

# Curriculum Vitae

## Personal information

Surname/ Name **Varcasia Cecilia**

## Education

2007 PhD in Applied Linguistics, Lancaster University, U.K.

2002 MA in Foreign Languages, University of Sassari, Italy

## Actual appointment

14.06.25-now RTT – Tenure-track Researcher (SSD GLOT-01/B) at Dipartimento di Promozione delle Scienze Umane e della Qualità della Vita, Università San Raffaele Roma.

## Esperienza professionale

- 01.02.2023-13.06.25 Research Fellow (RTD-A) at the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen in Italian Linguistics (SSD L-FIL-LETT/12). Project title: "Scritto e parlato nell'italiano di bambini".
- 01.02.2020 – 31.01.2023 Research Fellow (Ricercatore a tempo determinato RTD-A) at the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bolzano Bozen in Italian Linguistics (SSD L-FIL-LETT/12). Project title: "Linguistic variation and teaching Italian in South Tyrol".
- 12.10.2020-19.02.2021 Visiting Lecturer at the Cisar Putra Universiti (Center for Liberal Studies) of the National University of Malaysia for the course LMCR 1232 I BAHASA KEPEMIMPINAN - Leadership voice – delivered in the online-mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 18.04.2018 – 30.04.2020 Contract professor of Second Language Acquisition at the University of Cagliari, Italy.
- 01.03.2018 – 31.01.2020 Contract professor of Second Language acquisition at the Free University of Bolzano, Italy.
- 01.03.2013 – 28.02.2018 Research Fellow (Ricercatore a tempo determinato RTD-A) at the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bolzano Bozen in Applied Linguistics (SSD L-LIN/02)
- She was responsible of the project "Assessing Speaking at the Free University of Bolzano" for the development and validation of a proficiency test, the speaking part, to be used to assess speaking competences of University students before their graduation in English, Italian and German at the Free University of Bolzano.
- 15.01.2013-28.02.2013 Co.co.co – Contratto di supporto alla ricerca at the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen to collaborate to the project "Assessing speaking at the Free University of Bolzano", for the revision of a speaking test in Italian, English and German, for the students at the end of their UNIBZ career.
- 01/11/2011 - 31/10/2012 Research Fellow (Ricercatore a tempo determinato RTD-A) at the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bolzano Bozen in Linguistics (SSD L-LIN/01)
- She was responsible of the project "Assessing Speaking at the Free University of Bolzano" for the development and validation of a proficiency test, the speaking part, to be used to assess speaking competences of University students before their graduation in English, Italian and German at the Free University of Bolzano.
- 01/10/2007 - 30/09/2011 Research Fellow (Ricercatore a tempo determinato RTD-A) at the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bolzano Bozen in Linguistics (SSD L-LIN/01)
- She was a member of the Free University of Bolzano research unit in the Eu-Project Dylan, Language Dynamics and Management of Diversity. Work Package 3: Educational Systems.

01/01/2004 – 01/04/2007 Research grant in Applied Linguistics (SSD L-LIN/02), Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere, Università di Sassari.

She worked at a research project: "From reasearch to application on teaching: language acquisition as conversational practices"

### **Academic responsibilities and research interests**

2020-now As part of the project "Linguistic Variation and Didactics of Italian in South Tyrol" she collected data of Italian learners during the Covid-19 quarantine period with the collaboration of language facilitators in contact with foreign children attending primary schools in South Tyrol in order to study the development of communicative competence at both longitudinally and cross-sectionally.

2023 She is currently been appointed as scientific coordinator for the project IKSU ("Wir und unsere Sprache(n): ein inklusives Konzept der Sprachenförderung im Unterland" by the Pedagogical Department of the Province of Bolzano.

2021-2023 She has been responsible (PI) for the project VALI - Valuing the competences of the child's linguistic repertoire for language learning. A pathway for primary schools in South Tyrol (2021-2023). Financed with UNIBZ-RTD funds.

As part of the VALI project she is responsible for

- the creation and administration of a socio- and metalinguistic questionnaire to children attending primary 4 in schools in the Province of Bolzano (180 questionnaires collected).

- an agreement with the Pedagogical Department and the Language Centres of the Province of Bozen/Bolzano: "Wir und unsere Sprache(n): ein inklusives Konzept der Sprachenförderung im Unterland" (IKSU).

- the experimentation of teaching activities in the spirit of "Èveil aux langues" (CARAP, 2012) and in collaboration with the Language Centre of the Bassa Atesina (Pedagogical Department of the Province of Bozen/Bolzano) in some primary school classes (two classes from the Italian school system, two classes from the German school system).

- the training of teachers of the classes involved in the experimentation in the area of multilingual literacy, language awareness and language manipulation (cfr. Lo Duca, 2004, 2018)

2018-20 She has studied second language books for teaching Italian and German as a second language. In particular she has focused on how a communicative practice such as telephone conversation (service or informal) is proposed to the learner and in the light of the comparison with real communicative practices what implications emerge for the teaching of L2.

November 2011 – march 2018 She was responsible for a research project for the development and validation of a speaking test for outgoing students of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano in the three official languages of the University: Italian, English and German. She is currently working on observing the conversational practices that emerge from the oral test pilots in order to inform language testing and validation.

2007-2012 Within the EU-project DYLAN, she analyzed a multilingual corpus of service encounters at the orientation and internship service, the library and the international relations office of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. In particular, she observed the use and language choices in these meetings, the role of silence in the choice of the language to be used in the opening of communicative exchanges, and the emergence of lingua francas for communication (not only English, but also Italian and German).

2007-08 She was a member of the research unit of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano for the European project LINEE (Languages in a Network of European Excellence), VI Framework Programme, Work Package 8: "Traditional pedagogic cultures in foreign language education and the need for multicompetence".

2001-2010 She worked at the project 'How to open a phone call', coordinated by Prof. Gabriele Pallotti, University of Reggio Emilia, for the collection, digitization, transcription, analysis of conversations in Italian, German, English, Spanish, French and Russian.

- 2006-08 She took part at the PRIN project (Italian National Research Projects), research unit of Reggio Emilia, scientific responsible Gabriele Pallotti, national coordinator Giuliano Bernini, University of Bergamo, on "Variability of interlanguage in advanced learners: acquisitional research and didactic applications".
- 2004-06 Collaboration with scientific research programs of national interest, research unit of Verona, coordinator Prof. Camilla Bettoni, project on "Context of acquisition and use, language forms and variability: applications to testing and classroom teaching".
- 2005 She is responsible for a project for the creation of a database of telephone conversations in several European languages in collaboration with Prof. Gabriele Pallotti, Dr. Linda Brodo and Dr. Andrea Melis. <http://linguistica.uniss.it>
- 2003 Editor of the hypertext programming of a multimedia CD-rom about calls to radio-television programs: "La telefonata dell'ascoltatore", by Fabrizio Bercelli and Gabriele Pallotti.

**Financed Projects** Valuing the competencies in the linguistic repertoire of the child for language learning. A learning path for the primary school in South Tirol. (VALI)  
Award Holder: Free University of Bolzano

### Memberships

- 2025 Member of LEND – Lingua e nuova didattica
- 2022-now Member of LINE – Centro Interuniversitario di ricerca – Language in education
- 2022 Member of the Italian Society of language teaching and linguistic education (DILLE)
- 2019-now Member of AIM - Centro Interateneo di Analisi dell'Interazione e della Mediazione
- 2013 - now Member of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE)
- 2016- now Member of Giscel Trentino-Alto Adige
- 2016 – now Member of the Società di Linguistica Italiana (SLI)
- 2016 – now Member of the GISCEL Trentino Alto Adige
- 2008 – now Member of the International Pragmatics Association (IPrA)
- 2004 – now Member of the Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AItLA)

### Teaching activity

#### In the last 5 years

- A.A. 2024-25 Lab "Multilingual literacy", 60 hours (in Italian, 20 hours/group, three groups of students), BA in Primary education, 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.  
Lab "Teaching Italian as L2 and linguistic education at school" 20 hours (in Italian) BA in Primary education, 3<sup>rd</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.
- A.A. 2023-24 Lab "Multilingual literacy", 40 hours (in Italian, 20 hours/group, two groups of students), BA in Primary education, 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.  
Lab "Teaching Italian as L2 and linguistic education at school" 40 hours (in Italian, two groups, 20 hours each group) BA in Primary education, 3<sup>rd</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.
- A.A. 2022-23 Lab "Teaching Italian as L2 and linguistic education at school" 40 hours (in Italian, two groups, 20 hours each group) BA in Primary education, 3<sup>rd</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.  
Lab "Multilingual literacy", 40 hours (in Italian, 20 hours/group, two groups of students), BA in Primary education, 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.

- A.A. 2021-22 Lecture "Second language acquisition and teaching of Italian L2", 30 hours (in Italian) BA in Primary education, 3rd year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.  
Lab "Multilingual literacy", 40 hours (in Italian, 20 hours/group, two groups of students), BA in Primary education, 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.
- A.A. 2020-21 Visiting Lecturer at the Cisar Putra Universiti (Center for Liberal Studies) of the National University of Malaysia for the course LMCR 1232 I BAHASA KEPEMIMPINAN - Leadership voice – delivered in the online-mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic.  
Lab "Multilingual literacy", 20 hours (in Italian), BA in Primary education, 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.
- A.Y. 2019-20 Lab "Teaching Italian as L2 and linguistic education at school" 60 hours (in Italian, three groups, 20 hours each group) BA in Primary education, 3rd year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.  
2020-21 Lab "Teaching Italian L2", 45 hours (in Italian, three groups, 15 hours each group), BA in Primary education, 5th year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.
- A.Y. 2017-18, 2018-19, 2020-21 Lecture "Teaching Italian L2", 40 hours (in Italian) di 40 ore (in lingua italiana) BA in Primary education, 5th year of study, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bolzano.

### Teacher training

Last 5 years

- 2024 Training session for a group of teachers and school principals from Regensburg on managing multilingualism in South Tyrolean schools and presentation of the data from the VALI project. March 11, 2024, 2:00–5:00 PM. Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Faculty of Education.
- 2023 "Noi e le nostre scuole plurilingui", Turin 30-31 October 2023. Teacher training for primary and secondary school teachers.  
Teacher training at the primary school in German language (BZ) on Multilingual literacy for multilingual pupils. 16.03.2023.  
Teacher training at the primary school in German language (BZ) - Presentation and discussion of results of experimental teaching done in two classes during school year 2021-22. 17.01.2023.
- 2021 Presentation of the results of the socio- and metalinguistic questionnaire "What languages do you speak? To the deans of the primary schools in Unterland and the director of the Pedagogic department of the Province of Bolzano, and the directors of the Language Centres of the Province of Bolzano. Bolzano, 12.12.21.  
Training afternoon for the teachers of the primary school (BZ): Multilingual literacy and discussion of the results from the sociolinguistic questionnaire with pupils attending 3rd and 4th class. 5.10.21.  
Training for the teachers of the primary school (BZ): Multilingual literacy. 27.08.21
- 2019 Training for language teachers at a Oberschule on "Developing the speaking skills", 3 hours. Meran, 1 April 2019.

### Publications

of the last 15 years

- Books** Varcasia, C. 2013. *Business and service conversations on the phone. An investigation of British English, German and Italian encounters.* Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Edited books** Varcasia, C. (ed.), 2011. *Becoming Multilingual. Language Learning and Language Policy between Attitudes and Identities.* Bern, Peter Lang.
- Cocco, S., Pinna, A. & Varcasia, C. (a cura di), 2009. *Corpora, Discorso e Stile. Corpora, Discourse and Style.* Roma, Aracne.

### Papers and book chapters

- 1 Andorno, C. & Varcasia, C. (in preparazione). "Developing metalinguistic awareness in plurilingual classes at primary schools in Italy". Special Issue Language Awareness "Metalinguistic awareness across a lifespan".

- 2 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. (in corso di stampa). "Plurilingual education for plurilingual learners: a project for primary schools". In Guarda, M., Meier, G. & Stopfner, M. (eds) *Changing Perspectives Towards Linguistic Diversity in Education: Promoting Social Cohesion Through Agency*. Springer
- 3 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. 2024. "Te to te? Costruire e condividere l'esperienza linguistica", *Italiano Lingua Due*, 2, 376-391. <https://doi.org/10.54103/2037-3597/27851>
- 4 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. 2024. "Emergent plurilingualism and metalinguistic awareness in primary school". *Nordic Journal of Language Teaching and Learning* 2, XLVI-LI. <https://doi.org/10.46364/njltl.v12i2.1293>
- 5 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. 2024. "Alfabetizzazione plurilingue ed educazione linguistica nella scuola primaria". *LEND*, 2, 7-17.
- 6 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. 2024. "Ich kann ein bisschen italienisch und sehr viel dialekt und kann auch gut deutsch" Consapevolezza e riflessione linguistica nella scuola primaria. *Babylonia Multilingual Journal of Language Education*, 1, 18-23.
- 7 Varcasia, C. & Atz, E. 2024. "Multilingual literacy and metalinguistic reflection in primary school". In Giusti, G., Mura, P., Procentese, C. *Language Attitudes and Bi(dia)lectal Competences*, Venezia: Edizioni Ca' Foscari, 191-212.
- 8 Atz, E., Fava, E. & Varcasia, C. 2023. "Du iz tak? Some evidence of plurilingualism in primary school". *Instructed Second Language Acquisition*, 7/2, 194-221.
- 9 Varcasia, C. 2023. "Cacce al tesoro al buio in italiano L2". Maffia M. & Caruso V. (a cura di), *Vecchie e nuove forme di comunicazione diseguale: canali, strutture e modelli*, Studi AltLA 17. Milano: OfficinaVentuno, 273-289.
- 10 Varcasia, C. 2022. "Plurilinguismi endogeni ed esogeni". *Italiano Lingua Due*, 14/2, 547-559.
- 11 Porcu F., Cantacessi, C., Dessì, G., Sini M.F., Ahmed, F., Cavallo, L., Nonnis, F., Joanny, G., Scala, A., Tamponi, C., Varcasia, A., Varcasia, C. 2022. "Fight the parasite" – raising awareness of cystic echinococcosis in primary schoolchildren in endemic countries". *Parasites and Vectors*, Springer.
- 12 Varcasia C. 2021. "Gestire un esame in italiano, inglese e tedesco: pratiche comunicative a confronto". In E. Favilla e S. Machetti (a cura di), *Lingue in contatto e linguistica applicata: individui e società*. Studi AltLA, Milano, Officinaventuno, 275-290. ISSN: 2724-4830.
- 13 Varcasia, C. 2020. "Conversazioni telefoniche e didattica nei manuali di italiano L2". *Lend – Lingua e nuova didattica*, 2, 53-66.
- 14 Varcasia, C. 2019. "Service phone call openings in Italian as a second language textbook". *Italiano LinguaDue*, 11/1, 98-113.
- 15 Varcasia, C. 2019. "Discourse functions in a dialogic speaking test task". *Language Learning in Higher Education*, 9/2, 321-349.
- 16 Veronesi, D., Spreafico L., Varcasia, C., Vietti, A., Franceschini R. 2013. "Multilingual higher education between policies, practices and representations: a case study". In A.C. Berthoud, F. Grin & G. Lüdi (eds.) *Exploring the dynamics of multilingualism. The DYLAN project*, Amsterdam, Benjamins, 253-277.
- 17 Varcasia, C. 2013. "Comunicare in una realtà plurilingue". In C. Bosisio, S. Cavagnoli, *Atti del Congresso dell'Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AltLA)*, Perugia, Guerra, 341-344.
- 18 Varcasia, C. 2012. La valutazione del parlato degli studenti: implicazioni sul testing linguistico. *Italiano Lingua Due*, 4/2, 11-34.
- 19 Varcasia, C. 2012. "Meeting the Other in a Lingua Franca: the case of requests". In S. Cocco, M. Dell'Utri, S. Falchi, L'Altro. I molteplici volti di un'ineludibile presenza. Roma, Aracne, 177-191.
- 20 Varcasia, C. 2011. "Introduction". In C. Varcasia (ed.), *Becoming Multilingual. Language Learning and Language Policy between Attitudes and Identities*. Bern, Peter Lang, 7-16.

- 21 Varcasia, C. 2010. "L'apertura degli incontri di servizio in una realtà plurilingue". In M. Pettorino, A. Giannini, F. Dovetto (a cura di), *La comunicazione parlata 3. Atti del terzo Congresso Internazionale del Gruppo di studio sulla Comunicazione Parlata*, vol. I. Napoli, Università degli studi di Napoli L'Orientale, 655-670.
- 22 Varcasia, C. 2009. "A Search-Tool for the Automatic Analysis of Interactional Corpora". In S. Cocco, A. Pinna & C. Varcasia (a cura di), *Corpora, Discorso e Stile. Corpora, Discourse & Style*. Roma, Aracne, 59-75.
- 23 Varcasia, C., Cattani, A., Cocco, S. & Orlandi, A. 2009. "Anglicisms of IT in a Multilingual Corpus: the Role of Translation in the Language for Specific Purposes". In S. Cavagnoli, E. Di Giovanni, R. Merlini (a cura di), *La ricerca nella comunicazione interlinguistica. Approcci teorici e metodologici*, Milano, Franco Angeli, 181-201.
- 24 Pallotti, G. & Varcasia, C. 2008. "Service Telephone Call Openings: a Comparative Study on Five European Languages". *Journal of Intercultural Communication*, 17.
- 25 Varcasia, C. 2008. "Chiamate di servizio in diverse lingue: il ruolo del chiamante". In M. Pettorino, A. Giannini, M. Vallone & R. Savy (a cura di), *La Comunicazione Parlata*, Atti del Congresso Internazionale di Napoli, 23-25 febbraio 2006, Liguori, tomo II, 1272-1292.
- 26 Varcasia, C. 2007. "English, German and Italian Responses in Telephone Service Encounters". In P. Seedhouse & H. Bowles (eds.), *Conversation Analysis and Language for Specific Purposes*, Peter Lang, 217-244.
- 27 Varcasia, C. 2006. "Formulating Requests: Grammar in Interaction in Italian L2". Poster presentato alla II Conferenza di Ateneo degli Assegnisti e Dottorandi di ricerca, 8 maggio 2006.
- 28 Varcasia, C. 2006. "Telefonate tra inglesi e italiani. La gestione delle aperture di servizio in italiano". In E. Banfi, L. Gavioli, C. Guardiano e M. Vedovelli (a cura di), *Atti del V Congresso Internazionale dell'Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata*, Perugia, Guerra, 283-303.
- 29 Pallotti G., Bercelli F., Varcasia C. 2004. "La telefonata dell'ascoltatore". In F. Albano Leoni, F. Cutugno, M. Pettorino, R. Savy (a cura di), *Il parlato italiano*, Atti del Convegno nazionale di Napoli, 13-15 febbraio 2003. Napoli: D'Auria.
- 30 Varcasia, C. 2003. "Chiamate di servizio in Italia e Germania: aperture a confronto". In Thüne E. M. e Leonardi S. (a cura di) *Telefonare in diverse lingue: organizzazione sequenziale, routine e rituali in telefonate di servizio, di emergenza e fatiche*, Milano: Franco Angeli, 112-132.
- 31 Varcasia, C. 2003. "Le conversazioni telefoniche di servizio". In G. Contu (a cura di) *Annali della Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere* vol. n.1, Università di Sassari, 425-448.

## Entrepreneurship

Bilateral Agreement between the Free University of Bolzano (responsible Cecilia Varcasia) and Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano, Direzione Istruzione e Formazione tedesca Ripartizione pedagogica: "Wir und unsere Sprache(n): ein inklusives Konzept der Sprachenförderung im Unterland (IKSU)", Start date 25/08/2021; End date 31/08/2024.

## Language competences

### L1 Italian

Other languages

Self-assessment

CEFR Levels (\*)

**English**

**German**

**Spanish**

**French**

| Comprehension |                 |         |                 | Speaking         |                 |                 |                 | Written |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Listening     |                 | Reading |                 | Oral interaction |                 | Oral production |                 |         |                 |
| C1            | advanced user   | C1      | advanced user   | C1               | advanced user   | C1              | advanced user   | C1      | advanced user   |
| C1            | advanced user   | B2      | advanced user   | C1               | advanced user   | C1              | advanced user   | C1      | advanced user   |
| B2            | autonomous user | B2      | autonomous user | B2               | autonomous user | B2              | autonomous user | B2      | autonomous user |
| B1            | autonomous user | B1      | autonomous user | A2               | Base user       | A2              | Base user       | A2      | Base user       |

(\*) Common European Framework of Reference for Languages