

Dr Rossella Merlino

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

Oct 2018 – Sept- 2020	Marie Sklodowska-Curie Research Fellow 2018-2020 , <i>Project 'MessCa'</i> , Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche e Giuridiche, Università di Messina .
Sept 2015 – Present	Lecturer in Italian Studies and Head of Italian Department, SMLC, Bangor University, Wales
April 2016	Visiting Fellow, Charles and Joan Alberto Italian Studies Institute, Seton Hall University, New Jersey, US
Sept 2014– Aug 2015	Associate Lecturer in Italian Studies, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Exeter
Sept 2013– June 2014	Teaching Fellow in Italian Studies, Department of Politics, Languages & International Studies, University of Bath
Oct 2009 – June 2012	Postgraduate Teaching Assistant, School of Modern Language and Cultures, Strathclyde University
Oct 2004 – Aug 2009	CLTA Teacher Trainer and Teacher in Italian, International House London Ofsted Peer-Observation and Review of Teaching Instructor, City University London

EDUCATION

Oct 2009– Nov 2013	University of Strathclyde PhD in Italian Studies Supervisors: Prof. Joseph Farrell, Prof. Philip Cooke Title of the Thesis: <i>'In the Name of the Godfather: an Interdisciplinary Study on the Role of Religion in the Communicative Practices of the Sicilian Mafia'</i> Examiners: Prof. John Foot [Bristol]; Dr Manuela Williams [Strathclyde]
Oct 2007– Sept 2008	University College London MA in Contemporary Italian Culture and History Title of the Thesis: <i>The Religious Dimension of mafia leader Bernardo Provenzano's "pizzini"</i> . Dissertation Grade: Distinction. Supervisors: Prof. John Dickie; Dr Eleanor Chiari.
Sept 1999 – Sept 2002	Università degli Studi 'G. D'Annunzio', Pescara (Italy) BA Degree in Languages and Literature. Grade: 110/110
2001	University of Western Australia (UWA), Perth Six-month Traineeship and Study Programme in <i>English for Academic Purposes</i> . Grade: A+
2000	University of Salamanca, Spain Six-month Translation Traineeship and Study Programme in Spanish Culture and Literature. Grade: <i>Sobresaliente</i> (Outstanding)

TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS

Dec. 2017	Bangor University Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (in preparation)
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Sept. 2014

University of Bath

The Bath Course in Enhancing HE Academic Practice

2004- 2007

International House London

- Teacher Trainer Certificate to train and award Italian teachers with the *Certificate in Italian Language Teaching to Adults (CLTA)*
- Cross-Cultural Trainer Certificate
- Graded Observations and Reports Writing
- Full-Time Certificate in Italian Language Teaching to Adults (CLTA)

GRANTS and SCHOLARSHIP

Seton Hall University, April 2016: fully funded Visiting Fellowship (approx. \$5.000)

University of Strathclyde, 2009-2013: John Anderson PhD Scholarship (£36.000)

University of Strathclyde, 2010, 2011: summer travel grants (£1.000)

Università degli Studi 'G. D'Annunzio', 2001: Traineeship Abroad Grant (€ 12.000)

PhD SUPERVISION

Sept 2016-
present

Gareth White, *Imagining La Merica: Narratives and Identity of Italian Immigrants in the US (1876-1914)*, Bangor University.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles and chapters

Allum, F., Merlino, R. and Colletti, A., 2019, 'Enablers, Sponsors and Helpers: The Hidden Face of Italian Mafias', *South European Society and Politics*, Taylor & Francis (accepted for publication).

Merlino, R., 2018, 'Pizzini: mafia culture beyond culturalism', in *Italian Mafias Today* (eds), Edward Elgar Publishing: Northampton, MA (forthcoming 2019).

Merlino, R. 2016 'Papi, cupole e mandarini tardivi: Religiosità e identità nelle parole del boss Michele Greco', in *L'immaginario devoto tra organizzazioni mafiose e lotta alla mafia* (ed.) Rome: Viella Editrice

Merlino, R., 2015 'Tales of Trauma, Identity, and God: The Memoirs of Mafia Boss Michele Greco and Leonardo Vitale', *The European Review of Organised Crime*, 1 (2), pp. 49-75

Merlino, R., 2015, 'Devotion and Identity in the History of the Sicilian Mafia. The Case of Bernardo Provenzano', in *Dialogues on Civilizations*, Reset.

Merlino, R., 2015 'Sicilian mafia, patron saints, and religious processions: The consistent face of an ever-changing criminal organisation', *California Italian Studies Journal*, Volume 5.

Merlino, R., 2015, 'Devotion and Identity in the History of the Sicilian Mafia. The Case of Bernardo Provenzano', in *Dialogues on Civilizations*, Reset.

Merlino, R., 2013 'The sacred oath of a secret ritual: Performing authority and submission in the Mafia initiation ceremony', *Forum - University of Edinburgh*

Postgraduate Journal of Culture & the Arts, 17

Merlino, R., 2013 'Mafia, devotion and religious festivals: power between the sacred and the profane', *ReadingItaly, the Italian Studies Postgraduate Forum of the University of Reading*.

Merlino, R., 2012 'Con il Volere di Dio': religious symbolic ritual of mafia boss Bernardo Provenzano, *Modern Italy*, vol. 17, no. 3, Routledge, 365-381.

Merlino, R., 2012 From a Man to a 'Man of Honour': The Role of Religion in the Initiation Ritual of Cosa Nostra, *International Journal of the Humanities*, vol. 9, no. 11, The Humanities Collection - *Common Ground Publishing*, 2012, 59-700

JOURNAL EDITING and PEER REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

- Peer Reviewer for the *Italian American Review*, The journal of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
- Peer Reviewer for *Modern Italy*, The journal of the Association for the Study of Modern Italy
- Associate Editor for *The International Journal of the Humanities*, volume 9, Issue 6
- Associate Editor for *The International Journal of the Humanities*, volume 9, Issue 7

CONFERENCES: Member of Scientific Committees

Conference co-organisation:

L'immaginario devoto tra organizzazioni mafiose e lotta alla mafia (Religion between the mafia and the antimafia), Università di Roma "Tor Vergata", November 2014.

The Berlusconi Show: Media and Criminality in Italy, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, 2010.

Keynote Presentations

Bristol University, *Sacred Texts and Secret Letters: mafia communication between tradition and change*, ASMI Postgraduate Summer School 23– 24 **June 2016**,
University of Catania, *Organised crime at the time of crisis: the interesting case of the Italian mafias*, invited paper at the ESGOC Intensive Summer School on Serious and Organized Crime (ISSOC), June **2014**

Conference Papers:

University of Bath, *Approaching mafia culture beyond "culturalism": a case study analysis on religious language in mafia communication*, ECPR Standing Group on Organised Crime General Conference, 7-8 July **2017**

Italian Cultural Institute London, *Redefining mafia "culture" beyond culturalism: the case of Cosa Nostra and religion*, ASMI Annual Conference on *The Force of History Critical Perspectives on the Historiography of Modern Italy* **2016**

Bangor University, *A socio-cultural approach to mafia studies*, SMLC Research Seminar Series, October **2015**

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Naples, *Italian mafias, religion and a Church: is a change possible?* ECPR Standing Group on Organised Crime First General Conference on 'Old and new forms of organised and serious crime between the local and the global', December **2015**

University of Rome Tor Vergata, *Memoriali di mafia: identità, trauma, religione*, International Conference on 'L'immaginario devoto tra organizzazioni mafiose e lotta alla mafia', November **2014**

University of Bath, *The religious dimension of mafia organisations: an interdisciplinary analysis*, PoLIS Department Seminar Series, **2014**

University of Granada, Spain, *From a Man to a 'Man of Honour': The Role of Religion in the Interaction Rituals of the Sicilian Mafia*, 9th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, **2012**

University of Bristol, *The devout godfathers: case studies on the religious performative behaviours of three mafia bosses*, ASMI Postgraduate Conference, **2011**

University of Strathclyde, *La punciuta': Religious Rituals and Symbols in the Initiation Ceremony of the Sicilian Mafia*, Languages and Literatures Research Seminar Series, **2011**.

University of Cambridge, *An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Study of Religion in the Cultural Dimension of Cosa Nostra*, Fifth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, **2011**

University of Birmingham, *The religion of mafia boss Bernardo Provenzano: a case study of religion in the cultural life of Cosa Nostra*, ASMI Postgraduate Conference, **2010**

International House London, *Task-Based Approach to Teaching Foreign Modern Languages to adult learners*, 1st Modern Languages Conference (MoLaCo), **2009**
Conference Chairing:

Panel Chairing at:

ASMI Postgraduate Summer School, University of Reading, 2013

ASMI Postgraduate Summer School, University College London, 2014

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Languages	Receptive skills		Productive skills	
	listening	reading	speaking	writing
Italian	mother tongue			
English	C2	C2	C2	C2
Spanish	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	B2	C1	B1	B1

(*) *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

Bangor University:

- Head of Italian Department in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures (SMLC)
- SMLC Admissions Rep
- Year Abroad Coordinator for Italian
- SMLC Dissertation Coordinator
- SMLC Ethics Officer

MEMBERSHIPS

ECPR SGCO - European Consortium for Political Research- Standing Group on Organised Crime

ASMI: The Association of Modern Italian Studies

SIS: Society for Italian Studies