

## CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM

**Francesco Maria Ciconte**  
francesco.maria@upr.edu

### EDUCATION

**Postdoc** (Linguistics), The University of Manchester, UK, 2010-2013.  
**PhD Italian** (Linguistics), The University of Manchester, UK, 2006-09.  
**MA Italian**, (Linguistics), The University of Manchester, UK, 2005-06.  
**DITALS II** (Teaching Italian as a Foreign Language), Università per Stranieri di Siena, Italy, 2005.  
**BA + MA Classics** (Ancient Greek and Latin), Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy, 2004.  
**Research Thesis**, (Classics) Trinity College, Dublin/National University of Ireland, Galway, 2002-04.  
**Research Assistant** (Italian), Leopardi Centre, University of Birmingham, UK, 2000-2001.  
**Erasmus Exchange Programme** (Classics and Italian), University of Birmingham, UK, 1999-2000.

### RESEARCH

My area of expertise is Linguistics, in particular Italo-Romance Linguistics. Within this field of study, I have developed research orientations that relate to both Theoretical and Applied Linguistics:

- (i) Synchronic and Diachronic Italo-Romance Dialectology, Historical Linguistics, Syntactic Theory, Pragmatic-Semantics-Syntax Interface.
- (ii) Sociolinguistics, Second Language Acquisition, Language Teaching and Learning Theory, Textual Linguistics.

### **Current research**

At present I am working on second language acquisition and teaching theory. In particular, I focus on the study of teaching and learning environments where the stimulus from the target language, e.g. Italian, may be poor, or not immediately available, in contexts outside the language class.

I am also working on the history of Italo-Romance, and the passage from Latin to Italo-Romance, focussing in particular on Late Latin and its development into Italo-Romance vernaculars. The study is framed within a comparative perspective that takes into account other Romance languages.

### **Past research**

- Postdoc research: theoretical analysis on the pragmatics-semantics-syntax interface in contemporary dialects of Italy, including extensive fieldwork in Italy (8-month fieldwork, data from 148 dialects).
- Linguistic analysis of *volgarizzamenti*, i.e. translations of classical Latin texts into old Italian, based on ‘*Edizione nazionale degli antichi volgarizzamenti dei testi latini nei volgari italiani*’ and on the ‘*Edizione nazionale dei commenti ai testi Latini di età umanistica*’ (Accademia della Crusca).
- Palaeographic, philological and linguistic analysis of 3 early Tuscan manuscripts held in the Special Collection of the John Rylands Library, Manchester (MSS 3, 49, 53, dating C14<sup>th</sup>–C16<sup>th</sup>).
- PhD thesis: investigation of the morpho-syntax of Old Italian, based on the scrutiny of an extensive corpus of early Italo-Romance sources (43 texts, over 10,000 pages) dating from C13<sup>th</sup> to C16<sup>th</sup>.
- BA + MA research thesis: linguistic and philological analysis of Hiberno-Latin (Irish) manuscripts of the *Navigatio Sancti Brendani Abbatis*.
- Research assistant: study on the link between classical philology and Leopardi’s literary works.

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Small grant of the *Società Dante Alighieri* on Italian Teaching Methods, 2016.
- Honorary Research Fellow, The University of Manchester.
- Visiting Researcher, *Centro di Studi Filologici e Linguistici Siciliani*, University of Palermo, 2013.
- Winner of the Robins Prize of the Philological Society for the best paper of 2010.
- Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) PhD Bursary, 2006-2009.
- MA Postgraduate Bursary of The University of Manchester, 2005-2006.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Assistant Professor (2014-present)**

*Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto Río Piedras, Facultad de Humanidades, Puerto Rico.*

Undergraduate courses: Italian linguistics, History of the Italian language, Italian sociolinguistics, Teaching Italian as a foreign language, Advanced grammar and composition, Techniques of the oral expression in Italian, Intensive Italian I and II.

Graduate courses: Historical Linguistics and diachronic syntax, Introduction to syntactic theory.

Language coordinator of the Italian section.

Member of the Cultural Activities Committee; Member of the Evaluation Assessment Committee.

### **Research Associate - Postdoc (2010-2013)**

*The University of Manchester, School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, UK.*

Member of the AHRC-funded research project 'Existential constructions: An investigation into the Italo-Romance dialects'.

The project provided a theoretical analysis of the existential and locative structures of Italo-Romance dialects, and has involved extensive fieldwork in Italy.

Teaching of undergraduate and graduate courses in Italian Linguistics.

Supervision and evaluation of MA dissertations and PhD theses.

Invited external examiner of PhD theses (University of Rome).

### **Lecturer (Assistant Professor) and Teaching Assistant (2006 – 2010)**

*The University of Manchester, School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, UK.*

Responsible of the Linguistics modules in Italian at undergraduate and MA level: Introduction to Italian linguistics (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax), Structures of modern Italian (advanced syntax), Italian sociolinguistics, Italian stylistics, Italian language (grammar, oral classes, translation).

Supervision and evaluation of MA dissertations and PhD theses.

### **Associate Lecturer in Italian Language (2007 – 2008)**

*The Open University, Manchester, UK.*

The Open University is a distance/e-learning higher education institution, where I was responsible for the design and delivery of on-line tutorials and lectures in Italian language and culture.

### **Lecturer in Italian Sociolinguistics (2008)**

*The University of Birmingham, Department of Italian Studies, UK.*

### **Lecturer in Italian Language (2006 – 2007)**

*Manchester City College, Manchester, UK.*

### **Teacher of Italian (2005-2009)**

*Italian Consulate, Centro Diffusione Lingua e Cultura Italiana 'Leonardo da Vinci', Manchester, UK.*

### **Teacher of Italian (2008-2009)**

*Aquinas High School, Stockport, UK*

### **Teacher of Italian (2006-2008)**

*Cactus Language Training, Manchester, UK.*

### **Teacher of Italian, Latin and Greek (2004-2005)**

*Liceo Classico "G. Giusti", Torino, Italy.*

### **Teacher of Italian (2002-2004)**

*Galway Language Centre, Galway, Ireland.*

### **Teacher of Italian, Latin and Greek (1997-2001)**

*Liceo Classico "G. Giusti", Torino, Italy.*

## PUBLICATIONS



### **Books**

- CICONTE, F. M. (to appear). *There-sentences in Old Italian*. The Monograph Series of the Philological Society. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
- CICONTE, F. M. (2015). *Existentials and Locatives in Romance Dialects of Italy*. Oxford University Press (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).
- CICONTE, F. M. (2016). *Italiano Intensivo: An electronic book*. San Juan: University of Puerto Rico (available on Moodle and Blackboard).

### **Edited book**

- CICONTE, F. M. (2013). *Existential Constructions in Cross-Linguistics Perspective*. Special Issue of the *Italian Journal of Linguistics*. Pisa: Pacini, 25/1 (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).

### **Book chapters**

- CICONTE, F. M. (2016). Copular and existential structures. In A. Ledgeway & M. Maiden (eds.), *Oxford Guide to the Romance Languages*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapter 51, 847-859.
- CICONTE, F. M. (2016). Micro-variation in information structure: Existential constructions in Italo-Romance. In M. M. J. Fernandez-Vest & R. J. Van Valin, *Information Structure in Spoken Language in a Cross-Linguistic Perspective*. De Gruyter Mouton, 95-120 (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).
- CICONTE, F. M. (2013). Micro-variation in subject agreement: The case of existential pivots with split focus in Romance. In D. Bentley, F. M. Ciconte & S. Cruschina, *Existential Constructions in Cross-Linguistics Perspective*. Pisa: Pacini, 25/1, 15-43 (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).
- CICONTE, F. M. (2013). Existential constructions in a cross-linguistic perspective. In D. Bentley, F. M. Ciconte & Silvio Cruschina, *Existential Constructions in Cross-Linguistics Perspective*. Pisa: Pacini, 25/1, 1-13 (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).
- CICONTE, F. M. (2013). Argument realization and existential proforms in early Italo-Romance. In J. Barðdal, M. Cennamo & E. van Gelderen, *Argument Structure in Flux: The Naples/Capri Papers*. Amsterdam: Benjamins, 549-566.

### **Articles**

- CICONTE, F. M. (2011). The emergence and the reanalysis of the existential proform: evidence from Early Italo-Romance. *Transactions of the Philological Society* 109 (3), 284-306. Oxford: Blackwell.
- CICONTE, F. M. (2009). Pro-forms in existential constructions of early Italo-Romance vernaculars. In G. Kaiser & E. Remberger (eds.), *Null subjects, expletives and locatives in Romance*, *Konstanzer Arbeitspapiere des Fachbereichs Sprachwissenschaft* 123, 183-198. Konstanz: Universität Konstanz.
- CICONTE, F. M. (2008). Existential constructions in early Italo-Romance vernaculars. In M. Kokkonidis (ed.), *Proceedings of the Oxford Postgraduate Conference LingO 2007*, 35-42. Oxford: University of Oxford.

CICONTE, F. M. (2005). Cenni sull'incontro della tradizione celtica irlandese con la cultura latina nella Navigatio Sancti Brendani Abbatis. *Quaderni del Dipartimento di Filologia Linguistica e Tradizione Classica 'Augusto Rostagni'* 4, 261-282. Bologna: Pàtron.

### **CD and booklet**

CICONTE, F. M. (2014). *I dialetti d'Italia: fiabe, favole e racconti*. Manchester: The University of Manchester (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).

### **Other**

CICONTE, F. M. (2008). *CAMILLE* (Cultural Awareness Modules to Improve Language Learning Experience). On-line didactic activities and cultural modules for Italian Language. Manchester: The University of Manchester.

### **Invited talks and lectures**

CICONTE, F. M., 'Locative and possessive existentials: from Late Latin to Modern Italian'. École normale supérieure de Paris. 18-19 November 2016.

CICONTE, F. M., 'The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages'. Universidad de Puerto Rico. 7 May 2015.

CICONTE, F. M., Series of seminars: (i) 'Quale italiano parlano gli Italiani? Le varietà standard, neostandard, regionale, popolare'; (ii) 'L'insegnamento dell'Italiano come lingua straniera: nuovi approcci e metodi'; (iii) 'Existential Constructions in the Italo-Romance varieties' Universidad de Puerto Rico. 10-14 February 2014.

CICONTE, F. M., 'I costrutti esistenziali nelle varietà Italo-Romanze antiche: comparsa e rianalisi della proforma'. Università di Napoli "Federico II". 15 November 2011.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Existential Constructions: From Early Italo-Romance to Modern Italian'. Institute for Linguistics and Language Studies (ILLS). University of Manchester, 30 November 2010.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Word order in Old Italian'. Charles University of Prague, Filozofická fakulta, Ústav románských studií, Oddelení italianistiky, 28 April 2010.  
'Per una sociolinguistica dell'italiano contemporaneo'. University of České Budejovice, Filozofická fakulta, Ústav romanistiky, 30 April 2010.

### **Conference contributions**

CICONTE, F. M., 'Locatives and existentials: From Latin to early Italo-Romance', 22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Historical Linguistics. Naples, Italy, 27-30 July 2015.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Subtypes ofthetic expressions: a cross-dialectal survey'. 2013 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain. University of London, 28-31 August 2013.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Argument structure and predication in Italo-Romance and Sardinian existentials' Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax Meeting 7. University of Cambridge, 24-25 June 2013.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Micro-variation in subject markedness: The case of inde-cliticized pivots in Romance'. Manchester Symposium on Existential. The University of Manchester, 28-29 June 2012 (with D. Bentley and S. Cruschina).

CICONTE, F. M., 'The information structure of existential constructions'. Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax Meeting 6. University of Cambridge, 16-17 June 2011 (with S. Cruschina).

CICONTE, F. M., 'The emergence and the reanalysis of the pro-form in the early Italo-Romance vernaculars'. Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax Meeting 5. Freie Universität Berlin, 2-3 July 2010.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Argument realization in Early Italo-Romance: The case of existentials'. Workshop: Variation and Change in Argument Realization. Naples-Capri, 27-30 May 2010.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Pro-forms in existential constructions of the early Italo-Romance varieties'. Workshop: Null-subjects, Expletives and Locatives in Romance. Universität Konstanz, 27-29 March 2008.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Existential constructions in early Italo-Romance vernaculars: The locative hypothesis'. VIII Incontro di Dialettologia Italiana. University of Bristol, 5-6 October 2007.

CICONTE, F. M., 'Existential constructions in early Italo-Romance vernaculars: The locative hypothesis'. LingO: The Oxford Postgraduate Conference. University of Oxford, 21-22 September 2007.

**Work in progress**

CICONTE, F. M. The verb-second (V2) syntax and word order of early Italo-Romance.

CICONTE, F. M. Teaching Italian as a foreign language: The case of Puerto Rico.