

Curriculum Vitae

Charlotte Ross
Professor of Italian and Gender Studies
Christ Church College, University of Oxford

Employment

- Current role (2024 -): Professor of Italian and Gender Studies, in the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, Tutorial Fellow in Italian at Christ Church College, and lecturer in Italian at St John's and Worcester College.
- Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (July 2023)
- Previous roles:
 - Reader in Gender, Sexuality and Cultural Studies, Department of Modern Languages, University of Birmingham (2017-2024);
 - Senior Lecturer in Italian Studies, Department of Modern Languages, University of Birmingham (2010-2017);
 - Lecturer in Italian Studies, Department of Modern Languages, University of Birmingham (2004-2010);
 - Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Italian Studies, University of Warwick (2000-2004).

Main Research Interests

- Representations of gender, sexuality and embodiment in Italian literature and culture, from the 19th century to the present day;
- The history of sexuality;
- Queer theories and cultures;
- Feminist theories and discourses;
- Comparative and World Literature.

Education

- Sept. 2000-Aug. 2004: Ph.D in Italian Studies, University of Warwick. Thesis title: 'Representations of Science, Technology, Literature and Society in the Works of Primo Levi', supervised by Prof. Ann Hallamore Caesar and Prof. Jenny Burns. External Examiners: Prof. Jonathan Usher (University of Edinburgh) and Prof. Robert Gordon (University of Cambridge).
- July 2003: Postgraduate Certificate in Further and Higher Education (University of Warwick).
- Oct. 1999-June 2000: Master of Studies in Modern European Literature, at Balliol College Oxford, specialising in Modern Italian Literature (Distinction).
- Oct. 1994-June 1998: Newnham College Cambridge: BA Combined Honours in English and Modern Languages (First Class).

Recent research grants and awards

- Conference grant for the conference 'Queer Kinship across Time and Space', Christ Church, Oxford, April 2025 (£6,700).

- Principal Investigator (PI) for a British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant (£9,668), 'Cultural Discourses on Desire between Women. A Queer Comparative Analysis', with Dr Silvia Antosa (Co-Investigator, CI), University of Emma Koré, October 2018-September 2022.
- PI for an Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Networking Grant, 'Queer Italia Network' (£45,000), September 2016-August 2018.
- PI for an AHRC Early Career Fellowship (£47,000) for the project 'Eccentricity and Sameness: Lesbian Cultural Representations in Italy, 1883 to the present day', January-May 2012.
- CI on a grant for interdisciplinary research on the theme of 'Resilience', from the University of Birmingham (£30,000), September 2010-December 2011.
- CI on a British Academy Research Grant (£67,000) for the project 'Resisting the Tide: Cultures of Opposition in the Berlusconi Years', with Daniele Albertazzi (PI) and Clodagh Brook (CI), 2006-2008.
- *Premio Flaiano di Italianistica*, 2008 awarded to the volume *Intellettuali italiani fra il dopoguerra e l'inizio del ventunesimo secolo. Saggi sulla trasformazione dei rapporti fra cultura e potere* (Frankfurt: Verlag für deutsch-italienische Studien, 2007), edited by Angela Barwig and Thomas Stauder, to which I contributed a chapter on 'Rita Levi Montalcini'.

Principal research publications

Monographs

- Ross, C. (2015) *Eccentricity and Sameness: Discourses on Lesbianism and Desire between Women in Italy, 1860s-1930s*. Bern, Oxford and New York: Peter Lang.
- Ross, C. (2011) *Primo Levi's Narratives of Embodiment: Containing the Human*. New York: Routledge.

Edited Books and Peer-Reviewed Journal Issues

- Ross, C, Heim, J. and Smythe, SA, eds (2019) special issue of *gender/sexuality/Italy: Italian Queer Cultures* (6).
- Ross, C. and S. Scarparo, eds (2010) special issue of *Italian Studies: Gender and Sexuality In Contemporary Italian Culture: Representations and Critical Debates*. 65 (2).
- Albertazzi, D., C. Brook, C. Ross and N. Rothenberg, eds (2009) *Resisting the Tide. Cultures of Opposition under Berlusconi (2001-06)*. New York: Continuum.
- Polezzi, L. e Ross, C., eds (2007) *In corpore: Bodies in Post-Unification Italy*. Madison NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.
- Ross, C. and Sibley, R. eds (2004) *Illuminating Eco. On the Boundaries of Interpretation*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Ross, C. (2023) Locked in or locked out, or "la vita della cose". Gender, agency and (dis)embodiment in Primo Levi and Nicoletta Vallorani's Speculative Fiction. *Enthymema* XXXIII: 91-105.

- Antosa, S., & Ross, C. (2022) Backward Modernism and Queerly Desiring Women in Early 20th-Century British and French Fiction: Rosamond Lehmann and Jeanne Galzy. *Ticontre. Teoria Testo Traduzione*, (17). Available at <<https://teseo.unitn.it/ticontre/article/view/2280>>.
- Ross C. (2020) Surviving Melancholy and Mourning: a Queer Politics of Damage in Italian Literary Representations of Same-sex Parenting. *Phenomenology of Mind*, 19: 54-70.
- Ross C., Heim J. and Smythe, SA (2019) Queer Italian Studies: Critical Reflections from the Field. *Italian Studies*, 74 (4): 397-412.
- Ross, C. (2016) 'La carezza incompiuta'. Queer Aesthetics, Desire And Censorship in Ticchioni's *Il suicidio di un esteta*, *MLR*, 111 (2): 390-412.
- Ross, C. (2016) "'Donne nate male, amicizie colpevoli e quelle profonde come una parentela. Marise Ferro's queerly desiring women', *Italian Culture*, 34 (2):63-80.
- Ross, C. (2012) 'Imagined Communities: Issues around LGBTQ Ageing in Italy', *Modern Italy*, 17 (4): 449-464.
- 'Goliarda Sapienza's Eccentric Interruptions: Multiple selves, gender ambiguities and disrupted desires, in *altrelettere* (2012), DOI: 10.5903/al_uzh-2 [www.altrelettere.uzh.ch].
- Ross, C. (2010) 'Critical Approaches to Gender and Sexuality in Italian Culture and Society', *Italian Studies*, 65 (2): 164-77.
- Ross, c. (2010), 'Critical Approaches to Gender and Sexuality in Italian Culture and Society' in a special issue of *Italian Studies*, on gender and sexuality, co-edited by Charlotte Ross and Susanna Scarparo. 65 (2): 164-77.
- Ross, C. (2008), 'Visions of Visibility: LGBT Activism in Turin', *Modern Italy*. 13 (3): 241-60.
- Ross, C., (2006), 'Incarnando la sessualità: performatività, parodia, piacere'. *Omosapiens. Studi e ricerche sull'orientamento sessuale*. Rizzo, D. (ed.). Rome: [Carocci Editore](http://www.caroccieditore.it), 1: 123-36.
- Ross, C. (2005), 'Creating the Ideal Posthuman Body? Cyborg Sex and Gender in the work of Buzzati, Vacca, and Ammaniti' in *Italica*. 82 (2): 222-247.
- Ross, C. (2004), 'Parallel Productions: Rita and Paola Levi Montalcini' in *Italian Studies*. 59: 132-151.
- Ross, C. (2004), Queering the Habitus: Lesbian Identity in Stancanelli's 'Benzina' in *Romance Studies*. 22 (3): 237-250.

Chapters in Books:

- Ross, C. Queer(ing) Italy: Perspectives, Genealogies, Relationality. In *The Oxford Handbook of Italian Literature*, ed. Stefano Jossa. Oxford University Press (forthcoming 2025).
- Ross, C. (2020) "Exemplary" lesbians: the struggle for adequate representation, in *Gender and Authority across Disciplines, Space and Time*. Bazzoni, A. & Bardazzi, A. (eds.). Palgrave Macmillan.
- Ross, C. (2020), Amori fiammeschi, zitelle future, turbamenti emotivi e imprudenze giovanili: discorsi culturali e letterari sulle ragazze italiane del tardo 800. In Natoli, C. and Ranieri, R. (eds), *Sorelle d'Italia. Scrittrici e identità nazionale*. Palermo: Palermo University Press, pp.101-22.
- Ross, C. (2017) Dalla patologizzazione all'amore per gli 'anormali': La rappresentazione del desiderio dissidente tra donne in testi (pseudo)scientifici del tardo Ottocento e del

- primo Novecento, in *Tribadi, Sodomiti, Invertite E Invertiti, Pederasti, Femminelle, Ermafroditi...: Per una storia dell'omosessualità, della bisessualità e delle trasgressioni di genere in Italia*. In Grassi, U., Lagioia, V. & Romagnani, G-P. (eds.). Pisa, Italy: Edizioni ETS, pp. 155-171.
- Ross, C. (2017) 'Pathologies and Eroticism: Paolo Mantegazza's Ambiguous Reflections on Female Same-sex Sexuality', in *Homosexuality in Italian Literature, Culture, and Society 1789-1919*. In Benadusi, L., Bernardini, P. L., Guazzo, P. & Bianco, E. (eds.). Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 45-64.
 - Ross, C. (2015) 'Goliarda Sapienza's French Connections', in *Goliarda Sapienza in context: intertextual relationships with Italian and European culture*. Bazzoni, A., Bond, E. & Wehling-Giorgi, K. (eds.). Madison: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, pp. 87-100 .
 - Ross, C. (2015) 'Italian Medical and Literary Discourses around Female Same-Sex Desire, 1877-1906', in *Italian Sexualities Uncovered, 1789-1914*. Babini, V., Beccalossi, C. & Riall, L. (eds.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 228-48.
 - Antosa, S. and Ross, C. (2014) 'Dirsi lesbica oggi? Lesbofobie nei media italiani tra indicibilità e invisibilità'. In Roberta Di Bella e Romina Pistone eds *Donne+Donne. Prima, Attraverso e dopo il Pride*, Palermo: Qanat, pp.55-80.
 - Ross, C. (2012) 'Queer Embodiments: Fluidity, materiality, stickiness' in *Queer Crossings* ed. Silvia Antosa. Milan-Udine: Mimesis.
 - Ross, C. (2012) 'Identità di genere e sessualità nelle opere di Goliarda Sapienza: finzioni necessariamente queer' in *"Quel sogno d'essere" nell'opera di Goliarda Sapienza. Percorsi critici nel caleidoscopio artistico di una delle maggiori autrici del Novecento italiano*, ed. Giovanna Providenti. Rome: Aracne.
 - Ross, C. with Manuela Galetto, Chiara Lasala, Sveva Magaraggia, Chiara Martucci, and Elisabetta Onori (2009) 'Feminist Activism and Practice: Asserting Autonomy and Resisting Precarity', in *Resisting the Tide. Cultures of Opposition under Berlusconi. 2001-2006* edited by Albertazzi, D., C. Brook, C. Ross and N. Rothenberg. New York: Continuum.
 - Ross, C. (2009) 'Collective Association in the LGBT Movement', in *Resisting the Tide. Cultures of Opposition under Berlusconi. 2001-2006*, edited by Albertazzi, D., C. Brook, C. Ross and N. Rothenberg (2001-06). New York: Continuum.
 - Ross, C. and Brook C. J. (2009) 'Splinters of Resistance', in *Resisting the Tide. Cultures of Opposition under Berlusconi. 2001-2006*, edited by Albertazzi, D., C. Brook, C. Ross and N. Rothenberg (2001-06). New York: Continuum.
 - Ross, C. (2008) 'Realtà e identità di genere nella fantascienza femminista', in *Figurazioni del possibile. Sulla fantascienza femminista*. a cura di Sapegno, M.S. & Salvini, L., Iacobelli Editore.
 - Ross, C. (2007), 'Porno-girl da fumetto': Bodies and Sexuality in the Work of Isabella Santacroce', in *In corpore: bodies in post-unification Italy*. Polezzi, L. & Ross, C. (eds.). Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, pp.242-59 (The Fairleigh Dickinson University Press Series in Italian Studies).
 - Ross, C. (2007), 'Primo Levi's Science Fiction', in *The Cambridge Companion to Primo Levi*. Gordon, R. S. C. (ed.). Cambridge University Press, pp. 105-18.
 - Ross, C. & Duncan, D. (2007), 'Reading Allowed: Contemporary Lesbian and Gay Fiction in Italy', *Trends in Contemporary Italian Narrative, 1980-2007*. Ania, G. & Hallamore Caesar, A. (eds.). Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 90-113.

- Ross, C. (2007), 'Rita Levi Montalcini: engagement with the life of science and the science of life', in *Intellettuali italiani del secondo Novecento*. Barwig, A. & Stauder, T. (eds.). p. 503-21.
- Ross, C. (2007), 'Who are you calling robot? Cyberfeminisms and fictions' *Dentro/fuori sopra/sotto. Critica femminista e canone letterario negli studi di italianistica*. Ronchetti, A. & Sapegno, M. S. (eds.). Longo editore.
- Ross, C. (2004), 'The Serendipities of Semiotics, or Knowledge as a 'Theory of Next Thursday'', in *Illuminating Eco: On the Boundaries of Interpretation*. Ross, C. & Sibley, R. (eds.). Aldershot: Ashgate, pp. 105-120.

Research activities:

- Series Co-Editor of the book series 'Italian Modernities', Peter Lang (2024 -).
- Senior Co-editor of the 'A' rated international journal *Italian Studies*, overseeing the 'Cultural Studies' issue (2021-2025).
- Founding member and Executive Committee member of the online, open-access journal *altrelettere* (launched 2012), hosted by the University of Zurich.
- Society for Italian Studies: member since 2004. Graduate Representative from 2001-2004.
- Association for the Study of Modern Italy: member since 2002; Graduate representative from 2002-04. Committee member and Treasurer from 2007-2010.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the online journal *gender/sexuality/Italy*.
- Member of the Advisory Board for the book series 'Obliqua. S/Oggetti LGBTQIA+ ritrovati', PM Edizioni.
- Member of the Advisory Board for the book series 'alterà: collana di intercultura di genere, ETS, Pisa.
- Peer reviewer for: Routledge, Palgrave, Temple Press, *Italian Studies*, *The Journal of Gender Studies*, *gender/sexuality/Italy*, *The Italianist*, *Modern Italy*, *About Gender*, *Phenomenology of Mind*.

Visiting Professorships:

- Visiting Professor in the Humanities at the University of Palermo, February-May 2015.
- Visiting Goggio Professor, Department of Italian Studies, University of Toronto, Jan-