

MARIAGRAZIA SPINA

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EDUCATION

B.A. and M.A. German and English double Major,
Italian Minor, University of Modern Languages and
Literatures, Genoa, Italy, 1981

TEACHING POSITIONS

2020 – 2024 Senior Instructor of Italian and German
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2014-2020 Associate Instructor of Italian and German
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2003-2013 Instructor of Italian, French and German
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2002-2003 Visiting Instructor of Italian
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

STUDY ABROAD

2015-2017-2018 -2019-2022-2023
Faculty Director, Summer Study in Florence, Italy
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2016 Faculty Director, Summer Study in Munich, Germany
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2013-2014 Faculty Director, Summer Study in Nice and Paris,
France
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2012 Faculty Director, Summer Study in Florence, Italy
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2009-2010-2011
Faculty Director, Summer Study in Vienna, Austria
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2006-2007-2008
Faculty Director, Summer Study in Paris, France
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2003 Faculty Director, Summer Study in Urbino, Italy
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

2022 Four-time Recipient, University of Central Florida Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) award in 2007, 2012, 2017 and 2022.
This award recognizes teaching and productivity excellence and faculty contributions to the University's key goals of offering the best undergraduate education available in Florida and achieving international prominence in key programs of undergraduate study.

2020 Promotion to the Rank of Senior Instructor
Awarded the Course Redesign Initiative (DL CRI) -2nd time.

2019 Awarded the Course Redesign Initiative (DL CRI)
Awarded the COACHE Faculty development mini-Grant.

2018 Recognition of Quality Online Course Design by the State
University System of Florida

- 2014 Promotion to the Rank of Associate Instructor
- 2013 Office of Prestigious Awards Burnett Honors College Recognition of support to Fulbright recipients.
- 2013 Recognition of *MyItalianLab* Success Story featured online
- 2012 CDL Recognition of ITA1120W as one of the best instructional design practices for the online experience.

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Publications – pedagogical (2010-2015)

Pearson Higher Education - World Languages:

- *Percorsi, l'Italia attraverso la lingua e la cultura 3^e*, authored the cultural tours to accompany the textbook (2015)
- *Percorsi, l'Italia attraverso la lingua e la cultura 3^e*, authored the reading comprehension activities to accompany the textbook (2015)
- *My Italian Lab 2^e*, authored the enhanced feedback on the exams (2014)
- *My Italian Lab 3^e*, authored grammar PowerPoints to accompany the textbook (2014)
- *My Italian Lab 2^e*, authored test practice exams and feedbacks to accompany the textbook (2011)
- *My Italian Lab 1^e*, authored the grammar tutorials to accompany the textbook (2009)

Cengage Learning – World Languages:

- *Voilà' an Introduction to French, 6^e* - authored the test bank to accompany the textbook (2010)

Awarded grants

2020 Summer Conference Grant by FCTL (\$800) Winter Conference Grant by FCTL (\$300)

2020 Awarded for the second time the Course Redesign Initiative (DL CRI) with funds for travel/research (\$2,970) at UCF

2020 Awarded the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Summer Conference at UCF (\$500)

2020 Awarded the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Winter Conference at UCF (\$300)

2019 Awarded the Course Redesign Initiative (DL CRI) with funds for travel/research (\$2,500) at UCF

2019 Awarded the COACHE Faculty Development Mini-Grant at UCF to create a program of transparency and collegiality in the Department (\$650)

2004 - 2014 Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Summer Conference, one \$800 grant per conference to transform courses or programs according to goals and objectives related to a defining theme, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

2014 UCF Writing Center – WAC (Writing Across the Curriculum) \$ 1,000 grant to develop writing assignment in languages classes.

Presentations

2021 “Creation of a website to use as portfolio, blog, Webquest”, webinar part of the series “Tech Tuesdays” organized by the Faculty Center of Teaching and Learning, UCF, Orlando, FL

2021 “Buckle up for a teaching emotional journey”, webinar hosted by the Sunshine Teaching and Learning Conference

2020 “Engaging students with digital content in the German class” webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Best practices for remote assessments”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Create high impact assessments that inspire digital creativity, collaboration and cultural scaffolding”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Create assessments that inspire digital creativity”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “How to connect emotionally with your students in a remote environment”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Best practices to personalize your course”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Cooking Lab: Sicilia a tavola”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Zoom speaks all languages”, webinar hosted by Vista Higher Learning

2020 “Professional Development Series” for DoDea in Europe, webinars hosted by Vista Higher Learning International

2020 “Buckle up for an emotional teaching journey”, webinar hosted by the Faculty Center of Teaching and Learning, UCF, Orlando FL

2019 “Uomo Faber beyond borders” (use of songwriting in teaching Italian), NeMLA (Northeastern Modern Languages Association) Convention in Washington DC

2019 “Let’s get motivated”, Sunshine Teaching and Learning Conference in Daytona Beach, FL

2018 “Digital storytelling in languages: from the campfire to transmedia,”International Congress on Visual Culture, Pontificia Universita’ della Santa Croce, Rome, Italy.

2018 “How to make writing useful and meaningful to students”, Sunshine State Teaching and Learning Conference, St. Petersburg, FL

2017 “How to make compositions interesting to students”,Webinars online, Vista Higher Learning.

2016 “Get Students Talking”, World Language Workshop: improving proficiency in and out of the classroom” - Valencia College West, Orlando FL

2016 “ Best practices for Foreign Languages oral assessments in the online environment”, Vista Higher Learning Language Forum, Celebration, FL

2015 “ Use of supplemental resources outside of the LMS and Publisher Platform”, Online Community and Communication Forum – University of Central Florida, Department of Modern Languages and Vista Higher Learning

2014 “Importance and impact of studying abroad”, University of Central Florida, Office of International Studies

2014 “Low stakes to high stakes Compositions in Italian”, Writing Across the Curriculum, University of Central Florida, Writing Center.

2013 “Let’s get them to talk” ACTFL (American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo, Orlando FL

2010 “Reading of the translated short stories by Puerto Rican author Miriam M. González-Hernández”, Department of Modern Languages, University of Central Florida

- 2009 “Benefits and Spinoffs of International Cooperation as a multicultural approach to the development of complex projects: the case of the International Space Station”, CCID (Community Colleges for International Development) 33rd Annual Conference, Orlando FL
- 2009 “Elementary Italian goes fully online”, Showcase Center of Distance Learning, University of Central Florida
- 2008 “ Amusons-nous: fun activities to engage students” ACTFL (American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo, Orlando FL
- 2006 “For a Re-reading (and a possible translation) of Luigi Bertelli’s Il Giornalino di Gianburrasca : Literature for children or reference book for adults?” seventeenth Southeast Conference on Foreign Languages and Literatures, Stetson University, Deltona FL
- 2004 “A case of Italian Studies at UCF”, Conference “ Italian Studies in the Southeast” Florida Atlantic University, Department of Modern Languages, Boca Raton, FL

Invited Talks

- 2004-2018 “Which language is right for you?”, Annual Scholar Day, University of Central Florida, Admissions Office.
- 2018 “Tips for a successful T.I.P. folder” College of Arts and Humanities, University of Central Florida
- 2017 “How to make compositions meaningful” University of Central Florida Department of Modern Languages & Literatures Brown Bag Lunch Series
- 2016 “ Importance and Impact of studying foreign languages and cultures” UCF Anthropology Club, Orlando FL
- 2015 “How to assess students’ 4 skills: best practices”, Faculty Training Program Vista Higher Learning, Boston
- 2014 “Modern languages assessment requirements across the USA Universities” Faculty Training Program Vista Higher Learning, Boston
- 2012 “Promoting the study of Foreign Languages at UCF”, Seminole County Public Schools, “Honorary Teacher” Event
- 2007 “ La bella figura: an Italian quest for beauty” Humanities Department, Valencia Community College, Orlando FL.

TEACHING ACTIVITY

Classes Taught

Elementary Italian Language and Civilization I & II (ITA 1120C & 1121C) in the three modalities F2F, Mixed Mode, V-Mode and Fully online.

Introduces students to Italian culture through the major language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Intermediate Italian Language and Civilization I & II, both F2F, V-Mode and Mixed Mode (ITA 2200 & 2201)

Development of language skills and cultural knowledge at the intermediate level.

Advanced Italian Oral Communication (ITA3760) Vocabulary building with systematic training in diction and locution. Speeches and oral presentations as well as production and delivery of real-life dialogues.

Italian Literature in Translation (ITT3480) Dante's inferno.

Renaissance Art Abroad (ITA 3472) Taught during the Summer Study Abroad in Florence, introduces students to a full immersion in Renaissance Art and its influence in the world.

Modern Italian Culture (ITA 3564) introduces modern Italian culture with a plethora of activities. This course reinforces all the skills for students who have declared a Minor in Italian.

Italian through Films (ITA 3215) Introduces Italian Filmography to students who are passionate about old cult movies to the most recent ones. Ideal for students who take an elective course to Minor in Italian.

Italian through Food (ITA 3620) introduces students to the culinary world through the Italian language and Culture. This course targets the interest for Italian food, traditions, society, and culture. Ideal for students minoring in Italian.

Italian in Translation (ITT 4956) Taught during the Summer Study Abroad in Florence, it introduces students to daily field trips.

Elementary French Language and Civilization I & II (FRE 1120C & 1121C)

Introduces students to French culture through the major language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Intermediate French Language and Civilization I & II (FRE 2200 & 2201)

Development of language skills and cultural knowledge at the intermediate level.

French Composition (FRE 3420) Development of advanced writing skills through culture and literature readings.

French Culture and Civilization Abroad (FRE 4500) Taught during the Summer Study Abroad in Nice, it introduces students to different aspects of France's culture, history and literature.

Elementary German Language and Civilization I & II (GER 1120C & 1121C)

both F2F and Fully online. Introduces students to German culture through the major language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Intermediate German Language and Civilization I & II (GER 2200 & 2201)

Development of language skills and cultural knowledge at the intermediate level.

German Post-War Literature (GEW 3480) Introduction to German contemporary literature at advanced language level.

Other Teaching and Instructional Activity

2021 PAL5000 Completion – Center for Distributed Learning

2021 Panopto Essentials Completion - Center for Distributed Learning

2019 Digital Professor Certification, Valencia Community College, Orlando FL

2018. Distance Learning Course re-design (ITA 1120- Elementary Italian Language and Civilization) in collaboration with CDL, UCF for the quality review accreditation.

2018 CITI Certification course (Humanities Responsible Conduct of

Research)

- 2009 Certification of completion of the IDL 6543, UCF Award Winning Faculty Development Program to create and teach online courses.

SERVICE ACTIVITY

University

- 2019 Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee
- 2013-2015 Coordination between UCF Continuing Education Language Training and Siemens Corporation
- 2013 Creation of a “Program Leader Evaluation” for Study Abroad Directors, Global Studies

College – Arts and Humanities (CAH)

- 2017 – 2021 CAH Technological Committee
- 2017-2019 & 2024 Believe in” UCF Campaign
- 2013 TIP Selection Committee, Member
- 2009 TIP Selection Committee, Member
- 2009 Faculty and Staff Campaign for the UCF Annual Fund

Department – Modern Languages & Literatures

- 2020-present Chair – Collegiality and Transparency Team
- 2018-present Modern Languages Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2018-2024 Selection Committee – Instructor Promotion and Tenure
- 2018-2022 Chair – Committee Scholarships Study Abroad
- 2018 Chair – Search Committee Instructor of German
- 2017-2018 Modern Languages Webpage Development Committee
- 2016 Search Committee – Visiting Instructor of German
- 2014 – 2015 Search Committee – Two Instructors of Spanish
- 2014 Selection Committee – Instructor Promotion and Tenure
- 2014 Textbook Selection Committee for FRE 1120 and 1121
- 2013-2016 Pat Forton Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Coordinator

- 2012-2013 Search Committee – Adjunct Instructor of French
- 2011 Italian Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2008 Douglas Rudy Summer Abroad Scholarship Coordinator
- 2008 Departmental Newsletter Development Committee
- 2008 Search Committee – Visiting Italian Associate Professor
- 2008 Textbook Selection Committee for FRE 1120 and 1121
- 2006 Search Committee – Instructor of Italian
- 2003 Horacio Fasce, Italian Cultural Society and Douglas Rudy Summer Study Scholarships Coordinator

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2021 Faculty Teaching Squares by FCTL

2021 Participant, McGraw Hill World Languages Virtual Event Participant, Sunshine State

2019 Teaching and Learning Conference, FSU, FL

2019 Participant, Sunshine State Teaching and Learning Conference, Daytona Beach, FL

2019 Participant, NEMLA (North Eastern Modern Languages Association) Convention in Washington DC

2019 Participant and Learner, Digital Professor Certification, Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL

Courses taken: “Legal Issues and the Student”, “Introduction to the rubric for online competencies” “Universal Design and Accessibility”, “Authentic Learning and Online Assessment”, “Building Online Learning Communities”, “Engaging the Online Learner”, “Test and Activity Creators”, “Developing Interactive Web-Based Courses”

- 2018 Participant, Sunshine State Teaching and Learning Conference, St Pete, FL
- 2018 Canvas Webinars, Valencia Community College, Orlando FL
- 2017 Participant, Online Focus Group on new online French language platform, Cengage Publisher
- 2016 Participant, World Language Workshop: “Improving proficiency in and out of the classroom”, Valencia College West Campus, Orlando, FL
- 2016 Participant, Technology Forum Hands-On”, Vista Higher Learning Orlando FL.
- 2015 Participant, Online Community and Communication Forum – University of Central Florida, Department of Modern Languages and Vista Higher Learning Publisher
- 2014-2015 Participant, Faculty Training at Vista Higher Learning, Boston
- 2004-2014 Participant, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Summer Conferences, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
- 2014 Participant, WAC Fellows Scholarship, Writing Across the Curriculum 4 months training course
- 2014 Participant, ACTFL (American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages), San Antonio TX
- 2014-2018 Participant, Professional Development Series Webinars, Vista Higher Learning
- 2013 Participant, ACTFL (American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Annual Conventions and World Languages Expo, Orlando FL
- 2012 Participant, FCIE (Florida Consortium for International Education) Conference “Classroom without Borders: Internationalizing the Curricula”.
- 2009-2018 Participant, Professional Development Series Webinars CDL, University of Central Florida
- 2009 Participant, IDL 6543 Course Center for Distributed Learning University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
- 2008 Participant, ACTFL (American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Annual Conventions and World Languages Expo, Orlando FL
- 2006 Participant, 17th Southeast Conference on Foreign Languages and Literatures, Stetson University, Deltona FL
- 2004 Italian Studies in the Southeast” Florida Atlantic University, Department of Modern Languages, Boca Raton, FL

CONSULTING

2013-2021

Faculty Trainer:

Vista Higher Learning Supersite, train and advise faculty at U.S. universities and colleges in use of VHL course learning and management system, Elementary and Intermediate Italian, German and French textbooks and courses

2008-2021

Reviewer:

- Thumbnails and comparisons *Welten* and *Kontakte* for Vista Higher Learning, 2016
- Thumbnails and comparisons *Piazza*, *Caleidoscopio* and *Con Fantasia* for Vista Higher Learning, 2016
- *Avanti*, 4th edition, McGraw Hill, 2016
- *Treffpunkt Deutsch*, 6th edition, Pearson, 2015
- *Sag Mal*, 2nd edition, Vista Higher Learning, 2015
- *Sentieri*, 2nd edition, Vista Higher Learning, 2015
- *Liaisons*, 2nd edition, Cengage 2014
- *Piazza: Luogo di incontri*, Cengage 2014
- *Na klar*, 7th edition, McGraw Hill, 2013
- *En bonne Forme*, 9th edition Wiley and Sons, 2013
- *Entre Amis*, 6th edition, Cengage, 2013
- *Giardino Italiano*, 1st Edition, Pearson 2012
- *Parliamo italiano*, 4th Edition, Wiley, 2010
- *Percorsi*, 2nd Edition, Pearson, 2010
- *Ilearn for Motifs*, 5th Edition, Cengage 2010
- *Cristo si è fermato ad Eboli*, Farinelli 2008
- *Horizon*, 4th Edition, Cengage 2009
- *Vis-à-vis*, 4th Edition, McGraw Hill 2008
- *Con Fantasia*, 3rd Edition, Wiley 2008