

CURRICULUM VITAE

Simona Sbranna

EDUCATION

- 04/2019 – 03/2023 **Doctoral candidate,
Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- Doctoral dissertation project “Developing linguistic competence in second language learning: fluency and prosody in Italian learners of German” – First Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Martine Grice; Second Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Michelina Savino (Field of study: Phonetics)
 - Mercator scholarship in collaboration with the Carl Duisberg language school, Cologne, 06/2022 - 09/2022
- 10/2018 - 03/2019 **Pre-doc (a.r.t.e.s.),
Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- Preparation of a doctoral dissertation project
- 10/2016 - 02/2018 **Master of Arts "Modern Languages and Literatures" (Study
emphases: Linguistics and Language Teaching – English and
German),
Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy**
- Semester abroad at Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany, 09/2016 - 02/2017
 - Traineeship abroad at "Dante Alighieri" Institute, Seville, Spain, 05/2017 - 07/2017
 - Traineeship at AISV (Associazione Italiana Scienze della Voce - Italian Association for Voice Sciences), 11/2017 – 01/2018
 - Master’s thesis: “Monitoring prosodic competence in foreign language: A study on German learners of Italian” – Mentor: Prof. Dr. Renata Savy
 - Final Grade: 110 cum laude/110 and special mention
- 10/2012 - 02/2016 **Bachelor of Arts "Foreign Languages and Cultures" (Study
emphases: Foreign Languages and General Linguistics – English
and German),
Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy**

Simona Sbranna

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- Semester abroad at Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany, 09/2015 - 02/2016
- Bachelor's thesis: "A phonic and textual analysis of pauses in political discourse: A study on Mussolini and Hitler" – Mentor: Prof. Dr. Renata Savy
- Final Grade: 110 cum laude/110

2007 - 2012

Humanities High School Degree (*Diploma di liceo classico – indirizzo linguistico*),

Liceo classico G.B.Vico, Nocera Inferiore, Italy

- Main subjects: English, French and Spanish
- Final Grade: 100/100

PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED)

Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2023) "Prosodic marking of information status in Italian". Journal of Phonetics, 97, 101212. ISSN 0095-4470. Preprint version at:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/367444680_Prosodic_marking_of_information_status_in_Italian_Sbranna_et_al_2023

Sbranna S., Wehrle S., Grice M. (to appear) "The use of Backchannels and other Very Short Utterances by Italian Learners of German". XVIII AISV Conference Proceedings "The position of the speaker in interaction: attitudes, intentions, and emotions in verbal communication", February 7-8, 2022. [conference proceedings].

Sbranna S., Möking E., Wehrle S., Grice M., (2022). "Backchannelling across Languages: Rate, Lexical Choice and Intonation in L1 Italian, L1 German and L2 German". 11th International Conference on Speech Prosody, 2022. DOI: 10.21437/SpeechProsody.2022-149. https://www.isca-speech.org/archive/speechprosody_2022/sbranna22_speechprosody.html [conference proceedings].

Savino, M., Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2022). "Imitating intonation in a non-native variety: the influence of the native repertoire". 11th International Conference on Speech Prosody, 2022. DOI: 10.21437/SpeechProsody.2022-150. https://www.isca-speech.org/archive/speechprosody_2022/savino22_speechprosody.html [conference proceedings].

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Sbranna, S., Cangemi F. and Grice, M. (2020). “Quantifying L2 interactional competence”. In Romito L. (Eds), *Language change under contact conditions: acquisitional contexts, languages, dialects and minorities in Italy and around the world*, Collana Studi AISV 7, Milano: Officinaventuno, 383-405. DOI: 10.17469/O2107AISV000018. http://www.aisv.it/StudiAISV/2020/vol_7/018_SbrannaCangemiGrice.pdf [conference proceedings].

Alfano I., Savy R., Sbranna S., Schettino L., (2018). “Strategie discorsive in spagnolo L1 e L2 a confronto: un'indagine su corpora dialogici”. *CHIMERA: Romance Corpora and Linguistic Studies*. 5(1), 27-52. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15366/chimera2018.5.1.002> [Congreso de Lingüística de Corpus en Español (CLICE 2018), conference proceedings].

PRESENTATIONS

Janz A., Sbranna S., Wehrle S. & Martine Grice (forthcoming). “The effect of conversational setting on backchannel feedback” 45. Jahrestagung der DGfS, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany, 7-10 March 2023. [Talk].

Janz A., Wehrle S., Sbranna S. & Martine Grice (2022). “The lexical and intonational realisation of backchannels is less constrained in spontaneous than task-based conversation” 4th International Symposium on Applied Phonetics (ISAPh), Lunds Universitet, Lund, Sweden, 14-16 September 2022. [Talk].

Albert A., Lialiou M., Sbranna S., Cangemi F. (2022). “Improved acoustic characterization of prosodic prominence using periodic energy mass” 3rd International Conference "Prominence in Language" (ICPL III), University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany, 2-3 June, 2022. [Poster].

Sbranna S., Möking E., Wehrle S., Grice M., (2022). “Backchannelling across Languages: Rate, Lexical Choice and Intonation in L1 Italian, L1 German and L2 German” 11th International Conference on Speech Prosody, University of Lisabon, Lisabon, Portugal, 23-26 May 2022. [Talk].

Sbranna, S. (2022), “Developing linguistic competence in second language learning: prosodic marking of information status and backchannels in Italian learners of German”

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University of Insubria, Como, Italy, 12 May 2022. [Invited talk]

**Sbranna, S., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2022),
“L2 acquisition: continuous modulation of prosodic parameters
or categorical (de)accentuation?”**

10th International Symposium on the Acquisition of Second
Language Speech, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 20-22
April 2022. [Talk]

**Sbranna, S., Wehrle, S. and Grice, M. (2022),
“The use of Backchannels and other Very Short Utterances by
Italian Learners of German”**

XVIII AISV Conference “The position of the speaker in interaction:
attitudes, intentions, and emotions in verbal communication”,
University of Naples "Federico II", Naples, Italy, 7-8 February,
2022. [Talk]

**Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2021),
“Developing prosodic competence: marking information status in
L2 German”**

TAI 2021: 1st International Conference on Tone and Intonation,
University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Sønderborg, Denmark, 6-9
December 2021. [Poster]

**Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2021),
“Prosodic marking of information status: an exploratory study on
L1 Italian and L2 German”**

TiPToP Workshop: Trends in Pedagogical Transmission of Prosody,
Universität Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany, 12-13 October 2021.
[Talk]

**Sbranna S., Wherle, S. and Grice, M. (2021), “Developing L2
Interactional Competence: Turn-taking across proficiency levels”**

P&P 2021: Phonetik und Phonologie im deutschsprachigen Raum,
Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany, September 29-
30, 2021. [Talk]

**Savino, M., Ventura, C., Sbranna, S., Albert, A. and Grice, M.
(2021), “Native variety interference when imitating intonation in
a non-native variety of Italian”**

4th PaPE – Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Barcelona, Spain,
21-23 June, 2021. [Poster]

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**Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2021),
“Prosodic expression of information status in Italian”**

4th PaPE – Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Barcelona, Spain,
21-23 June, 2021. [Poster]

**Sbranna, S., Ventura, C., Albert, A. and Grice, M. (2021),
“Prosodic marking of information status in L1 Italian and L2
German”**

XVII AISV Conference “Speaker Individuality in Phonetics and
Speech Sciences: Speech Technology and Forensic Applications”,
University of Zürich, Switzerland, 4-5 February 2021. [Talk]

**Sbranna, S. (2021), “Developing linguistic competence in second
language learning: fluency and prosody in Italian learners of
German”**

Research Colloquium IfL – Phonetik, University of Cologne, January
2021. [Invited talk]

**Sbranna, S., Cangemi F. and Grice, M. (2020), “Reconceiving
fluency as an indicator of L2 interactional competence”**

P&P 2020: Phonetik und Phonologie im deutschsprachigen Raum,
Universität Trier, Trier, Germany, 10-11 September 2020. [Talk]

**Sbranna, S., Cangemi F. and Grice, M. (2020), “Quantifying L2
interactional competence”**

XVI AISV Conference “Language variation under contact
conditions: acquisitional contexts, languages, dialects and
minorities in Italy and around the world”, University of Calabria,
Rende, Italy, 29-31 January 2020. [Talk]

**Sbranna, S., Cangemi F. and Grice, M. (2019), “Towards
quantifying conversational competence in second language
learning”**

P&P 2019: Phonetik und Phonologie im deutschsprachigen Raum,
Heinrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf, Germany, 26–27
September 2019. [Poster]

**Cataldo V., Savy R., Sbranna S. (2019). “Prosodic Transfer in
Foreign Language Learning: a phonetic crosscheck of intonation
and F0 range between Italian and German native and non-native
speakers”**

ICLLPCA 2019: 21st International Conference on Language
Learning and Phonetic Coding Ability, Paris, February 21 - 22,
2019. [Accepted for conference presentation]

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PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 01/2023 – today **Post-Doc researcher (WMA), Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- Project: *Skills and Structures in Language and Cognition (SSLAC)*
 - Data analysis with ELAN (computer software)
- 02/2019 – 12/2022 **Graduate Research Assistant, Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- Collaboration in research activities - Prof. Dr. Martine Grice
 - Data analysis with Praat and R (computer softwares)
- September, 2022 **Research-based intonation training for German as foreign language. Carl Duisberg Centre, Cologne, Germany**
- WS 2021/2022 **Teaching of M.A. Seminar “Laboratory Phonology”, Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- SS 2021 **Teaching of B.A. Seminar “The Phonetics of Second Language Learning”, Universität zu Köln, Germany**
- SS 2018 **Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant (Help Teaching project), Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy**
- Support in teaching at Prof. Dr. Savy's "Applied Linguistics" course
 - Collaboration in research activities
 - Planning and teaching an alternative course program to a sightless student and a student with memory disorder
- 11/2017 – 01/2018 **Traineeship at AISV (*Associazione Italiana Scienze della Voce - Italian Association for Voice Sciences*) at the premises of LabLA (Applied Linguistics Laboratory), Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy**
- Prosodic analysis and intonational annotation of linguistic data using Praat and Goldwave (computer softwares)
- 05/2017 - 07/2017 **Traineeship as Teacher of Italian as Foreign Language, "Dante Alighieri" Institute, Seville, Spain**
- Teaching Italian as foreign language at different levels of proficiency for official examinations
- 02/2016- 08/2016
10/2014-06/2015 **Foreign Languages Teacher, Cultural Association "London Plus", Scafati, Italy**

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- Teaching English, German and French for official examinations or support at school
- Support in writing school and university papers about foreign languages and linguistics
- Translating specialized texts from English and German into Italian

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2023	Franco Ferrero Award: author of the best article – Studi AISV series (cf. 18th AISV 2022 Conference, Naples).
2022/2023	Mercator Scholarship at a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School, Universität zu Köln <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One-year scholarship extension with own project for a practice phase
2022	Travel Award (awarded by conference organisers), Speech Prosody
2022	IPA Student Award, International Phonetic Association
2021	IPA Student Award, International Phonetic Association
2021	ISCA Student Award, International Speech Communication Association
2019, 2020, 2021, 2022	CCLS Travel grants, Cologne Center of Language Sciences, Universität zu Köln <ul style="list-style-type: none">• for summer school attendance: SMLP 2019 Introductory Frequentist Statistics at University of Potsdam, Germany.• for conference attendance: PaPE 2019, Lecce, Italy; AISV 2019, Rende, Italy; AISV 2021, Zürich, Switzerland; PaPE 2021, Barcelona, Spain; TAI 2021, Sønderborg, Denmark; New Sounds 2022, Barcelona, Spain; AISV 2022, Naples, Italy.
2019	DAAD Research Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One-year grant (unable to accept owing to concurrent a.r.t.e.s. scholarship)
SS 2019	A.r.t.e.s. Graduate School, Universität zu Köln, Germany <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scholarship for doctoral studies

WS 2018

A.r.t.e.s. Graduate School, Universität zu Köln, Germany

- Pre-doc preparatory scholarship for doctoral studies to draft a research project

Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy

- Scholarship "Erasmus Traineeship" to work at "Dante Alighieri" Institute, Seville, Spain, 05 - 07/2017
- Scholarship "Erasmus +" to study at Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany, WS 2016 - 2017
- Scholarship "Erasmus +" to study at Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany, WS 2015 – 2016

PEER REVIEWS OF JOURNAL ARTICLES _____

2021

Journal of Phonetics

2020

Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism

ORGANISED EVENTS _____

4 February, 2023

JuniorUni Wuppertal workshop. University of Cologne, Germany.

5-8 October, 2021

Paris-Cologne Collaborative Meeting (PCCM) 7 "Quantifying and interpreting variability in speech". Université Paris Diderot (Paris 7), France.

SS 2019

KinderUni workshop "Unsere Stimme". University of Cologne, Germany.

FURTHER EDUCATION _____

May, 2022

Workshop "Wissenschaftliche Kommunikation"

5-8 October, 2021

Paris-Cologne Collaborative Meeting (PCCM) 7 "Quantifying and interpreting variability in speech". Université Paris Diderot (Paris 7), France.

- Bayesian Statistical methods

July, 2021

LearnB4SS Workshop, Learn Bayesian Analysis for the Speech Sciences. Online live seminar by Association for Laboratory Phonology.

- Bayesian Statistical methods

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- February 5-6, 2019 **Reproducibility in Linguistics.** University of Cologne.
 • Preregistration procedure
- July, 2019 **Statistics Workshop.** University of Cologne.
 • Programming and data visualization skills, generalized linear model framework
- 9-13 September, 2019 **Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology.** University of Potsdam, Germany.
 • Generalized linear model framework
- June, 2019 **AMC Workshop “Academic Writing in English”**
June, 2019 **AMC Workshop “Conversational English in an Academic Environment”**
- March, 2019 **AMC Workshop “Writing Abstracts”**
January, 2019 **AMC Workshop “Scientific Presentation”**

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY _____

- 2010/2011 **Teacher of Italian as Foreign Language,
Voluntary work at San Francesco di Paola Church (Nola Diocese),
Scafati, Italy**
 • Teacher of Italian as foreign language for migrants and refugees

LANGUAGES _____

Italian (native language)
English (CEFR: C1)
German (Universität zu Köln official exam: C2)
Spanish (Passive competence CEFR: B2/Active competence CEFR: B1)
French (Passive competence CEFR: B2/Active competence CEFR: B1)

REFERENCES _____

Prof. Dr. Martine Grice, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Institut für Linguistik - Phonetik, Universität zu Köln, e-mail: martine.grice@uni-koeln.de

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Prof. Dr. Michelina Savino, Department of Education Science,
Psychology, Communication Science, Università degli Studi di Bari
Aldo Moro, e-mail: michelina.savino@uniba.it