



VALENTINA ROMANZI

Post-doctoral researcher

PROFILE

I am a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Turin, working on a project on climate change in American fiction. I specialize in US speculative fiction, the posthuman and more-than-human in literature, and ecocriticism (with a focus on the Blue Humanities). I am also researching the interplay of video games and American culture, queerness and fandom, and I have an invested interest in the application of Care Theory to literary studies.

CONTACTS

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LINGUISTIC SKILLS

Italian	C2 (native)
English	C2
German	C1
French	A2

IT SKILLS

- Excellent use of Microsoft Office™ and search engines
- Excellent use of OJS and databases for academic publications (especially DOAJ)
- Good use of HTML, Wordpress, Wix, and Adobe Suite (Photoshop and Premiere)

EDUCATION

PhD in Transcultural Studies in the Humanities
2017-2021, University of Bergamo, Italy

Visiting Scholar
2019, University of Essex, UK

MA in European and Extra-European Comparative Literatures and Languages
2014-2017, University of Verona, Italy

Erasmus Program
2013-2014, University of Glasgow, UK

BA in Foreign Languages and literatures for International Commerce
2011-2014, University of Verona, Italy

WORK EXPERIENCE

Center for Advanced Study, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Animal Studies Summer Institute)
8-17 July 2023
Visiting scholar in the field of Animal Studies

University of Turin, Post-doctoral researcher
March 2023–current
Lead researcher and manager of the project “Narrating climate change: Educational paths on lakes, rivers, glaciers in the local and global cultural imagination”

University of Verona, Adjunct professor
February 2022–current
Adjunct professor of English Language (degrees in Education and in Communication)

Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Adjunct Professor
February 2022–September 2022
Adjunct professor of English Culture and Literature (degree in Cultural Mediation)

Iperstoria – Journal of American and English Studies, Editor
April 2015–current
Management of the American studies section of the Journal, from article reception and evaluation to proofreading

ilingua Verona srl, Language Trainer and Assistant Director of Studies
April 2015–February 2023
Business English instructor; recruiter and trainer for new teachers; admin management of corporate courses and of the digital platforms of the school

Zapcoder Limited, Marketing Intern
November 2013–March 2014
Market research for a small tech start-up company

PUBLICATIONS

1. Romanzi, Valentina. "Tarantino, mitopoiesi e retrotopia." *C'era una volta (uno scrittore) a Hollywood*. A cura di Enrico Botta e Sara Corrizzato. Verona: Ombre Corte, 2024. 86-100.
2. Romanzi, Valentina. "Staying Human in the Post-apocalypse: The Frontiers of Individualism in *The Last of Us* and its sequel." *JAAAS* 4.2 (2023): 311-330.
3. Romanzi, Valentina. "An Interview with Janny L. Davis and Four Poems from *Trickster Academy*." [Poems in Italian translation.] *Iperstoria* 22 (2023): 409-429.
4. Romanzi, Valentina and Valeria Franceschi. "Parental Androids: An Analysis of Non-normative Care Discourse in Contemporary Televised Science Fiction." *Iperstoria* 22 (2023): 215-239.
5. Romanzi, Valentina. "Love is a Thing with Feathers: Posthuman Metamorphoses in *This Is How You Lose the Time War*." *RSAJournal* 34 (2023): 137-155.
6. Romanzi, Valentina. "God says 'gay rights': Queering Christian theology in the *Good Omens* fandom." *Culture and Religion* 22.1, 2023: 64-83.
7. Romanzi, Valentina. "Evocazioni natalizie." *Jefferson – Lettere sull'America* 51, 12 December 2022.
8. Romanzi, Valentina. "Osessioni distopiche." *Jefferson – Lettere sull'America* 49, 24 October 2022.
9. Romanzi, Valentina. "Coin-operated Doors and Pirated Toasts: Reflections on Capitalism from Philip K. Dick's *Ubik* to Cory Doctorow's 'Unauthorized Bread.'" *Bibliomanie* 54, 2022: 1-12.
10. Romanzi, Valentina. "Da distruttore di mondi a salvatore dell'umanità. Le due facce della scienza in *The Oppenheimer Alternative* di Robert J. Sawyer." What's Popping? *La Storia degli Stati Uniti nella cultura popolare del nuovo millennio*. Edited by Cristina Di Maio, Daniele Giovannone, Fulvia Sarnelli. Napoli: La scuola di Pitagora, 2022: 59-86.
11. Romanzi, Valentina. "Let the Plan(e)t Speak for Itself: Agency, Empathy, and Subjectivity in Sue Burke's *Semiosis*." *Iperstoria* 19, Spring 2022: 346-360.
12. Romanzi, Valentina. *American Nightmares: Dystopia in Twenty-First-Century US Fiction*. Oxford: Peter Lang, 2022.
13. Romanzi, Valentina and Oriana Palusci, edited by. "Non-Human Narrators in SF." *ContactZone* 5, Spring 2022.
 - a. Romanzi, Valentina. "Climate Cassandras." *ContactZone* 4, Spring 2022: 102-105.
 - b. Romanzi, Valentina and Oriana Palusci. "Non-Human Narrators in SF." *ContactZone* 4, Spring 2022: 4-9.
14. Romanzi, Valentina and Bruno Walter Tedesco, a cura di. "The Fractured States of America." *Jam It!* 6, Spring 2022.
 - a. Valentina and Bruno Walter Tedesco. "The Fractured States of America." *Jam It!* 6, Spring 2022: 5-15.
15. Romanzi, Valentina. "Avrai i miei occhi di Nicoletta Vallorani." *IF* 26, Spring 2021: 175-176.
16. Romanzi, Valentina. "André Brock. *Distributed Blackness: African American Cybercultures*." *Iperstoria* 17, Spring 2021: 396-400.
17. Romanzi, Valentina, Alessandro Secomandi, Danilo Serra, edited by. *Contaminazioni. Un approccio interdisciplinare*. Bergamo: Lubrina Editore, 2021.
 - a. Romanzi, Valentina, Alessandro Secomandi, Danilo Serra. "Minaccia, sfida, opportunità. Una panoramica sulle contaminazioni." *Contaminazioni. Un approccio interdisciplinare*. Bergamo: Lubrina Editore, 2021: 9-24.
 - b. Romanzi, Valentina. "Note sul valore della risignificazione." *Contaminazioni. Un approccio interdisciplinare*. Bergamo: Lubrina Editore, 2021: 327-346.
18. Romanzi, Valentina. "Plural Identities in Sam J. Miller's *Blackfish City*." *ContactZone* 2, Spring 2021: 68-86.
19. Romanzi, Valentina. "André Aciman's *Find Me*." *Ad Alta* XI, Spring 2020: 61-63.

20. Romanzi, Valentina. "Levels of Reality in Steven Spielberg's *Ready Player One*: Utopia, Dystopia, and Retrotopia." *Jam it!* 3, Spring 2020: 164-173.
21. Romanzi, Valentina. "The Testaments." *The Literary Encyclopedia*. First published 17 December 2019. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/sworcs.php?rec=true&UID=38988>.
22. Renna, Dora and Valentina Romanzi. "Jimmy Santiago Baca: Poesia dal carcere. Intervista e testi in traduzione italiana". *Iperstoria* 14, Fall 2019: 125-129.
23. Romanzi, Valentina. "Prison Land: Mapping Carceral Power across Neoliberal America. Brett Story." *Iperstoria* 14, Fall 2019: 154-156.
24. Romanzi, Valentina. "Ruha Benjamin, *Captivating Technology. Race, Carceral Technoscience, and Liberatory Imagination in Everyday Life*." *Iperstoria* 14, Fall 2019: 151-153.
25. Romanzi, Valentina. "Pilar Martinez Benedì, *The Insurability of Sensation. Indagini letterarie tra mente, corpo e affect*." *Iperstoria* 13, Spring 2019: 187-188.
26. Romanzi, Valentina. "Composition, Creative Writing Studies, and the Digital Humanities. Adam Koehler." *Iperstoria* 12, Fall 2018: 111-113.
27. Bayoumi, Moustafa. "Parliamo di razza. Musulmani e arabi nell'immaginario americano." Trans. Valentina Romanzi. *Ácoma* 14, Spring 2018: 20-37.
28. Berger, Dan. "La playlist di Marilyn Buck." Trans. Valentina Romanzi. *Iperstoria* 11, Spring 2018: 112-121.
29. Romanzi, Valentina. "Carla Francellini, *Uè Paisà*." *Iperstoria* 10, Fall 2017: 194-196.
30. Macedo, Donald. "L'etica della democrazia linguistica nelle scuole e nella società." Trans. Valentina Romanzi. *Iperstoria* 8, Fall 2016: 154-162.
31. Romanzi, Valentina. "Chad Luck, *The Body of Property: Antebellum American Fiction and the Phenomenology of Possession*." *Iperstoria* 8, Fall 2016: 344-348.
32. Giroux, Henry. "La Cultura Selfie in uno Stato Diviso tra Interessi Economici e Sorveglianza." Trans. Valentina Romanzi. *Iperstoria* 6, Fall 2015: 315-319.
33. Romanzi, Valentina. "Joan Didion, *Democracy*." *Iperstoria* 5, Spring 2015: 229-231.

CONFERENCES

1. May 16-17, 2024. Nonhuman Animals in the Age of Extinction and Mass Production. University College Dublin. "The Elephant in the Room: Animal Value(s) in The Only Harmless Great Thing"
2. May 9, 2024. Play New Game: Video Games and American Studies. University of Chieti-Pescara. "Play Me for a Fool: Transposing Madness and Horror from Classic American Literature to Video Games"
3. April 4-6, 2024. 1924-2024: The American Immigrant Narrative Revisited. Amerikahaus and EAAS. "American Aliens: Tracking the (Im)migrant Narrative in Contemporary Speculative Fiction"
4. Marc 21-22, 2024. Narratives of Water: Flows, Routes, Crises in the Atlantic World. University of Torino. Organization and moderation.
5. March 14, 2024. Gli animali nella/della fantascienza. Rappresentazioni ed espressioni del non-umano nella narrativa speculativa. University of Verona. "Affinità (in)esprimibili: Due casi di comunicazione uomo-animale nella letteratura distopica contemporanea" (and organization of the conference)
6. October 18-20, 2023. Sogni Elettrici II. IULM. "Death of an Immortal Robot: Living and Dying in the Posthuman Age"
7. October 4-6, 2023. Contemporary Dystopian Imaginaries: Conflicts and Continuities. University of Torino. "It's easier to imagine the end of the world: Notes on neoliberal dystopias (1960-2023)."
8. September 21-23, 2023. Vulnerabilities: Weaknesses, Threats, Resilience in the U.S.A. and in Global Perspective. AISNA and University of Perugia. "Why didn't you give me a sign? Vulnerability, Care, and Subjectivity in *Call Me By Your Name* and Its Movie Adaptation"
9. August 15-20, 2023. Disruptive Imaginations. Science Fiction Research Association and Technische Universität Dresden. "Chains of Annihilation. Disruption in the pre- and post-apocalypse"

10. March 30, 2023: Fahrenheit 2023. Viaggio nelle culture distopiche dei paesi di lingua inglese. University of Verona. Paper: "Amore proteiforme. Metamorfosi postumane in *Così si perde la guerra del tempo*"
11. October 19-21, 2022: II International Conference on Discourses of Fictional (Digital) TV Series. Universidad de València. Paper: "Parental androids: An analysis of non-normative care discourse in contemporary televised SF" (with Valeria Franceschi)
12. October 12-14, 2022: Between Fiction and Society. IULM University of Milan. Paper: "Staying Human in the Post-apocalypse: The Frontiers of Individualism and Collectivism in *The Last of Us* and its sequel"
13. September 30, 2022: Queering America: Gender, Sex, and Recognition in U.S. History, Culture, and Literature. AISNA Graduate Forum. (Organization and moderation of the conference)
14. July 13-15, 2022: 22nd Conference of the Utopian Studies Society (Europe). University of Brighton and USS. Paper: "'Faint Hopes Are Better Than None': Mapping Hope in Margaret Atwood's Gileadean Novels"
15. June 30-July 1, 2022: Current Research in Speculative Fiction. University of Liverpool. Paper: "(Un)speakable Kinship: Human-animal Communication in *The Only Harmless Great Thing* and *The Animals in That Country*"
16. April 6-8, 2022: "Wastelands" – EAAS biannual conference. European Association for American Studies. Paper: "Stuck in Reverse: Post-Apocalyptic Dystopias and the Error of Rebound"
17. March 11, 2022: Svegliatevi dormienti. I mondi e le visioni di Philip K. Dick a quarant'anni dalla scomparsa. University of Verona and Extra Sci-Fi Festival Verona. Paper: "Porte a gettoni e toast piratati. Riflessioni sul capitalismo da *Ubik* di Philip K. Dick a 'Pane non autorizzato' di Cory Doctorow"
18. October 21-22, 27-29, 2021: Digital Americas. 48th conference of the Austrian Association for American Studies
19. Austrian Association for American Studies. Paper: "Human Machines, Mechanical Humans: Posthuman Subjectivities in *Detroit: Become Human*"
20. September 23-26, 2021: Crossing Territories. Recognition across Time, Space, and Textuality in the US and Beyond. 26th Biannual AISNA Conference. AISNA – American Studies Association of Italy. Paper: "Let the Plan(e)t Speak for Itself: Agency, Empathy, and Subjectivity in Sue Burke's *Semiosis*"
21. September 13, 2021: Fantasy and Fandom. The Theology, Religion and Popular Culture Network. Paper: "God Says 'Gay Rights': Rewriting Christian Theology in the *Good Omens* Fandom"
22. March 12, 2021: The End Times – Approaches to the Apocalypse. CUNY graduate center. Paper: "Stuck in Reverse: Post-Apocalyptic Dystopias and the Error of Rebound"
23. May 15, 2020: Contaminazioni – PGR conference. University of Bergamo. (Organization and moderation of the conference)
24. June 20, 2019: (E)Merging Worlds. Department of Literature, Film, Theatre Studies, Creative Writing and Journalism, University of Essex. Paper: "Ready Player One: Levels of Reality"

GUEST LECTURES

1. March 17, 2023: "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." University of Turin – Seminars on American Culture
2. December 14, 2022: "'Spookifying' Poe: The Retrieval of 'The Tell-Tale Heart' and 'The Raven' in *The Simpsons*." University of Bologna
3. April 13, 2022: In bilico tra utopia e distopia: Il racconto dell'ancella di Margaret Atwood. University of Bergamo – Course in Literature and transmedia (undergraduate)
4. September 11, 2021: "Il post-apocalittico tra utopia e distopia." University Federico II of Naples – Seminar cycle "Leggere la cultura popolare per rileggere l'America"
5. May 21, 2019: "American Nightmares: The Rise of Dystopia in Contemporary American Fiction." Department of Literature, Film, Theatre Studies, University of Essex – Open seminars
6. December 11, 2018: Surveillance and the American Society. University of Verona – Course in Anglo-American Literature (undergraduate)

THEATRE

1. March 21, 2024. *Troubled Waters: Performance delle acque*. Auditorium of the University of Torino (Concept, dramaturgy, translation, production, stage setting)

JURY MEMBERSHIP

1. February-March 2024. Jury member for the Extra Sci-fi Festival in Verona (Film Festival)

I hereby authorize the treatment of my personal data according to the current Italian directives (Law No. 196 of 30 June 2003) Privacy policy and the EU 2018 GDPR.

Verona,
September 10, 2024

Valentina Romanzi