

CURRICULUM VITAE
Francesca Nicora, Ph.D.
Lecturer (Below-the-bar)

DR. FRANCESCA NICORA

Lecturer below-the-bar in Italian

- Second Arts Coordinator – Italian Discipline
- Coordinator of the Diploma in Italian Online
- HEI Outreach Officer and Liaison with Languages Connect
- Academic Integrity Advisor

CONTACT DETAILS

School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures
AMB-2010, Top Floor, Arts Millennium Building
University of Galway, Ireland

Email address:

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education 2021
Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT)
University of Galway, Ireland

Structured-PhD in Italian Studies 2019 [Conferring in Spring 2020]
University of Galway, Ireland
School of Languages, Cultures and Literatures
Italian Discipline

**‘Prosodic training in foreign language:
a study with Hiberno-English learners of Italian’**
funded by the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies

- *Irish Association for Applied Linguistics (IRAAL) Postgraduate Award in 2019*
- *European Doctorate Award in 2020 (University of Galway)*
- *Grant-in-Aid of Publication Fund in 2021 (Moore Institute, University of Galway)*

Visiting PhD researcher Spring 2017&2018
Centro di Ricerca Interdisciplinare sul Linguaggio (CRIL)
Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy

MA E-learning and E- teaching Italian as a Foreign Language 2014
(Master di secondo livello-ELIIAS)
Università per Stranieri di Siena, Italy

MA Theoretical and Applied Linguistics 2013
Università degli Studi di Pisa, Italy

- Erasmus Programme: Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria (9 months)
- Summer Seminar of Bulgarian language and culture for foreign scholars: Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria (1 month)

BA Foreign Languages and Literatures (Linguistics - curriculum B) 2008
Università degli Studi di Pisa, Italy

- Intensive Russian language course: Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia (1 month)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Linguistics; Second Language Acquisition; Prosody; Intonation; E-learning; Technologies in Language Teaching; Open Educational resources; Didactic Audiovisual Translation.

Orcid ID: [0000-0003-3148-539X](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3148-539X)

ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Francesca_Nicora/research

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Project: Prosody and language learning in Japan: regional linguistic profiles in the spotlight *funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)*.
Start/End Dates: 30/06/22 – 16/12/22.

Project: MISTRAL – Maximising students’ success in learning foreign languages online; *funded by the University of Galway and winner of OER grant*.
Start/End Dates: 30/05/21 – 30/06/22.

Project: LILAC – Learning Hub;

funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

Start/End Dates: 01/12/19 – 01/05/21.

Project: Prosodic training in foreign language. A study with Hiberno-English learners of Italian; *funded by the College of Arts, University of Galway.*

Start/End Dates: 01/09/14 – 30/09/19.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journals

- **Nicora, F.** (2022b). Moving online: using Zoom and combined audiovisual translation tasks to teach foreign languages to children. In: Adams Heather Mary, Díaz-Cintas Jorge, (Eds.) *Audiovisual Translation in the Foreign Language Classroom* [Special Issue], *Revista de Lenguas para Fines Específicos*, Vol.28(2): 80-100.
- **Nicora, F.**, Bologna, O., & McLoughlin, L. (2022). Open Educational Resources for online language teacher training: conceptual framework and practical implementation. *International Journal on Integrating Technology in Education*, Vol.11(3): 1-18.
- **Nicora, F.** (2022a). The corpus of Irish English Speech (IES). *TEANGA, the Journal of the Irish Association for Applied Linguistics*, 29, 133-168.
- **Nicora, F.**, & Beltramello, A. (2021). Captioning and revoicing activities to learn Italian as a foreign language: A didactic proposal for children, *The Journal of Language and Teaching Technology*, Rutgers University Press, Italian Studies, III: 1-23.
- Dianetti, M., & **Nicora, F.** (2021). Didattica performativa nella promozione della lingua e cultura italiana in Irlanda. Il corpo e la danza come strumenti di apprendimento e ponti tra culture, *Italiano LinguaDue*, 13(2): 665-680.
- **Nicora, F.** (2021). Sottotitolaggio e apprendimento del vocabolario aziendale in italiano lingua straniera: uno studio esplorativo, *Italiano a stranieri* (29), Edilingua, Rome: 22-27.

Book Chapters

- **Nicora, F.**, Bologna, O., & McLoughlin, L. (2022). Higher Education and new trends in the digitalized labour market: broaden language students' horizons, In E. Domínguez Romero, J. Bobkina, C. Herrero, S. Stefanova Radoulska, & I. Vanderschelden (Eds.) *Visual Literacy and Digital Communication: The Role of Media in New Educational Practices*. Editorial Comares, Granada, Spain. 79-100.

- **Nicora, F.,** McLoughlin, L., & Gili Fivela, B. (2019). La resistenza dei tratti intonativi nell'acquisizione dell'italiano da parte di parlanti anglo celti, In Nuzzo E., Vedder I. (a cura di), *Studi AltLA 9. Lingua in Contesto. La prospettiva pragmatica.* Officinaventuno, Milano: 65-87.
- Gili Fivela, B., & **Nicora, F.** (2018). Intonation in Liguria and Tuscany: checking for similarities across a traditional isogloss boundary, in Vietti, A., Spreafico, L., Mereu, D., & Galatà, V. (Eds.) *Studi AISV 4: Il Parlato nel Contesto Naturale. Speech in the natural Context, Methods for the analysis of Speech Under Real Communicative Conditions.* Officinaventuno, Milano: 131-156.

Peer-Reviewed Proceedings Papers

- Meluzzi, C., **Nicora, F.,** & Sbacco, L. (2022). Learning Italian dental affricates: A first survey on the production of Irish English speakers. In J. Levis & A. Guskaroska (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 12th Annual Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference*, 18-19 June 2021, virtually at Brock University, Ontario, Canada.
- **Nicora, F.,** Cenceschi, S., & Meluzzi, C. (2020). A phonetic comparison of two Irish English varieties, *The 11th International Conference of Experimental Linguistics*, 12-14 October 2020, Athens, Greece: 143-146.
- **Nicora, F.,** McLoughlin, L., & Gili Fivela, B. (2018). Impact of prosodic training on Italian as L2 by Hiberno-English speakers: the case of polar questions, in *Challenge and new prospects on prosody. The 9th International Conference in Speech Prosody*, Adam Mickiewicz University, 13-16 June 2018, Poznan, Poland: 970-974.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Guest Lecturers

36. *The Mistral project: Open Educational Resources for language learning made by students for students.* 10th November 2021. Open Scholarship Cafè on Open Educational Resources examples from NUI Galway OER Pilot Project. University of Galway, Ireland.

35. *I vantaggi dei testi multimediali: la traduzione audiovisiva nelle classi di lingua.* 24th September 2021. Settimana delle lingue, ANILS.

34. *Prosody and didactic practices: the role of the contrastive phonological analysis of two language varieties (L1 and FL) for pedagogical purposes.* 5th December 2020. Università degli Studi di Pavia, Italy.

Invited Seminars

34. *Acquisizione della prosodia delle lingue straniere*. 18th October 2022. Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy.
33. *Audiovisual activities for children: new insights into language learning*. Summer School on Prosody, The Japan Foundation Kansai Center, Osaka, 17th-19th August 2022.
32. *Prosody and language learning: the case of Irish English learners of Italian*. 29th July 2022. Graduate School of International Studies, Kobe University, Japan.
31. *Contrastive phonological analysis and language learning: exploring polar questions in Irish English and Italian varieties*. 10th July 2022. Graduate School of International Studies, Kobe University, Japan.
30. *Prosody and language acquisition*. 18th March 2021. The Centre of Applied Linguistics and Multilingualism (CALM), University of Galway, Ireland.
29. *The effectiveness of explicit prosodic training in Italian as a foreign language*. 26th October 2020. Universitat de Barcelona, Grup d'Estudis de Pròsodia.
28. *Using Open Educational Resources to enhance foreign language learning and teaching in an online environment*. 14th October 2020. University of Galway, Ireland.
27. *An interactive introduction to language learning*. 30th September 2020. University of Galway, Ireland.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

26. 'Teaching and Learning Day -LLC' [Oral Presentation] Didactic Audiovisual for Children: A New Gateway to a Better Language Education. School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Galway, 13 October 2023.
25. 'Teaching and Learning Day -LLC' [Oral Presentation] Learning of FL prosody and efficacy of explicit perception-production training: an experiment on Italian FL by Hiberno English speakers. School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Galway, 13 October 2023.
24. 'Research Day-LLC' [Chaired Session - Linguistics], School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Galway, Hardiman Building, 19 April 2023.
23. 'Audiovisual translation and foreign language vocabulary acquisition: a study on children's learners of Italian', the 1st International Conference on Didactic Audiovisual Translation and Media Accessibility, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), Spain, 22-24 March 2023.

22. 'Acoustic cues of Italian dental affricates as produced by LS learners', the 9th International Conference on Experimental Phonetics (CIFE), University of Vigo, Spain, 21-23 June 2023.
21. 'Sociolinguistic variation of the MOUTH diphthong in two Irish English varieties', the 11th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLAVE), University of Vienna, Austria, 12-14 April 2022. **Best Poster Award, 2nd Place.**
20. 'The corpus of Irish English Speech (IES)', Applying Linguistics in the 21st Century. The 2020 IRAAL Annual Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 25-26 November 2021.
19. 'The LILAC project: helping language teachers and learners to master online environments', Applying Linguistics in the 21st Century. The 2020 IRAAL Annual Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 25-26 November 2021.
18. 'Training the Teachers, Engaging the Learners: the Lilac project', Research Day, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, National University of Ireland, Galway, 06 July 2021.
17. 'Performative Arts in the promotion of Italian language and culture in Galway city and county: the TRA-Balliamo project', Research Day, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, National University of Ireland, Galway, 06 July 2021.
16. 'The MISTRAL project: new perspectives on language and education', Research Day, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, National University of Ireland, Galway, 06 July 2021.
15. 'Production of Italian dental affricates by Irish English learners', 12th Annual Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference, Brock University, Ontario, Canada, 18-19 June 2021.
14. 'Insegnare lingue online: sfide pratiche, risvolti teorici e necessità formative', The Canadian Association for Italian Studies. Annual Conference, Online, 04-05 June 2021.
13. 'Open Educational Resources for online language teacher training: conceptual framework and practical implementation', EdTech 2021 Shaping Education Post Pandemic: Pockets of Innovation for 'Building Back Better', Online, 27-28 May 2021.
12. 'Moving online: using Zoom and audiovisual translation activities to e-teach Italian foreign language to children', International Conference on visual literacy and digital communication: the role of media in new educational practice, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, 18-19 December 2020.

11. 'The Lilac project: enhancing students career planning skills through an interactive online module, virtual training and new assessment models', International Conference on visual literacy and digital communication: the role of media in new educational practice, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, 18-19 December 2020.
10. 'The Lilac project: Open Educational Resources to train language teachers in online teaching and assessments', 5th International techLING Congress – Languages, Linguistics and Technology, University of Aveiro, Portugal, 15-16 October 2020.
9. 'A phonetic comparison of two Irish English varieties', the 11th Conference of Experimental Linguistics, Athens, Greece, 12-14 October 2020.
8. 'Prosodic training in L2: a study with Hiberno-English learners of Italian', Threatening Languages in a Global World, IRAAL Annual Conference, National University of Ireland, Galway, 30 November 2019.
7. 'Designing a subtitling module for students of Italian for specific purposes', Crossing Boundaries in Language Teaching: Northern Ireland and Beyond LTNI19 Conference, Queen's University, 3-4 May 2019, Belfast, United Kingdom.
6. 'Prosodic convergence toward the native model: the effect of explicit prosodic training in L2-Italian'. Workshop on Accommodation in Speech Communication, 13 December 2018, Zurich, Switzerland.
5. 'Captioning and re-voicing activities to learn Italian as a foreign language. A didactic proposal for children', Languages, Linguistics and Technology, Universidade Autonoma de Lisboa, 2-4 October, 2018 Lisbon, Portugal.
4. 'La Lunigiana tra Liguria e Toscana: quale situazione linguistica ci offre l'analisi delle caratteristiche intonative?', Le tendenze dell'italiano contemporaneo rivisitate, LII Congresso SLI 2018, 6-8 September 2018, Berna, Switzerland.
3. 'Impact of prosodic training on Italian as L2 by Hiberno-English speakers: the case of polar questions' The 9th International Conference in Speech Prosody, Adam Mickiewicz University, 13-16 June 2018, Poznan, Poland.
2. 'La resistenza dei tratti intonativi nell'acquisizione dell'italiano da parte di parlanti anglo celti', Language in Context: The Pragmatic Perspective. XVIII International Conference of the Italian Association of Applied Linguistics, University of Roma Tre, 22-24 February 2018, Rome, Italy.
1. 'Intonation in Liguria and Tuscany: checking for similarities across a traditional isogloss boundary', Speech in the natural Context, Methods for the analysis of Speech Under Real Communicative Conditions. XIV AISV Conference, The Free University of Bozen/Bolzano, 25-27 January 2018, Bozen-Bolzano, Italy.

WORKSHOPS

Using Aegisub to subtitle Italian cartoons (2020 & 2021). Workshop for children: Youth Academy. University of Galway, Ireland.

Use H5P to design and create interactive language activities (UG-PG; 2020 & 2021). Workshop for undergraduate and postgraduate students. University of Galway, Ireland.

Learning Italian as Foreign Language with Clipflair Studio (twice in a year 2017 - 2019). Workshop for children: Youth Academy. University of Galway, Ireland.

ClipFlair. Foreign Language Learning through interactive re-voicing and captioning activities (UG. 2017- 2018- 2019). University of Galway, Ireland.

Using PRAAT to improve foreign language intonation (UG. 2016-2017). University of Galway, Ireland.

RESOURCES – CORPUS LINGUISTICS

- **PIC – the Prosodic Italian Corpus of Irish English learners**
The PIC corpus is the first prosodically annotated speech corpus of Irish English learners of Italian. This spoken corpus consists of 952 speech tokens (broad and corrective-contrastive focus statements; info-seeking polar and open questions) produced by undergraduate Irish English students of Italian before and after an explicit prosodic-pragmatic training.
- **STRINA – the Corpus of Italian Spoken in La Spezia**
The STRINA corpus is the first prosodically annotated corpus of Italian spoken in La Spezia. The corpus consists of 1180 speech tokens relating to a variety of target utterances and communicative situations.
- **IES - The Corpus of Irish English Speech**
The IES corpus is the most recent prosodically annotated speech corpus of Irish English speakers. At present, it includes the varieties of Irish English spoken in Galway, Mayo, Dublin, East Donegal, West Cork for a total of 5760 speech tokens and 30 hours of recordings.

WEBSITE

- **The Lilac (OnLine Language Learning and Teaching) website**
funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.
The LILAC website includes Open Educational Resources designed to assist teacher trainers, language teachers and students in the transition from the traditional face-to-face to the online learning environment. <https://www.lilac-project.com/en/>

- **Tra-balliamo - Italian for Secondary Schools**

funded by the Department of Education (Post-Primary Languages Ireland).

This project aims to promote Italian language and culture in Irish secondary schools.

The website includes a syllabus and lesson plan to provide language teachers with ideas for embedding the language in performing arts experiences.

<https://traballiamo.wordpress.com/>

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- #ThinkLanguages Day; 01st December 2023
- Development and delivery of short ‘taster’ courses of Italian for secondary school students in Galway (<https://traballiamo.wordpress.com/>)
- Talk ‘Prosodic training in L2: a study with Hiberno-English learners of Italian’ Threesis at the University of Galway; 15th November 2019
- Development and delivery of short ‘taster’ courses of Italian for primary and secondary school students in Galway city and county (2014/2018)
- Open Days (2014-2022); ‘Italian Day at NUI, Galway’, 16th March 2018
- ‘Italian Food Culture meets the Atlantic Way’ event; 7th April 2016
- ‘Italian Movie Nights’ at University of Galway; 2015-2016
- Social Media Management: creating and updating the ‘Italian Academy at NUIG’ Facebook page; October 2014-October 2018

AWARDS

2022 The International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE), Best Poster Award, 2nd place, "Sociolinguistic variation of the MOUTH dyphthong in two Irish English varieties"

2022 JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) Research Support Allowance

2022 JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) Settling-in Grant

2021 JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, Kobe University, Japan

2021 Grant-in-Aid of Publication fund Award (Moore Institute-University of Galway)

2020 European Doctorate Award (University of Galway)

2019 Irish Association for Applied Linguistics (IRAAL) postgraduate Award

2019 Leargas Award “Learning Italian as a FL by captioning and revoicing cartoons” project was shortlisted for the European Language Label

GRANTS

2023 Thinklanguages Day and Outreach Activities funded by Languages Connect

2023 Ferragosto Summer Camp (Italian Discipline) funded by Languages Connect

2021 Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant, University of Galway, Ireland

2019 Write-up Bursary - School of Languages, Cultures and Literatures
University of Galway, Ireland

2014-2018 Galway Doctoral Research Fellowship
College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies
University of Galway, Ireland

2014-2018 Travel Bursary College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies
University of Galway, Ireland

2018 Grant AItLA – Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata, Rome

2016 & 2018 Grant ‘Andrea Paoloni’ (AISV) Associazione Italiana Scienze per la Voce

2011-2012 Grant Erasmus Programme (9 months)
The Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research (MIUR)

2010 Financial support from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria for the Summer Seminar on Bulgarian language and culture

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

IRAAL (Irish Association for Applied Linguistics)

IrEN (Irish English Network)

ESIST (European Association for Studies in Screen Translation)

AISV (Associazione Italiana Scienze per la Voce)

AItLA (Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata)