

# Curriculum Vitae

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**Personal information** Dr. Birgit Spechtenhauser, PhD

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## Education since leaving school

- 2003 *Laurea/vecchio ordinamento* (eight-semester course of studies) in *Lingue e letterature straniere moderne* (English and German literature), Università degli Studi di Trento
- 2007 SSIS/post-graduate degree (second level specialising master/four-semester didact. specialisation post lauream and one-year professional practical training) to obtain the teaching qualification (*Abilitazione statale all'insegnamento della letteratura e cultura inglese*), 80/80, Free University of Bolzano
- 2022 PhD in Linguistics – field of research: Multilingual awareness in young adolescent language learners in South Tyrol, m.c.l./w. excellence, Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck / *Equipollenza Dottorato di Ricerca in Linguistica* (Università degli Studi di Verona 2023)

## Experience in academic teaching

FUB – Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (sector L-LIN/01; L-LIN/02; L-LIN/12) Lecturer; Adjunct professor

- Academic year 2017/2018 'Prerequisite: English language and grammar B2'/Laboratory, Faculty of Education German section, Master's degree in Primary Education – 4<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2017/2018 'Didactic 3<sup>rd</sup> language: Reading and writing in the classroom'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education Germ. section – 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2018/2019 'Prerequisite: English language and grammar B2'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education Germ. section – 4<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2018/2019 'Didactic 3<sup>rd</sup> language: Reading and writing in the classroom'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education – 5<sup>th</sup> year

- Academic year 2019/2020 'Prerequisite: English language and grammar B2'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education Germ. section – 4<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2019/2020 'Didactic 3<sup>rd</sup> language: Reading and writing in the classroom'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education Germ. section – 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2020/2021 'Didactic 3<sup>rd</sup> language: Reading and writing in the classroom'/Lab., Master's degree in Primary Education Germ. section – 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2021/2022 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD ASE - Advanced-Systems Engineering
- Academic year 2021/2022 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD SET - Sustainable Energy and Technologies
- Academic year 2021/2022 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD Computer Science
- Academic year 2021/2022 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD MEA - Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems
- Academic year 2021/2022 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD FEB – Food Engineering and Biotechnology
- Academic year 2022/2023 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD ASE - Advanced-Systems Engineering
- Academic year 2022/2023 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD SET - Sustainable Energy and Technologies
- Academic year 2022/2023 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD MEA - Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems
- Academic year 2022/2023 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD FEB – Food Engineering and Biotechnology
- Academic year 2022/2023 'English 1' – Master Eco-Social Design
- Academic year 2023/2024 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD ASE - Advanced-Systems Engineering
- Academic year 2023/2024 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD SET - Sustainable Energy and Technologies
- Academic year 2023/2024 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD MEA - Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems

- Academic year 2023/2024 'Advanced Scientific English'/Faculty of Science and Technology – PhD FEB – Food Engineering and Biotechnology
- Academic year 2023/2024 'English 1' – Master Eco-Social Design
- Academic year 2023/2024 'English Language Teaching-L3: Approaches, syllabuses, lesson plans, assessment and materials in TEYL'//Laboratory, Faculty of Education, Master's degree in Primary Education Italian section – 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2024/2025 'English 1' – Master Eco-Social Design
- Academic year 2024/2025 'English Language Teaching-L3: Approaches, syllabuses, lesson plans, assessment and materials in TEYL'//Laboratory, Faculty of Education, Master's degree in Primary Education Italian section – 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Academic year 2024/2025 English - 'Shortened university courses for the basic training of teachers for lower and upper secondary schools'//Laboratory

LC - Language Centre/Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (sector L-LIN/12, L-LIN/01) Language instructor  
Academic English in Higher Education: list of courses taught since 2014/a selection

- Academic year 2013/2014 English B1.1 (GE/General English + ESP/English for Specific Purposes)
- Academic year 2013/2014 English B1.2
- Academic year 2014/2015 CAE – training
- Academic year 2014/2015 English B2.2
- Academic year 2014/2015 English summer intensive academic staff/PhD students (ESP)
- Academic year 2014/2015 Refresh your English B1.2/Studium Generale
- Academic year 2015/2016 English C1 extensive
- Academic year 2016/2017 English C1 intensive
- Academic year 2016/2017 English B2.2b extensive
- Academic year 2016/2017 English C1 extensive
- Academic year 2016/2017 English C1 intensive
- Academic year 2016/2017 English B1.2a extensive
- Academic year 2017/2018 English C1.1 – C1.2 intensive
- Academic year 2017/2018 English intensive for academic staff/professors & researchers C1.1 (ESP)

- Academic year 2018/2019 English intensive for researchers C1 ('ESP)

Exam work/Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (FUB)

- Examiner for FUB entrance and exit exams
- FUB language certification exams: B1, B2, C1
- Exams/EOCT language courses/LC & Studium Generale
- Examiner for University of Cambridge ESOL examinations (till Dec. 2016) FCE (First Certificate in English/B2) and CAE (English Advanced/C1)
- Examiner/examination committees (L-LIN-12; L-LIN-02) for the Faculty of Education, Master's degree in Primary Education; for the Faculty of Design and Art; for the Faculty of Science and Technology, PhD programmes

## **Professional experience**

Teacher trainer/deutsche Bildungsdirektion (BZ); Päd. Abteilung (BZ); In-house courses

- Different courses on didactic methodologies for secondary school English teachers & 'English for secondary school teachers of other subjects' (2008/2009; 2009/2010; 2010/2011)
- Different courses on didactic methodologies for primary school English teachers (2007/2008; 2008/2009; 2012/2013; 2014/2015)

Further English teaching experience

- 1999 – 2002: Private school (language courses for adults) - Trento
- 2002 - 2003: European Language School - Trento
- 2008 – 2011: Evening school (A levels for adults) – Teacher & member of the examination commission
- 2003 - 2011: TFO (Technologische Fachoberschule) Meran & Max Valier, Bozen, technologically oriented high school – Teacher & member of the school leaving examination board
- 2012 - 2023: Realgymnasium/Sprachengymnasium Philipp Fallmerayer Brixen, scientifically and foreign language oriented highschool – Teacher and member of the school leaving examination board

## Professional Affiliations

- Member of **ICLHE - regional group** (Integration of Content and Language in Higher Education)
- Member of **IAM** (International Association of Multilingualism)
- Member of **ALA** (Association for Language Awareness)
- Member of **ATEE** (Association for Teacher Education in Europe)
- Member of **TESOL Italy - Val d'Adige-Etschtal local group**
- Member of **IATEFLs SIGs**/Special Interest Group: **TTEd** SIG (Teacher Training and Education)
- Member of **EDILIC** (Education and Linguistic and Cultural Diversity Association)
- Member of the European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing (**EATAW**)

## Grants and awards

2015	Autonomous Region of Trentino-South Tyrol: funding for monographs and other publications
2018 – 2021	Research scholarship/MUR (Italian Ministry of University and Research), PhD, University of Innsbruck

## Research groups

2019 – present	Member of <b>DyME</b> ( <i>Dynamics of Multilingualism with English</i> ): a research group of scholars based at the University of Innsbruck
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## Further professional development

A selection:

- Certificates:
  - Teacher Training Certificate – teacher educator, Prof Freeman/University of Michigan & Università degli studi Roma 3, Oct. 2017 - May 2018

- Certificate: Teaching English for academic purposes (EAP), Oxford TEFL & Trinity College of London, Jan 2017 - May 2017
- Centre for Research in Education in Asia (CREA): Online Autumn Seminar Series: *Flexibility vs. Separation: Investigating Early Bilingual Upbringing and Dynamics of Family Language Management*. University of Bath, UK, October 2024
- API Education Forum: Online event series initiated by the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) Expert Group; first session: *Mediation as negotiation of meanings of plurilingualism*; discussants: Bessie Dendrinos et al., September 2024
- GABEK seminar, analysis of dynamic, qualitative data, DyME research group, Innsbruck, July, 2022
- Symposium: German Research Cluster *Language Education and Multilingualism*. University of Hamburg, Germany, Hamburg, December 2020
- “The future of language education in Europe: lessons learnt from case studies”, July 2020, NESET & European Commission with Prof Jim Cummins, University of Toronto
- “The role of bilingual education models and language sensitive curricula in multilingual contexts”, July 2020, NESET & European Commission with Prof Jim Cummins, University of Toronto
- “Innovative language teaching methods, school networks and labels as ways to promote multilingualism and language education”, June 2020, NESET & European Commission with Jim Cummins
- „Research projects“, Oct. 2019 – Feb. 2020, Leopold Franzens University/Innsbruck
- „Research projects“, Feb. - June 2019, LFU/Innsbruck
- „Research projects“, Oct. 2018 - Feb. 2019, LFU/Innsbruck
- „Argumentationsanalyse, narrative Inhaltsanalyse in Interviews“, March - June 2019, LFU/Innsbruck
- „Language awareness from the grassroots: multilingualism in South Africa“, April 2019, Prof Coetzee, LFU/Innsbruck
- „Multilingual transfer“, Oct. - Jan. 2018, LFU/Innsbruck
- „Assessing English for Specific Academic Purposes“, FUB/LC
- „The Cambridge English Scale“, Cambridge English, Webinar

- „Training as Cambridge examiner for academic and professional English“, FUB/LC (diff. training sessions)
- Roundtable *What's special about multilingualism?*, Institute of Multilingualism, Switzerland, Fribourg, Feb. 2019
- *Austrian Linguistics Conference*, presentations and discussions in the following fields of research: historical, general, descriptive and applied linguistics, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Innsbruck, Oct. 2018
- *ECER conference* (European Conference on Educational Research), Free University of Bolzano, Italy, Bozen, September 2018
- Symposium on *Teaching English to Young Learner in Multilingual and Multicultural Contexts*, Free University of Bolzano, Italy, Brixen, Sept. 2018 (member of steering committee)
- Conference on *Mehrsprachigkeit im Studium*, Free University of Bolzano, Italy, Brixen, Nov. 2017 (participation in the workshop of the speakers)
- *IATEFL Conference*, Glasgow, Scotland, April 2017
- Symposium on *Approaches to English for Specific and Academic Purposes*. Language Centre, Free University of Bolzano & TESOL Italy local group, Italy, Bozen, Dec. 2016
- International Conference on *Forms of Multilingualism in Secondary and Tertiary Education*, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Innsbruck, Sept. 2016

**Additional responsibilities  
and professional experience**

	A selection
2006 – 2014	Member and coordinator of different working groups at the TFO and the „ <i>Realgymnasium</i> “
2008 - 2018	Freelance translator (Italian – German; English –German)
2007 – 2011	Team leader/head of the subject section English at the TFO Bozen
2007 – 2011	Coordinator of the support teachers at the TFO Bozen

## Academic conferences and symposia

A selection:

- (Forthcoming) 2025 Meeting of the Marica De Vincenzi Foundation: *Multiple approaches to psycholinguistics*. Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy, June 2025. Selected paper: 'Language(s) in the Mind: Psycholinguistic Approaches to the Study of Metacognitive Development in Multilinguals'
- (Forthcoming) 2025 Workshop in the Domain of Learner Corpus Research (LCR) and SLA: *Studying the Language of Young Learners*. University of Bamberg, Germany, September 2025. Workshop/paper: Metalinguistic awareness and crosslinguistic transfer: exploring decoding abilities of young adolescent multiple language learners
- *Bilingualism Matters Symposium* of Bilingualism Matters (BM). University of Edinburgh, Scotland, March 2025. Selected presentation: 'Navigating Multilingualism: insights into the linguistic-cognitive development of multiple language learners in the minority context of South Tyrol and possible implications for education policy'
- 48<sup>th</sup> Austrian Linguistics Conference - Österreichische Linguistentagung (ÖLT): *Methodische Herausforderungen und Möglichkeiten linguistischer Forschung im Elementarbereich*. University of Innsbruck, Austria, December 2024. Selected paper: 'Operationalisierung und empirische Erfassung metalinguistischer Fähigkeiten von Mehrsprachlern: innen' (with B. Hofer)
- 17<sup>th</sup> International conference of the Association for Language Awareness (ALA): *Language Awareness, Education & Power*. Karlsruhe University of Education, Karlsruhe, Germany, July 2024 (invited speaker for the Symposium 'Metalinguistic awareness') with U. Jessner, E. Allgäuer Hackl and B. Hofer. Invited speaker; paper: 'Conceptualizing and testing metalinguistic and cross-linguistic awareness in multilingual educational contexts'
- Plurilingual Education Conference: *One school many languages: bridging research and school practice through plurilingual education*. EURAC, Bozen, Italy, December 2023. Selected paper: 'Fostering plurilingual competences in South Tyrol' (with B. Hofer)

- EDiLiC Conference: *From Early Childhood to Adulthood: Transitions, Continuity, and Disruptions in Plurilingual Education*. University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Copenhagen, June 2023. Selected paper: 'Language instruction in South Tyrol: a comparison of the three instruction systems and the resulting continuities and disruptions from a psycholinguistic perspective'
- Conference: *Appreciating Plurilingual Competencies: Current and Future Perspectives. Thematic area: Multi-competence from a dynamic perspective*. Masaryk University, Czech Republic, Brno, June 2022. Selected paper: 'Multilingual competencies as emergent properties of dynamic multilingual systems' (with B. Hofer)
- Zukunftswerkstatt: *Smart Language Learning*. University of Innsbruck, Dyme research group, Austria, Innsbruck, September 2021 (member of steering committee)
- Internationale Tagung: *Mehrsprachigkeit als Chance*. Päd. Hochschule Kärnten, Austria, Carinthia, Klagenfurt, September 2021. Selected paper: 'Language(s) learning in trilingual South Tyrol'
- ICLHE Conference: *Tertiary Teaching in the Multilingual University*, June 2021, Faculty of Education (FUB) and ICLHE, Italy, Brixen, June 2021. Selected paper: 'Multilingual education: building bridges between languages in the curriculum'
- Symposium & workshop Differently Abled II: *Vom Sprachstand zum Sprachprozess: dynamische Strategien im Umgang mit den sprachlich anderen* - cross-disciplinary exchange. University of Innsbruck, Dyme research group, Austria, Innsbruck, December 2020, online (member of steering committee)
- 15<sup>th</sup> International conference of the Association for Language Awareness (ALA) – *Languaging and Language Awareness in the Global Age*. Deakin University, Australia, Melbourne, October 2020, online. Selected paper: 'Languages in mind: exploring multilingual awareness in complex multilingual systems'
- Workshop Differently Abled I: *Vom Sprachstand zum Sprachprozess im Kontext von Mehrsprachigkeit* - cross-disciplinary exchange (linguists, psychologists, speech therapists, etc.) on language development, disorders/potential differences in language development in the context of multilingualism.

- University of Innsbruck, Dyme research group, Austria, Innsbruck, June 2020 (member of steering committee)
- Symposium on *Teaching English as a third language in South Tyrol*. Free University of Bozen, TESOL Italy local group & LG, Italy, Bozen, Nov. 2019. Selected paper: 'Multilingual awareness in young learners – first results from an empirical study carried out in South Tyrol'
  - Conference on *Metacognition in multilingual development: from multilingual children to polyglots*. University of Innsbruck, DYME research group, Austria, Obergurgl, Sept. 2019. Invited speaker; paper: 'Languages in mind: trilingual assessment of metalinguistic awareness from a psycholinguistic perspective'

## Publications

- Spechtenhauser, B., Hofer, B. & Allgäuer-Hackl, E. (in press). Conceptualizing and Testing Multilingual Awareness in Multilingual Educational Contexts. (conference proceedings of the Symposium at the ALA conference, Karlsruhe, July 2024)
- Spechtenhauser, B. (submitted). Von metalinguistischen Kompetenzen und Transferstrategien adoleszenter Mehrsprachenlerner: innen in Südtirol.
- Hofer, B., Spechtenhauser B, & Jessner, U. (submitted). Moving towards (new) multilingual paradigms.
- Hofer, B., Spechtenhauser, B. & Allgäuer-Hackl, E. (in prep.) From Language Awareness to Multilingual Awareness: Bridging Theory and Practice in Multilingual Pedagogy and Assessment. In: P. Garrett & J. M. Cots (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Language Awareness*. New York and London: Routledge Handbooks.
- Spechtenhauser, B. (in prep.). Emergent properties or new qualities in multilingual systems. *Exploring the M-Factor* (Handbook). De Gruyter Mouton.
- Spechtenhauser, B. (in prep.) The Language Carousel: a tool to promote cross-linguistic transfer. In: *Exploring the M-Factor* (Handbook). De Gruyter Mouton.
- Spechtenhauser, B. & Jessner, U. (2024). Do socioeconomic determinants influence metalinguistic awareness of multiple language learners? A case study of adolescent learners in the multilingual region of South Tyrol. *Lingue e Linguaggi*, Vol. 67 (ANVUR classe A 10/L1; 10/G1) DOI: 10.1285/I22390359V67P327
- Spechtenhauser, B. & Jessner, U. (2024). Complex interactions in the multilingual mind: assessing

metalinguistic abilities and their effects on decoding a new language system in trilingual learners. *Lingua*, Vol. 301 (SJR 2023: Q1; ANVUR classe A 10/L1; 10/G1) DOI: 10.1016/j.lingua.2024.103678

- Hofer, B. & Spechtenhauser B. (2024). Theoretical considerations on the Literacy-Metacognition Nexus: Exploring the Linguistic -Cognitive Landscape of Young Multilingual Minds. Special issue Cognitive and Linguistic Predictors of Language Control in Children *Brain Sciences*, 14(10) 979. (SJR 2023: Q2) DOI: 10.3390/brainsci14100979
- Spechtenhauser, B. & Jessner, U. (2023). Complex interactions in the multilingual mind: assessing metalinguistic abilities and their effects on decoding a new language system in trilingual learners. *Lingua*. (SJR 2023: Q1; ANVUR classe A 10/L1; 10/G1) Advance online publication.
- Spechtenhauser, B. (2022) *Many languages – one mind: exploring dimensions of multilingual awareness in dynamic multilingual systems. A psycholinguistic study*, PhD Dissertation, University of Innsbruck, Department of English, Printing Services.
- Spechtenhauser, B. & Gasser, E. (2015) *Der kleine Rabe Laurenz Linguistikus - Kinder zum Sprachenlernen animieren*, Kinderbuch, A. Weger, ISBN 978-88-6563-146-1
- Spechtenhauser, B. (2007) *E-Learning, Blended Learning als didaktische Methoden im modernen Englischunterricht*, University of Bolzano, Faculty of Education, Printing Services
- Spechtenhauser, B. (2002) *Geschichten derer ohne Geschichte*, University of Trento, Thesis, facoltà di lettere, Printing Services

### **Other academic responsibilities**

- Examiner for FUB entrance and exit exams
- FUB language certification exams: B1, B2, C1
- Exams/EOCT language courses/LC & Studium Generale
- Examiner for University of Cambridge ESOL examinations (till Dec. 2016) FCE (First Certificate in English/B2) and CAE (English Advanced/C1)
- Examiner/examination committees (L-LIN-12; L-LIN-02) for the Faculty of Education, Master's degree in Primary Education; for the Faculty of Design and Art:

for the Faculty of Science and Technology, PhD programmes

- Reviewer of different scholarly journals

## **Research interests**

Current fields of research & research activities:

- Implications of multiple language learning for linguistic and cognitive development
- Third and additional language acquisition
- Multilingualism in education in South Tyrol
- Language contact phenomena in relation to multilingual awareness - metalinguistic and crosslinguistic awareness
- Strategy use and transfer in multilinguals
- Integrating content and language in (higher) education
- The development of multilingual competences in relation to socioeconomic factors

## **Entrepreneurship**

2007 - 2008

Foundation and construction of an 'agritourism' with holiday apartments

## **Languages**

- German (L1); English; Italian (proficiency)
- French (B2); Spanish (B1); Latin (A2)

Bolzano-Bozen, March 2025

Birgit Spechtenhauser