO NEI CORSI DI ITALIANO L2**

**Organizer & Chair:** Mary Jane Dempsey, SUNY Stony Brook and Valentina Fulginiti, Cornell University

- Claudia Domenici, University of Cambridge, “Language teaching and literature, a new approach”
- Irene Eibenstein-Alvisi, Cornell University, “Blogging Italy”
- Annemarie Lisko, University of Alabama, “‘Why are so many streets named ‘April 25’?’ Italian Geography, Toponymy, and Regional Diversity in the Elementary L2 Classroom”
- Chiara Trebaiocchi, Harvard University, “‘L’Italia sotto la cartolina’: Crafting Italian Narratives Through Collaborative Podcasting”

**LITERARY STUDIES /PEDAGOGY: (SCH 209) REVAMP ITALIAN LITERATURE COURSES**

**Organizer & Chair:** Sara Galli, Dickinson College

- Justyna Hanna Orzel, Uniwersytet Warszawski, Social and Emotional Learning e didattica accademica della letteratura contemporanea in lingua italiana in Polonia: strumenti e pratiche per un percorso di empatia.
- Carmen De Lorenzo, Michigan State University, Parole e Valori: Esplorare la Diversità con le Favole di Gianni Rodari
- Pietro Pesce, University of Arkansas, The Art of Being Human: Rediscovering Archetypes and Virtues through Italian Literature and Film

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**Coffee Break 10:30 - 11:00 am**

**Sponsored by:**



*Campus tour at 10:45: meeting point East Pyne Courtyard*

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**11:00 am – 12:30 pm**

**PEDAGOGY K-12: (CG 103) BUILDING TOWARDS THE AP ITALIAN EXAMINATION: SAMPLE DIDACTIC UNITS**

**Organizer & Chair:** Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas

- Serena De Candido, Somerset Academy, “Il legame tra il cibo e identità culturale”
- Cristina Modica, Maine South High School, “Using Authentic Materials in Building AP Units: Global Challenges and Contemporary Life”
- Domenico Ponziano, Toll Middle School and Hoover High School, “Vita contemporanea. Fattori che impattano la qualità della vita”
- James Goetschius, Northern Valley Regional High School, “Bentornat\*: Ferragosto as a Welcome Back AP Unit”

**PEDAGOGY K-12: (EP 010) TEACHING ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE THROUGH OPERA**

**Organizer, Chair and Presenter:** Monica Canetta, Medford High School

Learning about Italian Opera will add a powerful tool to a teacher’s classroom that will not only strengthen, but enrich the study and teaching of Italian at the middle and high school level. In order to fully appreciate the richness of Italian culture, knowledge about the Opera is important. This session will enable teachers to become familiar with six famous Operas so that they can teach these Operas to students and create cross-cultural connections in the classroom

**CULTURAL STUDIES: (SCH 209) CONSUMING ITALY: REPRESENTATIONS OF FOOD IN ITALIAN CULTURE**

**Organizer & Chair:** Daniele De Feo, Princeton University

- Daniela Viale, Muhlenberg College, “Learning Italian and Italian-American History Through Fenoglio’s *Ruin* and Verga’s *Black Bread*”
- Rosetta Giuliani-Caponetto, Auburn University, “Massimo Bottura’s Refettorio Remakes the Future through Stories of Food, People, and Places”
- Enza Antenos, Montclair State University, “Convivium: The Role of Food in the World of Brunello Cucinelli”

**CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: (CG 105) NAVIGATING L1 INFLUENCE IN L2 ACQUISITION: CROSS-LINGUISTIC TRANSFER AND PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Organizer & Chair:** Mohammad J. Jamali, University of Toronto.

- Andrea Civile, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, “Pragmatic Transfers in Request Formulation in University Contexts: Teaching Reflections Based on a Study Conducted in Brazil and Japan with Learners of Italian as a Foreign Language”



- Luís Miguel Brito, Stefania Gatta, Escola Superior de Hotelaria e Turismo do Estoril (ESHTE), “Teoria e complementi pratici nell'insegnamento della lingua italiana per le future guide turistiche”
- Mohammad J. Jamali, University of Toronto, “Lost in Translation: The Pitfalls of Word-for-Word Language Transfer”

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## Lunch 12:30 - 2:00 pm

**AATI SPECIAL SESSION:** (CG 105) SWAPSHOP POWER HOUR. A VOLTE RITORNA! IT'S BACK!

**Organizer:** AATI CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (12:30pm -1:30 pm)

**Chairs/Moderators:** Annalisa Mosca, Purdue University and Cristina Modica, Maine South High School

**Sign up for headcount required**

**K-12 teachers are strongly encouraged! University instructors are also encouraged!**

The AATI Swapshop is back. Come share and exchange a fun successful activity you habitually do in the classroom with your students. Activity presentations are strictly limited to a maximum of **1-3 minutes**. Anyone can participate in this activity exchange even if you are already presenting in a session, roundtable or workshop or also if you simply are a conference audience member. The more activities the better. No need to bring handouts, unless desired, as activities will be shared via an email list among this session's participants after the conference for all to share their activity with one another. K-12 teachers are encouraged to attend!

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## 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

**PEDAGOGY K-12: *Poster session*,** ( East Pyne Upper-Hypen) INNOVATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE ITALIAN CLASSROOM (on display for the afternoon)

**Organizer & Chair:** M. Marina Melita, Marist University

- Lauren Krause, Indian Trail Junior High, “Novice 1: Integrating Novels into the Italian World Language Classroom: A Comprehensive Approach to Italian Language Acquisition”
- Enrica Fracchia-Miller, Milwaukee Italian Immersion School & Victory K8, “La Close Reading come strategia di insegnamento della lingua italiana”
- Caroline Feibert, Northport Middle School, “Using Authentic Resources to Foster Communication”
- Francesca Biundo, Società Dante Alighieri of Michigan, “Sanremo nell'aula K-12: Ghali, un italiano vero!”

**PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM/ ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES: (CG 103)**  
**THE ECOLOGICAL TURN IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE PEDAGOGY**

**Organizer & Chair:** Gina Maiellaro, Northeastern University.

- Gina Maiellaro, Northeastern University, “Human, Non-Human and More-than-Human in the Italian Language Curriculum”
- Giuliano Migliori, The Ohio State University, “Greening our “Italian” discourses. Practices, cityscapes, and identities”
- Alessandra Saggin, Columbia University, “Sustainability issues in Italian Language Curriculum”
- Silvia Monteleone, Brandeis University, “Contemporary Art and Sustainability in the Italian Classroom”

**CULTURAL, CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES: (CG 105) RACCONTARSI IN MUSICA: L'AUTOBIOGRAFIA NELLA CANZONE ITALIANA - SESSIONE A**

**Organizer and Chair:** Gaspare Trapani, CECC/FCH Università Cattolica Portoghese, Lisbona

- Maria Arampatzi, Università degli Studi di Siena, “Luigi Tenco: un percorso autobiografico in musica”
- Lorenzo Cittadini, Università di Malaga, “Tradizione, traduzione e tradimento. Il “brigante” Eugenio Bennato si racconta”
- Nunzia De Falco, Università di Salerno, “Voce ‘e notte! Il pianto di Nicolardi nelle parole di De Giovanni”

**PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: (EP 111) RESOURCES FOR THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSROOM**

- Daniele Vecchiotti, Mondadori Education, “Che italiano hai in testa?”
- Elda Buonanno Foley e Daniela Bisello Antonucci, “Imparare l' italiano con i podcast”
- Iván Ferrero Ruiz, Klett, “Authentic Italian Resources to Enrich the Language-Learning Experience in High School”

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**Coffee Break 3:30 - 4:00 pm**

**Sponsored by:**



*Campus tour at 3:45: meeting point East Pyne Courtyard*

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**4:00 – 5:30 pm**

**PEDAGOGY K-12: Workshop (EP 010) AP ITALIAN ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

**Organizer:** Steven La Peruta, College Board

**Presenter:** Cristina Modica, Maine South High School

Teaching AP Italian can seem like a daunting task. Students need to possess an array of intermediate-advanced skills and proficiencies in order to excel in this capstone course. In addition to these communicative competencies, the AP course follows a distinct structure with which our students must become familiar to succeed.

This session will focus on integrating AP Italian strategies throughout the curriculum, effectively spreading the material across multiple years. By introducing AP concepts early, students can gradually build their skills and knowledge, making the transition to the AP level smoother and more manageable. The session will explore strategies for incorporating thematic units, authentic materials, and interactive activities from the outset, ensuring that students develop a deep and sustained understanding of the Italian language and culture over time.

**PEDAGOGY K-12: (EP 111) THE LANGUAGE OF ART: MERGING LANGUAGE LEARNING WITH ITALY’S ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL LEGACY**

**Chair:** Annamaria Monaco, Suffolk County Community College

- Annamaria Monaco, Suffolk County Community College, “Art and Teaching, Il Quarto Stato as a Key to Learning College Level – AP Italian”
- Teresa Clausi, Plainview Old Bethpage JFK High School, “Arte nella classe di Italiano AP: *La Monna Lisa: un capolavoro di Leonardo da Vinci*”
- Daniela Casadei-Berwind, Murphy Junior High, “L’arte come veicolo di apprendimento”

**CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: (CG 103) SHARING GOOD NEWS IN ITALIAN STUDIES**

**Organizers:** Tessa Gurney, University of Notre Dame and Samantha Civitarese, University of Notre Dame

**Chair:** Tessa Gurney, University of Notre Dame

- Kathleen Boyle, University of Notre Dame, “Bucking National Trends: Three Strategies for Raising Enrollment”
- Samantha Civitarese, University of Notre Dame, “Building a Strong Teaching Portfolio as a Graduate Student”
- Gina Mangravite, Scripps College, “(Dis)Ability & Italy: Towards an Inclusive Campus Environment”
- Tessa Gurney, University of Notre Dame, “Leveraging Education Abroad to Enrich the Italian Program”
- Eleonora Buonocore, University of Calgary, “Making a Positive Impact on Student Experience through Co-Curricular Activities. The Example of Il Circolino at the University of Calgary”

**ADVOCACY IN ITALIAN STUDIES: (CG 105) THE ITALIAN CLASSROOM IN CONTEXT: BRIDGING TEACHING WITH THE BROADER COMMUNITY**

**Organizers:** Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut; Alessandro Ceteroni, University of Connecticut; Monica Martinelli, University of Connecticut;

**Chair:** Monica Martinelli, University of Connecticut;

- Veronica White, Princeton University Art Museum, “A Shared Experience of Close Looking: Teaching Italian with Art”
- Rosa Nigro, Mississippi State University, “The potential future of the Italian language in Mississippi’s schools”
- Biagio Aulino, University of Toronto, Mississauga. “The experiential learning project was aimed at undergraduate students enrolled in a Second Language Teaching”
- Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut, “Preserving the Past, Shaping the Future: Italian and Italian American Studies in Connecticut”

**PEDAGOGY AND LITERARY STUDIES: (EP 205) INDIVIDUAL PAPERS GROUPING**

**Chair:** Morena Svaldi, Mount Holyoke

- Miriam Burrascano, Indiana University Bloomington, “Italian Language, Culture, and the Mafia: A Journey Beyond the Myth”
- Morena Svaldi, Mount Holyoke, “Creating Connections through the Reading of Dizionario Quotidiano by Dacia Maraini”
- Diana Silverman, The Fashion Institute of Technology of the State University of New York, “Diverse Interdisciplinary Literary Texts Encapsulating Italian L2 Grammar Exercises”
- Antonio Montinaro, Università degli Studi del Molise, “ ‘Pur con la mia misera conoscenza dell’inglese’. Le esplorazioni linguistiche e geografiche di Pier Paolo Pasolini”



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**6:00 - 7:30 pm – Plenary Workshop**  
**Chancellor Green Rotunda**

**AATI Sponsored Pedagogy Workshop:** *Reading and Speaking with Purpose:  
Bridging Literacy and Oral Proficiency in Italian*

Noemí Rodríguez, Lo Logramos Consulting

Noemí Rodríguez (@team\_lologramos) is a veteran language educator who has been sharing and supporting teachers across the globe since 2005. She attended Rutgers University, where she earned her B.A. in Spanish and Ed.M. in Language Education. She obtained a second Ed.M as a Reading



Specialist. Working with Rutgers University, The Graduate School of Education and Montclair State University, she has taught several teaching methodology courses to aspiring language educators in graduate education programs. Last year, Noemí published her guide "AI Innovation in the Language Classroom" focused on supporting language educators who are using Generative AI. As an award winning teacher and district supervisor, she specializes in language curriculum, assessment design, technology integration, reading and communication strategies. In 2014 and 2024, the Fellowship of Language Educators of New Jersey awarded her workshops “Best of NJ” and in 2023, she earned the President’s Award for her

continued leadership in language education. She has presented at state, regional, national and international conferences over the past fifteen years and served as the keynote speaker at several state conferences.

## Saturday, April 26, 2026

### 8:30 am Onsite Participant Check-in (On-going throughout the day)

*Main entrance of East Pyne Hall through the courtyard.*

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All rooms are located in East Pyne Hall (**EP**) or Chancellor Green (**CG**). Click [here](#) for the campus map.

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### 9:00 – 10:30 am

#### **CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: Workshop** (EP 010) DEVELOPING INTERCULTURAL OPENNESS IN ITALIAN CLASSROOM

**Presenters:** Annalisa Mosca, Purdue University; Brett Bogart, Purdue University; Tatjana Babic Williams, Purdue University.

Intercultural competence is an embedded outcome of undergraduate education in many North American universities as well as the expected outcome of world language education as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The attitude of openness toward languages, people, and cultures that are different from our own is a key building block of intercultural competence and inclusiveness. In this workshop, participants will explore the concept of intercultural openness in the context of Italian language teaching and learning by engaging in experiential activities in the role of learners. They will then take a step back and examine how to design, facilitate, debrief, and assess intercultural activities for openness, following backward design to suit their specific language classroom needs. Participants will be introduced to the Intercultural Learning Hub, an open-access repository of resources ready to embed in face-to-face and virtual language classrooms.

#### **PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM:** (EP 111) UNGRADING: THE KEY TO STUDENT RETENTION IN THE UNIVERSITY ITALIAN CLASSROOM?

**Co-Organizers:** Sara Mattavelli, Chapman University and M. Marina Melita, Marist University

**Chair:** M. Marina Melita, Marist University

- April D. Weintritt and Rosa Di Grottole, The Ohio State University, “Ungrading When and Where It Matters? Language Production, Self-Efficacy, and Retention”
- Sara Mattavelli, Chapman University, “Unquizzing our Students: Alternative Assessment Practices in the Italian Classroom”
- Camilla Zamboni, Wesleyan University, “Meaningful game design for the Italian classrooms: why immersive and ungraded experiences can work well for our Italian L2 classrooms”

**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION/CULTURAL/PEDAGOGY:** (CG 103)  
ENHANCING INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE  
THROUGH GAMES AND TECHNOLOGY

**Organizers:** Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut; Alessandro Ceteroni, University of Connecticut; Monica Martinelli, University of Connecticut

**Chair:** Alessandro Ceteroni, University of Connecticut.

- Iva Youkilis, University of Missouri-Columbia, “Fostering Interculturality, Engagement, and Individualized Learning through Games and Gamification”
- Alessia Caviglia. University of Bologna, “Building bridges in character: roleplaying-games communities and second language learning”
- Monica Martinelli. University of Connecticut, “Intercultural Competence Across Time and Space: A Comparative Game-Based Study based on Dante, Boccaccio, and Medieval Literature”

**PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: Roundtable** (CG 105) DIGITAL PLATFORMS FOR ITALIAN LANGUAGE

**Organizers and Chairs:** Stefano Maranzana and Simona Muratore, Emory University

- Stefano Maranzana and Simona Muratore, Emory University, “Mosaico Italiano”
- Sara Teardo and Daniele De Feo, Princeton University. “From “I” to AI: Teaching an Advanced-level Course on a Digital Platform”
- Maria Letizia Bellocchio. University of Arizona, “Italian in Wonderland and Open Education”
- Elisa Dossena, Princeton University, “A digital platform for a multimodal pedagogy”
- Roberta Ricci and Luca Zipoli. Bryn Mawr College, “Cloning and Moving Forward: Reflections on Collaborative Digital Projects Offered by Cotto e mangiato. Corso di Italiano multiculturale”

**CULTURAL, CINEMA, & MEDIA STUDIES:** (EP 205) CINEMATIC REPRESENTATION OF MIGRATION EXPERIENCES IN ITALY’S SOUTH

**Organizer and Chair:** Giovanna De Luca, College of Charleston

- Chiara De Santi, Farmingdale State College, “A Century Apart: Sicilians before Leaving for the United States in Nuovomondo and My name is Tanino”.
- Gaetana Marrone Puglia, Princeton University, “Voices from the Immigrant South in Francesco Rosi’s Cinema”.
- Giovanna De Luca, College of Charleston, “De Angelis’s The Vice of Hope: Immigration and Human Trafficking on the Shores of Castelvoturno”

**CULTURAL STUDIES:** (EP 235) LANGUAGES OF BELONGING: EXPLORING TRANSLINGUAL PRACTICES IN CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVE

**Organizer & Chair:** Rita Pasqui, University of Memphis

- Rita Pasqui, University of Memphis, “Nimble Tongues: Translingual Voices in the Works of Amara Lakhous and Younis Tawfik”
- Beatrice Simion, Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt/Ca' Foscari University, “Hybrid cultural language in the narrative work of Claudio Magris’ Danubio”
- Giorgia Corti, Istituto “L. Nobile” (Reggio Emilia, Italy), “Why, Whose, and Which Italian? Questions and Reflections on Italian in the Postmonolingual Condition”
- Mary Ann McDonald Carolan, Fairfield University, “Chinese Language, Italian Films”

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### Coffee Break 10:30 – 11:00 am

Sponsored by:



*Campus tour at 10:45: meeting point East Pyne*

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### 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

#### **AATI & AAIS JOINT SPECIAL SESSION: ADVOCACY ROUNDTABLE (EP 010)**

**Organizer:** AATI Advocacy Committee and AAIS

**Facilitator:** Amanda Seewald, Joint National Committee for Languages & the National Council for Languages and International Studies.

- Open to all

#### **CULTURAL CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES/PEDAGOGY IN L2 CLASSROOM:**

**Workshop**, (CG 103) MASKS IN MOTION - COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE IN THE CLASSROOM

**Presenters:** Chiara Durazzini and Dan Meyers, Pazzi Lazzi Troupe

This workshop will showcase the fun experience of the "Masks in Motion" workshops and demonstrations which introduce students K-12, university, and of all ages to explore the ancient tradition of Commedia dell'Arte and its music, a tradition that still lives on today. They include hands-on learning about the physical and personality traits of the Commedia stock characters (Arlecchino, Pantalone, Colombina and more), lecture with images about the history of the art form, the use of masks, enriched by live Renaissance music, instruments demonstration and teaching a Renaissance court dance or Tarantella! As part of the hands-on experience, students will also mimic the masks and improvise on simple “canovacci” plots.



**PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM:** (CG 105) RIDENDO, S'IMPARA! S. BRANCIFORTE'S APPROACH FOR TEACHING ITALIAN AS A SECOND AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**Organizer and Chair:** Elvira G Di Fabio, Harvard University

- Maria Barbanente, Highland Park High School, Illinois, “Tutti parliamo italiano! The Branciforte Approach in a High School Context”
- Kristi Grimes, St. Joseph’s University, “Parliamo di moda! Methods and Materials for Unità 7 “Vestiamoci alla moda!”
- Elvira G Di Fabio, Harvard University, and Gina Miele, Montclair State University, “Integrating social media and AI into the Parliamo italiano! Curriculum”

**CULTURAL STUDIES:** (CG 111) RENAISSANCE CHIVALRIC EPIC AND POPULAR CULTURE

**Organizer:** Jo Ann Cavallo, Columbia University

**Chair:** Luca Zipoli. Bryn Mawr College

- Mary Ann McDonald Carolan, Fairfield University, “Rewriting Orlando furioso for the screen: Pane e tulipani (Soldini, 2000)”
- Corrado Confalonieri, Chapman University, “Ariosto, Tasso, and the School of Rock: Romance Epics from Classroom to Stage (and Back)”
- Jo Ann Cavallo, Columbia University, “Teaching Renaissance Chivalric Epic and Folk Performance Traditions”

**CULTURAL, CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES:** (EP 205) RACCONTARSI IN MUSICA: L'AUTOBIOGRAFIA NELLA CANZONE ITALIANA - SESSIONE B

**Organizer:** Gaspare Trapani, CECC/FCH Università Cattolica Portoghese, Lisbona

**Chair:** Annibale Gagliani, Università del Salento

- Veronica Ricotta, Università per Stranieri di Siena, “ ‘Volevo fare la rockstar’. Autobiografia nelle canzoni di Carmen Consoli”
- Letizia Sassi, UCLouvain, “Linguaggi Urbani: Il Rap come Voce dei Giovani Postmigranti”
- Gaspare Trapani, CECC/FCH Università Cattolica Portoghese di Lisbona, “Faccia mulatta, bocca a mitraglia: Mahmood, fra il ‘ghetto’ e ‘l'olimpico’”

**GENDER STUDIES:** (EP 235) FORGOTTEN WOMEN: EXAMINING THE LACK OF FEMALE PRESENCE AND VOICES IN THE CANONS OF ITALIAN

**Organizer & Chair:** M. Marina Melita, Marist University

- Eleonora Buonocore, University of Calgary, “Modeling Praise in Lucia Bertani Dell'Oro's poems”

- Di Nunzia Soglia, Università degli Studi di Salerno, “La vita sognata' di Antonia Pozzi”
- M. Marina Melita, Marist University, “Resurrecting Diotima: Amelia Pincherle Rosselli’s *Olga* through the Lens of Adriana Cavarero”

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## Lunch 12:30 – 2:00 pm

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## 2:00 – 3:30 pm

### **PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: *Roundtable*, (CG 103) WORKING THE ITAL/LATI PALINDROME: STRATEGIES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN CLASSICAL AND ROMANCE LANGUAGES**

**Organizer & Chair:** Illaria Marchesi, Princeton University

- Francesca Beretta, University of Kansas, and Cecilia Cozzi, Carleton College, “Bridging the Ancient and Modern: A Multidisciplinary Exploration of Latin in Italian and English”
- Karen Klaiber Hersch, Temple University, and Nouraldin Blankinship, Temple University, “A Beautiful Schedule: Languages as Doorways”
- Kristi Grimes, St. Joseph University, “‘Mortui Vivos Docent’: From Ancient Text to Contemporary Context/ Sustaining Language Programs through dual language curricular design”
- Anna Cellinese, Princeton University, Adriana Clark, Princeton University, Jack Geld, Princeton University. “Translanguaging with Ancient Texts: Reading Latin Through Italian”
- Silvia Dupont, Newton North High School, Germana Santelli, Newton North High School, MA. “Advancing proficiency in the foreign language class through Latin: a high school case study”

### **CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: *Roundtable*, (CG 105) CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS DIRECTION**

**Organizer and Chair:** Sara Mattavelli, Chapman University

**Co-sponsored by the AAUSC (American Association of University Supervisors and Coordinators)**

- Chiara Fabbian, University of Illinois, Chicago, “Voicing Your Advocacy: Amplifying the Value of Language Education”
- Chiara Trebaiocchi, Harvard University, “Reimagining the Italian Language Program at Harvard: New Directions Since 2020”
- Francesca Beretta, University of Kansas, “Bridging the Gap: Faculty and Instructional Designers in Online Education”
- Sara Mattavelli, Chapman University, “From Numbers to Nuances: Leading Italian Language Programs Today”

**CULTURAL, CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES: (EP 111) IMPEGNO CIVILE E AUTOBIOGRAFIA NELLA CANZONE ITALIANA CONTEMPORANEA**

**Organizer & Chair:** Gaspare Trapani, CECC - Università Cattolica Portoghese, Lisbona

- Mario Chichi e Ivana Vermiglio, Università degli Studi di Palermo, “‘Geografie cantate’: viaggio tra i luoghi dei cantautori italiani”
- Annibale Gagliani, Università del Salento, “Il teatro canzone di Giorgio Gaber e Sandro Luporini”
- Sacha Piersanti, Università di Siena, “‘Il solito Renato’. La discografia di Renato Zero come romanzo autobiografico”

**GRADUATE STUDIES: PRESIDENTIAL PANEL ON GRADUATE RESEARCH (EP 205)**

**Organizers:** M. Marina Melita, Marist University and Daniele De Feo, Princeton University

**Chair:** TBA

- Sonia Cani, Indiana University, “Giorgio Caproni poeta europeo: uno studio attraverso i testi della sua biblioteca”
- Barbara Salani, Florida Atlantic University, “Andrea Leone Tottola, Librettist of the Neapolitan School in Early XIX Century”
- Steven Jacobs, Rutgers University, “Songs of Soil and Stone: The Environmental Imagination from the Partisan Alps to the No-Tav Movement”

**CULTURAL STUDIES: (EP 235) RETHINKING POSTCOLONIAL ITALY THROUGH CONTEMPORARY ART**

**Organizer & Chair:** Qian Liu, The Ohio State University

- Livia Dubon, Kingston University London, “Revisiting the Photographic Archive: Italian Artists and the Challenge of Colonial Imagery”
- Giuseppina Gemboni, Carnegie Mellon University, “Postcolonial Artivism. Decolonizing Urban Space Through Street Art and ‘Guerrilla Odonomastica’”
- Qian Liu, The Ohio State University, “Mediterranean Ephemera and Rossella Biscotti's Elemental Art”

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**Coffee Break 3:30 – 4:00 pm**

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*Campus tour at 3:45: meeting point East Pyne Courtyard*  
*Graduate student gathering Chancellor Green 105*

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**4:00 – 5:30 pm**

**CULTURAL CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES/PEDAGOGY IN L2 CLASSROOM:**

**Workshop:** (EP 010) BRINGING ITALIAN THEATER TO AMERICAN AUDIENCES:  
TRANSLATION, ADAPTATION, AND PERFORMANCE

**Presenters:** Laura Caparrotti, Kairos Italy Theater, and Massimo Zordan, Kairos Italy Theater,

For 25 years, Kairos Italy Theater has brought Italian theater to American stages and classrooms through translation and adaptation. This workshop explores the challenges of staging *La Mandragola* and *The Decameron*, as well as adapting *Il Merito delle Donne* (*The Worth of Women*) and *The Lovers' Letters*, based on Renaissance love letters. Participants will engage in practical examples for classroom use, discussing adaptation, avoiding stereotypes, and making these works relevant to modern audiences while highlighting their significance in contemporary theater and education.

**ADVOCACY IN ITALIAN STUDIES: Roundtable.** (CG 103) RELEVANCY OF ITALIAN STUDIES IN OPTIMIZING STUDENTS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER PROSPECTS

**Organizer & Chair:** Carla Cornette, University of Missouri

- Enrico Minardi, Arizona State University, "The 'Humanities Crisis.' Italian at Arizona State University"
- Carla Cornette, University of Missouri, "What Does Italian Have to Do With It? Developing Professionalism and Career Prospects through NACE Competencies and Internships in Italian.Courses at Mizzou"
- Claudia Devich, Valentina Morello, Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, University of Arkansas, "ePortfolios: The Other Assessment Tool"
- Marie Bertola and Evelyn Ferraro, Santa Clara University, "Beyond the Classroom: Italian Language as a Pathway to Professional Success"

**PEDAGOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM:** (CG 105) GENERATIVE AI IN ITALIAN BASIC LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION: BEST PRACTICES FOR LANGUAGE PRODUCTION, LESSON

**Organizers:** James Fortney, University of Southern California in Los Angeles

- Claudia Alessia Defraia, Loyola University, "AI in the Language Classroom- An Overview"
- Daniela Cunico Dal Pra, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, "Challenges of AI: Ethics at School"
- Enza Antenos, Montclair State University, "The Future of Personalized Learning: Leveraging Generative AI in the Italian Classroom"
- James Fortney, University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "A Working Group on Generative AI in Basic Language Instruction"



**CULTURAL, CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES: (EP 111) TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON WORK AND LABOR IN ITALIAN LITERATURE AND CINEMA**

**Organizers:** Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut; Alessandro Ceteroni, University of Connecticut; Monica Martinelli, University of Connecticut

**Chair:** Federico Giannuli, University of Connecticut.

- Susan Amatangelo, College of the Holy Cross, “Working Girls: Female Work in Giovanni Verga's Short Stories, from South to North”
- Philip Balma, University of Connecticut, “Colonial Labor in Italian Cinema: Navigating Historical Narratives and Contemporary Reflections”
- Alessandro Ceteroni, University of Connecticut, “Reimagining Boccaccio: Labor and Servants in the Netflix Adaptation of *The Decameron* (2024)”

**CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM: (EP 205) COMMUNITY ENGAGED PEDAGOGY / INCREASING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

**Organizer:** Luisa Canuto, University of British Columbia

**Chair:** Annalisa Mosca, Purdue University,

- Annalisa Mosca, Purdue University, “Creating the experiential community; a few examples”
- Magda Novelli-Pearson, Florida International University, “Transformative Learning Through Community Engagement: The Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Experience in Miami (FL)”
- Chiara Fabbian, Clinical Professor and Director of the Italian Program, University of Illinois at Chicago, “Exploring Italian American Studies in an Online Learning Environment”
- Carla Bagna, Centro Linguistico CLUSS dell'Università per Stranieri di Siena; Marco Cassandro e Sabrina Maffei, Centro Linguistico CLUSS dell'Università per Stranieri di Siena, “Corsi sincroni a distanza del Centro Linguistico CLUSS dell'Università per Stranieri di Siena: da esigenza urgente a nuova offerta formativa”

**TECHNOLOGY IN THE LANGUAGE CLASSROOM: (EP 235) ITALIAN IN WONDERLAND: AN OER PLATFORM FOR BEGINNER LEVEL OF ITALIAN**

**Organizer & Chair:** Maria Letizia Bellocchio, University of Arizona.

- Letizia Bellocchio, University of Arizona, “Disegnare corsi per principianti in Italian in Wonderland”
- Borbala Gaspar, University of Arizona, “Generi testuali per principianti e progetti finali”
- Beppe Cavatorta, University of Arizona, “Dentro i moduli per principianti: casa, amici e famiglia”

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**6:00 - 7:30 pm – Plenary session**  
**Chancellor Green Rotunda**

**Keynote Address: HUMANITIES INNOVATION (NOW)**

Jeffrey Schnapp is the founder/faculty director of [metaLAB \(at\) Harvard](#) and faculty co-director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University. He holds the Pescosolido Chair in Romance Languages and Comparative Literature in Harvard's Faculty of Arts. A cultural historian by training but a technologist, designer, and curator by avocation, his recent publications include *Una veloce storia della velocità* (Il Saggiatore 2025) and an annotated edition of Bruno Munari's *Fantasy – Invention, Creativity, and Imagination in Visual Communication* (Inventory Books 2024), as well as significant contributions to the field of Humanities innovation such as *The Library Beyond the Book* (Harvard 2014) and *Digital Humanities* (MIT Press 2012). Inaugurated on February 6, 2025, his most recent curatorial project is "Performance": the second of three exhibitions developed to accompany the 2026 Milano-Cortina Winter Olympic games in one of the world's most unique exhibition spaces-the Trento Tunnels. For more information, consult <https://jeffreyschnapp.com/>.



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**8:00 pm – Dinner**  
**Chancellor Green Rotunda**  
*Ticket purchases made in advance*

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## Sunday, April 27, 2025

### 8:30 am Onsite Participant Check-in (On-going throughout the day)

*Main entrance of East Pyne Hall through the courtyard.*

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All rooms are located in East Pyne Hall (EP) or Chancellor Green (CG). Click [here](#) for the campus map.

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### 9:00 – 10:30 am

#### **CULTURAL STUDIES:** (CG 103) THE LANGUAGE(S) OF ITALIAN AMERICANS: HERITAGE AND EVOLUTION

**Organizer and Chair:** Isabella Matticchio, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University / University of Rijeka (Croatia, EU)

- Roberto Dolci, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, “Per un'analisi della vitalità dell'italiano nel mondo”
- Barbara Spinelli, Columbia University, “Identità in movimento: pluri-biografie digitali e riflessione metacognitiva di apprendenti di italiano L3/Ln”
- Isabella Matticchio, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University / University of Rijeka (Croatia, EU), “Italian in the U.S.: A Study of Bilingual Speech and Language Contact”

#### **TECHNOLOGY IN THE L2 CLASSROOM:** (CG 105) GENERATIVE AI TOOLS IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND BEYOND

**Organizers:** Dellannia Segreti, University of Toronto and Teresa Lobalsamo, University of Toronto, Mississauga

**Chair:** Giulia Guadagni, University of Toronto

- Laura Bilanceri, Della Chambless and Mattia Begali, Duke University, “Student as Designer: Leveraging Generative AI in Language Learning Across Levels”
- Giulia Guadagni, University of Toronto, “Generative AI, Complexity Theory, and the Italian Language Classroom: Navigating Plurilingualism and Adaptive Learning”
- Stefano Maranzana, Sandra Descourtis, Emory University, “Avete Capito? AI-Generated Listening Comprehension Tools for Italian”

#### **UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:** (EP 111) UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN ITALIAN OR ITALIAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE

**Organizers:** Steven Jacobs, Rutgers University and M. Marina Melita, Marist University

**Chair:** Steven Jacobs, Rutgers University

*Session sponsored by Vista Higher Learning*



- Alessandra Cardelli, Florida State University, “Dante’s Lasting Impact on Ulysses”
- Brisa Reyes, Rutgers University, “Neorealism and the Persistence of Fascist Aesthetics: Cinema, Architecture, and Collective Memory in Postwar Italy”
- Max Tevoli, Rutgers University, “Remus and Romulus”
- Evan Shidler, Princeton University, “Una lettura narrativa, storica, e ideologica di *Senso* attraverso la musica”

**PEDAGOGY K-12:** (EP 205) INNOVATION IN K-12 TEACHING: DIGITAL INCLUDING AI, NEW PRACTICES FOR PROFICIENCY AND IN PEDAGOGY.

**Organizer & Chair:** Karen Murano, Greenwich School District

- Mario Costa, Brooklyn Tech High School and Fiorello H. LaGuardia, “CLIPPASSIONE! How to instruct the creation of a music videoclip”
- Ryan Gogol, Hamilton Township School District, “AI-Enhanced Support: Integrating STEAM into World Language Lessons and Curricula”
- Karen Murano, Greenwich School District, “STEM & the Italian Language Classroom”

**Coffee Break 10:30 - 11:00 am**

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**11:00 – 12:30 pm**

**LITERARY STUDIES:** (CG 103) ESPERIENZE OLTRE IL CONFINE: MIRACOLISMO DEL QUOTIDIANO IN CINEMA E LETTERATURA

**Organizers & Chair:** Carmen Lega, Università per Stranieri di Perugia and Annachiara Monico, Independent Researcher

- Gabriele De Nardo, Università di Napoli Federico II, “Non sei fatta per gli occhi degli uomini. Ribaltamenti e slittamenti metaforici nella Chimera di Alice Rohrwacher”
- Andrea Manzieri, Università di Napoli Federico II, “Circe e il mito femminile: tra potere e solitudine dell’isola”
- Carmen Lega, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, “Build the modern chansonnier»: transcodifica in chiave pop di un linguaggio ultra-generazionale”

**CULTURAL, CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES: (EP 105) EXPLORING INTERSECTIONALITY AND INTERNAL MOBILITIES THROUGH ITALIAN MEDIA**

**Organizers and Chairs:** Giusy Di Filippo, College of the Holy Cross and Elisabetta Sanino D'Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology

- Alessandra Galassi, Purchase College, SUNY, "Generation Shifts and Cultural Crossroads: Netflix's Italian Series as Mirrors of Contemporary Society"
- Sebastiano Lucci, Hobart and Williams Smith Colleges, "Italian television, popular culture and the myth of the American Western: the case of *Non cantare, spara* (1968)"
- Maurizio Scontrino, Gonzaga University, "Violenza e rabbia: aggressività manifesta e latente in *Un bacio di Ivan Cotroneo* e *Più buio di mezzanotte* di Sebastiano Riso"
- Elisabetta Sanino D'Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology, "Decolonial Approach in Fred Kuwornu *'We Were There'* (2024)"

**CULTURAL STUDIES: (EP 111) LITERATURE AND NAPLES, UNDERSTANDING THE CITY THROUGH THE WRITTEN WORD**

**Organizer & Chair:** Alan G. Hartman, Mercy University

- Alan G. Hartman, Mercy University, "Finding the Self and Loving Naples; Nicola Pugliese's use the Pseudo-autobiographical personage named Carlo Andreoli in the works *Malacqua* and *La Nave Nera*"
- Victoria Tomasulo, CUNY Queensborough College, "Refashioning Parthenope: Neapolitan Resilience in Ferrante's Novels and Sorrentino's Films"
- David J. Higgins, The State University of Pennsylvania, "A Lecherous, Lewd, and Loving Tale About Neapolitan Soccer Fanatics"
- Tomasso D'Isola, Università di Rennes, "Napoli descritta dai suoi scrittori, nella letteratura di fine '500 a fine '600"

**LITERARY STUDIES /PEDAGOGY: (CG 105) REVAMP ITALIAN LITERATURE COURSES**

**Organizer & Chair:** Sara Galli, Dickinson College

- Sara Galli, Dickinson College, "Teaching with Dante"
- Mohammad J. Jamali, University of Toronto, "Reimagining Italian Literature Courses: A Comparative Study of 19th-Century Italian and Persian Authors"
- Annibale Gagliani, Università del Salento, "Forme di letterarietà empatica dell'antimafia: percorsi didattici contro lo stereotipo socioculturale 'Italia = mafia' "

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**End of Conference 12:30PM**

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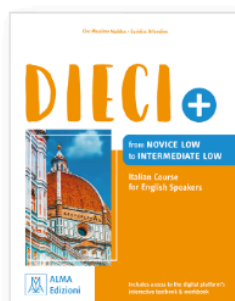


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## LOESCHER EDITORE

Via Vittorio Amedeo II, 18 - 10121 Torino  
Tel. +39 011 56 54 111 • Fax +39 011 56 54 200  
[www.loescher.it](http://www.loescher.it)  
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