

CV Professor Rico Cathomas (<https://orcid.org/my-orcid?orcid=0000-0001-5563-7365>)

Prof. Dr. Rico Cathomas has held the full professorship for Romansh and Romansh didactics at the University of Teacher Education Graubünden in Switzerland since 2025. From 2019 to 2024, he was head of the special professorship for integrated multilingual didactics, focusing on the Romansh language and school situation.

His research and development work focuses on the creation and study of teaching materials for Romansh as a first or foreign language, as well as the development of a digital item database for assessing Romansh language skills. Since 2016, he has been primarily responsible for the Mediomatix teaching materials project, among other things. This series of teaching materials has been developed for use in Romansh lessons as a first language (L1) for pupils in grades 2 to 9. There is a version for each of the five Sursilvan, Sutsilvan, Puter, Vallader and Surmiran idioms (www.mediomatix.ch).

Cathomas was an associate professor of education at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (Italy) and academic and educational director of the 'Steps to Multilingualism' project in the Ladin-speaking region. For a period of ten years, he was responsible for the development and implementation of an integrated concept for the simultaneous and systematic use of three languages (i.e. Ladin, German and Italian) in Ladin kindergartens and primary schools in South Tyrol.

From 2005 to 2012, he served as scientific director of the project 'Introduction of the standard language Rumantsch Grischun in the Romansh-speaking schools of the canton of Graubünden'.

In 2005, he obtained his doctorate in the field of immersion teaching and bilingualism. In his thesis, he examined the development of Romansh and German language skills in 1,290 pupils. From 1992 to 2005, he worked as a researcher, lecturer and teacher trainer in the fields of general didactics and subject didactics of Romansh at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). During this time, he obtained a higher teaching qualification and received a research grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation to promote young scientists. This scholarship enabled him to conduct research at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and to collaborate with the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin.

From 1988 to 1994, he pursued his education at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, majoring in educational science, educational psychology and applied psychology. He successfully completed his studies, earning a licentiate/master's degree.

From 1983 to 1988, he attended the teacher training college in Chur, Switzerland, where he gained qualifications to teach grades 1-6.