

PAOLO PUCCI

The University of Vermont
School of World Languages and Cultures
Program in French and Italian
512 Waterman Building
85 South Prospect St.
Burlington, VT 05405
E-mail: ppucci@uvm.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of Italian, University of Vermont: Fall 2012-present
Full-time Adjunct Faculty of Italian, Princeton University: Fall 2003-Spring 2005
Part-time Adjunct Faculty of Italian, Princeton University: Fall 2001-Spring 2003

EDUCATION

2005 Ph.D (Rutgers University) in Italian Literature, area of specialization: 15th and 16th century
1997 *Laurea* summa cum laude – German Literature – University of Florence, Italy

PUBLICATIONS (peer-reviewed)

BOOKS:

Tra ideale e reale. La vedova (in)dipendente nella trattatistica e nei carteggi italiani (secc. XV-XVI). Rome: Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, forthcoming in February 2024.

ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS:

“Alterità animale e rapporti di genere in una novella di Sabadino degli Arienti.” *Quaderni d’Italianistica*. Vol. 44, no. 3, 2025. 91-114.

“*Cogito ergo sum* ... un sanguinaccio: riparazione all’autoaffermazione animale e femminile in una novella del *Fuggilo* di Tomaso Costo.” Forthcoming in *Italian Quarterly*.

“La vedova orante: la preghiera al servizio del prossimo... patriarcale” in *Tra rivelazioni e preghiere. Scritture di donne e per donne nell’Italia della prima età moderna*. Ed. by Erminia Ardissino and Elisabetta Selmi. Rome: Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, 2023.

“A letto con il nemico: prostituzione e politica nelle novelle di Pietro Fortini (1496ca-1562)” in *Rivista di Letteratura Italiana*, 2016, volume XXXIV, 2, pp. 45-62.

“Giovan Battista Giral di Cinzio” in *Literary Encyclopedia*, 2016.

“Finalmente libera, ma non per molto: la vedova nella trattatistica italiana del XVI secolo” in *Rivista di Studi Italiani*, 2015, volume XXXIII, 1, pp. 187-214.

“«Come vi mando a dire una cosa fatela»: individualità e iniziativa femminili nelle lettere della vedova Maria Savorgnan,” in *NeMLA Italian Studies*, 2013, volume XXXV, pp. 72-99.

“Camilla Pisana, la perfetta moglie?: tentativi di affermazione personale di una cortigiana del Rinascimento,” in *Italica*, 2011, volume 88, 4, pp. 565-586.

“Come creta da plasmare: la XLVIII novella di Masuccio Salernitano” in *Rivista di Studi Italiani*, 2011, volume XXIX, 1, pp. 1-25.

“La virtù ancora appresso ai barbari è onorata”: limiti all’incontro interreligioso nelle novelle di Bandello e gli *Ecatommiti* di Giral di Cinzio” in *Forum Italicum*, 2011, volume 45, 1, pp. 5-31.

“Decostruzione disgustosa e definizione di classe nella *Tariffa delle Puttane di Venegia*”, in *Rivista di Letteratura Italiana*, 2010, volume XXVIII, 1, pp. 29-49.

“Barbari fratelli: identità cristiane e mussulmane nelle novelle del Bandello,” in *Italian Quarterly*, 2008, volume XLV, pp. 5-19.

“Tra atto sessuale e marchio d’identità: aspetti della sodomia in alcune novelle dal XIV al XVI secolo” in *Rivista di Letteratura Italiana*, 2007, volume XXV, 2, pp. 25-39.

“Genitori e figli nell’Italia de «Il grande fratello»” in *Identità e diversità nella lingua e nella letteratura italiana* (Proceedings of the *Associazione Internazionale di Studi Letterari e Linguistici Italiani* conference, Lovanio - Antwerp – Brussels, 16-19 July 2003), ed. by M. Bastiansen et al. Firenze: Franco Cesati Editore, 2007, vol. I, pp. 625-633.

“La figura dello straniero nel *Decameron*: Boccaccio tra Parigi ed Alessandria d’Egitto” in *Italia e Europa: dalla cultura nazionale all’interculturalismo* (Proceedings of the *Associazione Internazionale Professori d’Italiano* conference, Cracovia, 25-29 August 2004), ed. by B. Van den Bossche et al. Firenze: Franco Cesati Editore, 2006, vol. II, pp. 589-596.

“Il mare è ...come lui: personificazione plurisemantica ne *L’isola di Arturo*” in «...e c’è di mezzo il mare»: *lingua, letteratura e civiltà marina*, (Proceedings of the *Associazione Internazionale dei Professori di Italiano* conference, Spalato, 23-27 August 2000), ed. by B. Van Den Bossche et al. Firenze: Franco Cesati Editore, 2002, vol.II, pp. 393-401.

Book Reviews

Marilyn Migiel. *Veronica Franco in Dialogue*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2022. Pp. 186. Forthcoming in *Quaderni d’Italianistica*, 2023.

Paola Ugolini. *The Court and Its Critics. Anti-Court Sentiments in Early Modern Italy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020. Pp. 312, *Quaderni d’Italianistica*, Vol. 41, 2, 2020.

Lavinia Spalanca. *Il governo della menzogna. Antonfrancesco Grazzini e l’allegoria del potere*. Caltanissetta-Roma: Salvatore Sciascia, 2017. Pp. 179, *Quaderni d’Italianistica*, Vol. 40, 2, 2019.

Josephine Jungic, “Giuliano de’ Medici: Machiavelli’s Prince in Life and Art”, Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2018. Pp. xii, 312, in *Quaderni d’Italianistica*, Vol 39, 2, November 2019.

Scott Nethersole. *Art of Renaissance Florence: A City and Its Legacy*. London: Laurence King Publishing, 2019. 224 pp., forthcoming in *Italian Quarterly*.

“The Renaissance Dialogue”. Edited by Roberta Ricci and Simona Wright. Special issue of *NeMLA Italian Studies*, xxxviii, 2016. 245 pp., *NeMLA Italian Studies*, Summer 2018.

Nirit Ben-Aryeh Debby, “Crusade Propaganda in Word and Image in early modern Italy: Niccolò Guidalotto’s *Panorama of Constantinople* (1662)”, Toronto: Center for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, 2016. 163 pp., in *Annali d’Italianistica*, Spring 2017.

“Conduct Literature for and about Women in Italy, 1470-1900: Prescribing and Describing Life.” Edited by Helena Sanson and Francesco Lucioli. Paris: Classiques Garnier, 2016. 437 pp., in *NeMLA Italian Studies*, Summer 2017.

Douglas Biow. “On the Importance of Being an Individual in Renaissance Italy: Men, Their Professions, and Their Beards”. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015. 311 pp., in *Symposium: A Quarterly Journal in Modern Literatures*, Summer 2016.

Sherry Roush. “Speaking Spirits: Ventriloquizing the Dead in Renaissance Italy”. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015. 280 pp., forthcoming in *Italian Quarterly*.

“*Umana cosa è aver compassione degli afflitti...Raccontare, consolare, curare nella narrativa europea da Boccaccio al Seicento.*” Atti del Convegno di Torino per il settimo centenario di Boccaccio (12-14 dicembre 2013). A cura di Erminia Ardissino, Guillermo Carrascòn, Davide Dalmas, Patrizia Pellizzari. Numero monografico di *Levia Gravia. Quaderno annuale di letteratura italiana*, XV-XVI (2013-2014), Alessandria, Edizioni dell’Orso, 2015, pp. 706, forthcoming in *Italian Quarterly*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A book-length study on the animal-human relation in the Italian culture of the Renaissance as reflected and dramatized in the novella genre. In addition, the study investigates the extent to which authors approached the animal characters as beings in themselves beyond their value as means to exalt or reproach fellow humans.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Definitions and representations of the religious and sexual “other”, with emphasis on the novellas of the 14th-16th centuries

Representations of the widow in treatises of the 16th century

Women’s letter writing in the Renaissance

Minorities in 20th century fiction and film

LANGUAGES

Italian (native); English (near-native); German (near-native); Latin (excellent reading knowledge); French (reading knowledge)

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS (peer-reviewed)

“Special of the Day, Blood Pudding: The High Price of Being Your Animal and Female Self in a *Novella* by Tomaso Costo.” SCSC (Sixteenth Century Society and Conference) Convention – Toronto, Canada – October 2024.

“A Pig, a Jenny, a Sheep, a Woman: Human-Animal Otherness in the 15th-16th Cent. Italian Novella” - SCSC (Sixteenth Century Society and Conference) Convention – Baltimore, MD – October 2023.

“A colloquio con la tradizione. Gli *Ammaestramenti e ricordi* (1628) di Isabella Sori” – Real Women and Imagined Femininity. Images of Womanhood in Italy from the Middle Ages to the Present On-line Convention - University College Dublin and University of Toronto- May 3-6, 2022.

“To Each His Own Prostitute: Fighting War in the Brothel” – SCSC (Sixteenth Century Society and Conference) Convention – San Diego, CA – October 2021.

“Reporting from the Margins: Courtesans and Widows in 16th Century Italy” – NeMLA (Northeast Modern Language Association) Convention – Boston, MA – March 2020

“Cornuti... ma con onore: “Il convito” (1554) di Giovan Battista Modio” – CAIS (Canadian Association of Italian Studies) Convention – Orvieto, Italy – June 2019.

“Maria Savorgnan and Cornelia Collonello: Self-Assertion within Widowhood in Renaissance Italy” – RSA (Renaissance Society of America) Convention – New Orleans, LA – March 2018.

“Recupero della devianza a Siena nel Cinquecento” – AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian) Convention – Palermo, Italy – June 28-July 2, 2017.

“*Guidotto’s Prerequisites: Protecting Cultural Identity in Renaissance Italy*” – RSA (Renaissance Society of America) Convention – Chicago, IL – March 30-April 1, 2017.

“In Bed with the Enemy: Prostitution and political alliances in intellectual circles of 16th century Siena” – RSA (Renaissance Society of America) Convention – Boston, MA – March 2016

“To mold the ‘Other’ for acceptance: Masuccio Salernitano deals with foreigners” – AAIS (American Association for Italian Studies) Convention – Boulder, CO – March 2015.

“Free at Last ... but not for Long: Being a Widow in Italian Conduct Literature of the 16th Century” - RSA (Renaissance Society of America) Convention – New York, NY. - March 2014

“Come vi mando a dire una cosa fatela”: individualità e iniziativa femminili nelle lettere della vedova Maria Savorgnan” – NeMLA (Northeast Modern Language Association) Convention – Boston, MA – March 2013.

“Friends... with Limits: Obstacles to Inter-religious Relations in the Novellas by Bandello (c. 1480-1562) and Giraldi Cinzio (1504-1573)” - RSA (Renaissance Society of America) Convention – Washington, D.C. - March 2012.

“Christians Make Better (Machiavellian) Rulers than Muslims: Bandello’s I, 52 and His Source” – RSA Convention – Montreal, QC - March 2011.

“Il ruolo della cortigiana nell’amicizia reale e ideale in età pre-moderna: le lettere di Camilla Pisana” – NeMLA Convention – Montreal, QC – April 2010.

“L’amore mercenario secondo Tommaso Garzoni: intento morale nella *Piazza universale delle professioni del mondo*” – AAIS (American Association for Italian Studies) Convention – New York, NY – May 2009.

“Muslims in the Italian Renaissance Novella: Orientalism Ante-litteram” – NeMLA Convention – Boston, MA - March 2009.

“Denigrazione estetica e morale delle cortigiane in alcuni dialoghi del Cinquecento” – AAIS/AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian) Convention – Taormina, Sicily – May 2008.

“The Representation of the Muslim in the Novellas of Matteo Bandello: Analysis of I, 52” – SCSC (Sixteenth Century Society and Conference) Convention – Minneapolis, MN – October 2007.

“Not Only Veronica: Being a Courtesan in Medicean Florence” – RSA Convention - Miami, FL – March 2007.

“Lettere familiari di Veronica Franco: riabilitare la cortigiana nel silenzio” - AAIS Convention – Genoa, Italy – May 2006.

“Imprimatur boccacciano all’incontro interreligioso: cristiani e musulmani in Dec. II, 9 e X, 9” – NeMLA convention - Philadelphia, PA – March 2006.

“Tra atto sessuale e marchio d’identità: aspetti della sodomia nella novella del Rinascimento” - AAIS Convention – Chapel Hill, NC – April 2005 .

“La figura dello straniero nelle novelle di Boccaccio” - AIPI (Associazione Internazionale Professori d’Italiano) Convention – Cracow, Poland – August 2004.

“Il doppio volto della cortigiana rinascimentale, tra novella e trattato” – AAIS Convention – Ottawa, ON – May 2004.

“Parallel Sexualities in the Renaissance Novella: Homosexuality within the Family Structure” – RSA Convention – New York, NY – April 2004.

“Metamorfosi rinascimentali: da donna di palazzo a cortigiana” - AATI Convention — Philadelphia, PA – November 2003.

“Genitori e figli nell’Italia de *Il grande fratello*” - AISLLI (Associazione Internazionale Studi Linguistici e Letterari Italiani) Convention - Louvain - Louvain-la-Neuve - Antwerp – Brussels – July 2003.

“Il linguaggio erotico nella novellistica rinascimentale” - AAIS Convention - Washington, DC - March 2003. Offered also as guest lecturer in a session of Italian Short Story – Rutgers University – April 2004.

“I rapporti familiari nelle novelle di Francesco Maria Molza” - AAIS Convention - Columbia, MO – April 2002.

“*Il mare è... come lui*: personificazione plurisemantica ne *L’isola di Arturo*” - AAIS Convention – Philadelphia, PA - April 2001.

“Mockery and Totalitarianism in Anton Francesco Grazzini’s *Le Cene*” - RSA Convention - Chicago, IL – March 2001. Offered also as guest lecturer in a session of Italian Literature of the 16th century - Rutgers University – April 2001.

“Il mare in *Agostino* e ne *L’isola di Arturo*, luogo di sogno e trauma adolescenziale” - AIPI Convention – Split, Croatia - August 2000.

“*I Maenechmi* di Plauto nella *Calandria* di Bibbiena: un confronto riabilitativo” - AAIS Convention – New York, NY, April 2000.

“La povertà francescana nell’XI canto del *Paradiso* e il *Sacrum Commercium Sancti Francisci cum domina Paupertate*: un testo e la sua fonte a confronto”- NeMLA Convention - Buffalo, NY - April 2000.

Conference Panel Organizer:

RSA Convention (New Orleans, LA, March 2018):

- Living with(out) the Dead: Widows and Widowers’ Mourning and Self-Representation in Early Modern Italy

RSA Convention (Montreal, QC, March, 2011):

-Christian-Muslim Relations in Early Modern Europe I & II

RSA Convention (Venice, Italy, April 2010):

-Talking Sex from Boccaccio to Sebastiano Erizzo

NeMLA Convention (Montreal, QC, April, 2010):

-A Bridge Too Far: Bisexuality in Contemporary Culture

-Uno, Nessuno e Centomila: Tipologie omosessuali nella letteratura e nel cinema italiani.

INVITED LECTURES

“Boccaccio’s 1348 Plague within the *Decameron*: Identifying Connections”, ARTH155 (Plague, Art, and Crisi in Italy, 1300-1400), Department of Art and Art History, University of Vermont, April 2014.

“Self-Assertion among Courtesans of Renaissance Italy”, ARTH196 (15th-century Italian Art), Department of Art and Art History, University of Vermont, October 2011.

“From Rags to Riches...and (maybe) Back: The Renaissance Courtesan's Struggle for Life”, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, November 2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2012-to present

Associate Professor, University of Vermont

Elementary Italian ITA 002

Intermediate Italian ITA 051 and ITA 052

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 158: La rappresentazione della donna nella letteratura italiana, XIII-XVI sec. (The Representation of Women in Italian Literature, 13th-16th century)

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 162: Le città del Rinascimento tra arte e letteratura (Renaissance Cities between Art and Literature)

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: Puttane, finocchi... e non solo

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: Italia multiculturale: l'altro chi è

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: La novella italiana nei secoli (Italian Short Stories through the Centuries)

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 196: Letteratura dei sentimenti

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 196: Sesso, amore e bugie nella letteratura italiana

Honors College Program: HCOL 186: On the Margin: Inclusion vs. Exclusion of Minorities in Italian Culture

Teacher and Advisor Program WLIT 095: Gender and Ethnicity in Italian Culture, WLIT 095 What Men and Women Want

Global/Regional Studies GRS 095: Women Writers of the Renaissance

2005-2012

Assistant Professor, University of Vermont

Elementary Italian ITA 001 and ITA 002

Intermediate Italian ITA 051 and ITA 052

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 158: La rappresentazione della donna nella letteratura italiana, XIII-XVI sec. (The Representation of Women in Italian Literature, 13th-16th century)

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 162: Le città del Rinascimento tra arte e letteratura (Renaissance Cities between Art and Literature)

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: Puttane, finocchi... e non solo

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: Italia multiculturale: l'altro chi è

Special Topics in Italian Literature ITA 195: La novella italiana nei secoli (Italian Short Stories through the Centuries)

World Literature WLIT 013: Religious Diversity in Renaissance Italy

World Literature WLIT 113: Italian Family in Literature and Film

2003 – 2005

Full-time Adjunct Faculty, Princeton University

Elementary Italian ITA 101 and ITA 102

Advanced Italian ITA 107 and ITA 102-7 (an intensive, double-credit course open only to students who perform with excellence in ITA 101)

2004 Summer

Lecturer, World Languages Institute, Rutgers University

Advanced Grammar and Composition ITA 504. Responsible for designing the course. This graduate course for K-12 teachers of Italian focuses on many different registers (journal entries; business letters; magazine and newspaper articles; and academic papers)

2001 - 2003

Part-time Adjunct Faculty, Princeton University

Elementary Italian ITA 101 and ITA 102

Advanced Italian ITA 102-7

2003 Summer

Lecturer, Summer Abroad Program (Urbino, Italy), Rutgers University

Italian Short Story. Responsible for designing the course. This course for advanced undergraduates and first-year graduate students focuses on the development of the *novella*, from its origins to the 20th century ITA 421 (Medieval and Renaissance texts) – ITA422 (19th - and 20th -century texts)

2002 Summer

Lecturer, Summer Abroad Program (Urbino, Italy), Rutgers University

Italian Renaissance Literature. Responsible for designing the course. This upper level course for undergraduates and first-year graduate students surveys Renaissance poetry and prose
ITA 421 (Petrarca, Boccaccio and Poliziano) – ITA 422 (Boiardo, Ariosto, Machiavelli and Castiglione)

1998-2001

Teaching Assistant, Rutgers University

Elementary Italian ITA 101, ITA 102 and ITA 108 (Responsible for designing the course, an innovative laboratory practicum requiring an intensive use of media, text-related and other audio and video materials)

Intermediate Italian ITA 131 and ITA 132

1999 Spring

Instructor, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University

Conversational Italian for travel and culture to adult students. Responsible for designing the course

1994-1998

Lecturer, Scuola di Italiano per Stranieri *Italo Calvino* (Florence, Italy)

Elementary and Intermediate Italian

Lecturer, Centro Studentesco *Giorgio La Pira* (Florence, Italy)

Elementary and Intermediate Italian

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Regional

LGBTQ Caucus Director for Northeast Modern Language Association, Spring 2008-Fall 2010

University:

Living & Learning Program Selection Committee, Fall 2011-Spring 2012

Faculty Senate Representative, 2011-2012

Organizer of Italian Film Series, Fall 2005-2010

Recruitment of Faculty Director of the Global Village for the Office of the Vice President of Enrollment Management, Fall 2007-Spring 2008

College:

Honors College Committee, Spring 2022

Member on two Honor Thesis Committees for Art History, Spring 2017

Chair of the CAS 5th year Asian Languages and Literatures Department Chair Review Committee, Fall 2016 to Spring 2017

Organizer of guest lecture on the presence of black actors in Italian cinema by Italian movie director and producer Fred Kuwornu, Spring 2016

Committee member for an Honor Thesis in Sociology and one in Art History, Spring 2016

Chair on a Honor Thesis Committee for Art History, Spring 2016

Curriculum Committee, Fall 2014 to present

Participant in CAS New Student Orientation, 2011- to present (several sessions each Summer)

Participant in Admitted Students Open House, Spring 2010 – to present

Member of the European Studies Executive Council, Fall 2011-present

Co-organizer of the video-lecture and dance workshop “Italian Traditional Dance”, Fall 2014

Co-organizer of the New England Italian Film Festival in collaboration with the Italian Consulate in Boston

German and Russian Department Chair Review Committee, Spring 2014

Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, Fall 2012

Nominations and Elections Committee, Fall 2009- Spring 2012

Affiliated Faculty, European Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies programs, Spring 2006- Present

Reader for Honors Thesis in History, Spring 2010

Participant in CAS Homecoming & Family Weekend Open House, Fall 2009 and Fall 2010

Reader for two Honors Theses in Art History, Spring 2007

Reader for Honors Thesis in Classics, Spring 2006

Department:

GenED Representative, Spring 2022

Personnel Committee, Spring 2018 to present: Member; Spring 2017-Fall 2017: Chair

Language Coordinator, Fall 2015 to Spring 2017
Scheduling committee, Fall 2015 to Spring 2017
Oaxaca Study Abroad program committee, Fall 2015 to Spring 2017
Executive committee, Fall 2015 to 2017
Advisor for an Honor Thesis in Italian Studies, Fall 2014 to present
Curriculum Committee, Fall 2014 to present
Responsible for transfer affairs, Spring 2014 – Spring 2016
Co-organizer of the 2-day “Traditional Italian Dance” workshop and lecture, Fall 2014
Co-organizer of the New England Italian Film Festival sponsored by the Italian Consulate in Boston (I also projected all the movies), Fall 2014
Curriculum Committee, Chair, Fall 2013 to Spring 2014
Annual Performance Guidelines Committee, Fall 2012
Curriculum Committee, Fall 2012
Coordinator of Study Abroad Night, Fall 2011
Advisor for Honors Thesis in Italian Studies, 2011-2012
Faculty Director of “ Casa Italiana” (live-in program within L/L Global Village), Spring 2007 (*de facto*) and Fall 2007-Present (officially)
Organizer of weekly “Tavola Italiana” (Italian conversation table), Fall 2006-Present
Organizer of guest lecture on microhistory in the *Decameron* by Prof. Guido Ruggiero, University of Miami, Fall 2009
Recruitment of a professor of Francophone Culture, Fall 2008
Organizer of guest lecture on religious diversity in Masuccio Salernitano’s *Novellino* (15th cent.) by Prof. Michael Papio, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Spring 2008
Recruitment of a Latin-America Novel specialist, Fall 2007-Spring 2008
Organizer of guest lecture on Castiglione’s *Book of the Courtier* by Dr. Fiorenza Weinapple, Princeton University, Spring 2006
Participant in Romance Languages Study Abroad Night, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010

ACADEMIC HONORS

2000 Joseph E. Laggini Memorial Fellowship
1997 *Laurea* summa cum laude, University of Florence, Italy
1991 European Community Erasmus Scholarship

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Renaissance Society of America
American Association for Italian Studies
NorthEast Modern Languages Association
Associazione Internazionale Professori di Italiano
American Association of Teachers of Italian