

Svetlana Alpatova

State University of Management in Moscow

Svetlana Alpatova, Ph.D., holds a degree in Philology and Linguistics, and teaches English at the State University of Management in Moscow. Her primary area of specialization is intercultural communication and the methodology of language teaching, educational philosophy and theory. She has published several articles on these problems in China, Ukraine, Malta, Belorussia, S. Petersburg, Vladivostok and in other Russian and Foreign Universities.

Álvaro Ávila

School Year Abroad

Dr. Álvaro Ávila, Ph.D. University of Salamanca, has taught at School Year Abroad since 1999. He carried out his doctoral course work in Spain and Italy and has taught at the college and high school levels in Spain and the United States. He currently teaches History, Politics and Art. He has published several books and articles in his related fields.

Jules Martin Bella Owona

Siena Italian Studies

Università per Stranieri di Siena, Degree in teaching of Italian Language and Culture, B.A. in Bilingual Studies French/English and M.A. in English Language Studies (University of Yaounde, Cameroon). Jules is a certified examiner for the proficiency test for Italian language of the Università per Stranieri di Siena (Certificazione di Italiano come Lingua Seconda, CILS). At the International Center for Intercultural Exchange he teaches Italian language and Reflective Writing, he is also involved in directing the upcoming program Siena China Studies, which opens the FICCS approach and methodology to Chinese students. Jules is also actively involved in research and publication efforts of the center.

Antonella Benucci

University for Foreigners of Siena (UNISTRASI)

Antonella Benucci is an associate professor of “Modern Languages Teaching” at Università per Stranieri di Siena. From 2005 to 2010 she was Director of CLUSS (Linguistic Center of Università per Stranieri di Siena). She has published several articles and handbooks on language teaching. Her research currently centers on intercomprehension, interaction between natives and immigrants with a special attention to foreign prisoners and about intercultural pragmatics. Prof. Benucci has taught training courses to Italian language teachers all over the world: Australia, Canada, Argentina, Brazil, Greece, Czech Republic, Spain, Portugal, Germany and many Italian universities. She is on the Academic Committees of: Linguistic and Cultural Mediation Degree, Specialization in Teaching Italian to Foreigners; Department of Humanities and the Department of Languages and Cultures Sciences;

Fiora Biagi

Siena Italian Studies

Fiora Biagi Università degli Studi di Siena: M.A. in Foreign Languages and Literature. PhD in Linguistics from the University of Siena. Fiora holds the DITALS specialization in teaching Italian as a second language from the Università per Stranieri di Siena. She has worked as a Professor at the Università per Stranieri of Siena as well as an Italian/English translator. She has most recently co-authored a text on the FICCS instructional approach called *L'educazione riflessiva interculturale: L'approccio FICCS allo studio della lingua e cultura italiana* and currently teaches Italian language at Siena Italian Studies.

Jill E. Blondin

Virginia Commonwealth University

Jill E. Blondin, Ph.D., serves as director of VCU Globe, an award-winning global education living-learning program, at Virginia Commonwealth University. She received her B.A. in art history from Indiana University, and her A.M. and Ph.D. in art history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Before directing VCU Globe, Dr. Blondin helped to develop and to launch Global Awareness through Education (GATE), a globally-focused living-learning program, at the University of Texas at Tyler. Dr. Blondin has received numerous awards and grants for her teaching and research, and has presented and published on intercultural campus environments and global education.



Lavinia Bracci

Siena Italian Studies

Lavinia Bracci is founder and director of Siena Italian Studies and the International Center for Intercultural Exchange, which hosts educational exchange programs as well as a service-learning program of the International Partnership for Service-Learning. Through using service as an instructional tool she invented the FICCS (Full-Immersion: Culture Content and Service) approach to develop reflective intercultural competence and has co-authored a book on this approach entitled *L'educazione riflessiva interculturale: L'approccio FICCS allo studio della lingua e cultura italiana*. Recently she has co-authored several publications on the FICCS and EUFICCS approaches as well as research on the Reflective Intercultural Competence Assessment (RICA) Model. Her and her team's research has been presented in numerous conferences in Asia, North America and Europe and has

Robert Bringle

Purdue University

From 1994-2012, Dr. Bringle was Executive Director of the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Center for Service and Learning. He co-edited *Research on Service Learning*, Vol. 2A: Students and Faculty, and Vol. 2B: Communities, Institutions, and Partnerships. He received the Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service Learning, the IUPUI Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Legacy of Service Award from Indiana Campus Compact. He was recognized at the 4th Annual International Service-Learning Research Conference for outstanding contributions. The University of the Free State, South Africa, awarded him an honorary doctorate for his scholarly work on civic engagement and service learning.

Nevin Brown

Siena Italian Studies

Nevin Brown is a senior fellow with Siena Italian Studies (SIS), a unit of the International Center for Intercultural Exchange in Siena, Italy. Before joining SIS, he was president of the International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership (IPSL), a U.S.-based organization that provides academic and community service study-abroad opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students in several nations worldwide. He has also held senior staff positions in several U.S.-based postsecondary organizations. An historian by academic training, Brown has spent most of his professional career working in the areas of urban policy and international education. Among his professional affiliations, Brown has been a member of the governing boards of the Urban Affairs Association, the National History Education Network, and the Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion. He also co-chaired the European Links Committee for UAA from 1995-2003, through which he was involved in the creation of the European Urban Research Association. (EURA).



Alfonso Casella

Siena Italian Studies

Università degli Studi di Siena: Degree in Law with specialization on the History of the Italian Legal System. In addition to teaching, Alfonso Diego Casella works as a free-lance journalist for a local newspaper. Alfonso currently works at Siena Italian Studies/International Center for Intercultural Exchange in Siena. In the past he collaborated in London with Istituto Italiano di Cultura. He also attended a master in European Studies in Strasbourg (Université Robert Schuman – Ecole des Hautes études Européennes) collaborating at same time with the European Parliament in France. In 2008 he published a novel, *Cicoria*, which has received critical acclaim; his latest book, *Zero al 100%*, was published in 2010.

Xenia Chrysochoou

Panteion University

Xenia Chrysochoou is Professor of Social and Political Psychology at Panteion University in Athens, Greece. She holds a Ph.D. in social psychology from Université Rene Descartes Paris V and has held teaching positions elsewhere in France and in the United Kingdom prior to joining the faculty at Panteion University in 2003. Her research interests include investigating the social psychological processes of mobility and migration in modern societies, and justice issues and resource allocation between different social groups in the context of intergroup conflict. She has published and spoken widely on issues related to intercultural relations. More complete biographical details are available at <https://panteion.academia.edu/XeniaChrysochoou>

Sandro Corso

Chicago Consulate General of Italy

Sandro Corso (2 Italian laurea, MA, PhD): His published works include studies on travel literature (*The Invention of Sardinia*, Cirvi:2014; *D.H.Lawrence's Sardinia*, Journal of DHL society:2001), the notion of ambiguity and fantasy in European literature (*Il Manifestarsi dell'Ambiguo*, CUPEC:1993), and various articles on travel writing, teaching theory, and P.P.Pasolini. Besides travel literature and identity, his current research interests include the history of the Italian language and the questione della lingua, language variation issues, the teaching of Italian as a second or foreign language. At present he serves at the Cultural Promotion Dept. of the Italian Foreign Ministry in Chicago, IL.



Leah Davcheva

AHA Moments, Center for Intercultural Learning, Education & Research

The founder of AHA moments (2006). Leah Davcheva is an intercultural trainer, facilitator and coach with a focus on solutions focused work and the resources of people. She develops and runs international training programmes for educators, students in higher education, youth workers and business professionals. She currently contributes to the growth of the Council of Europe's Pestalozzi Programme Community of Practice.

Theresa R. Ennis

Tennessee Technological University

Works as the Director of University Assessment for Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, TN. Ennis has been using Service Learning in courses for approximately 10 years. Ennis was the founding director of the University Service Learning Center and established policies, procedures, and resources for faculty and students in service, for each civic engagement, service learning, and community service projects. The Center was directed by Ennis for approximately 5 years and she trained students and eventually a staff member hired to coordinate the center. She recruited approximately eighty non-profit agencies in the community for student service project access in relation to their interests and college major requirements. Ennis also developed a data tracking system for the TN Campus Compact that strategically plans for civic engagement, service learning, and community service in higher education. Thirty-eight TN Institutions in higher education adopted her model for data collection of civic engagement in their respective campus. She has attended and presented at numerous service oriented conferences, sharing ideas for the establishment of centralized centers, service learning curriculum, and effective assessment of service in courses and in institutions. Ennis teaches an interdisciplinary colloquium to Honors students in the Fall semesters focusing on Leadership, Service Learning, and Civic Engagement. The class is highly sought after and is filled to capacity each time it's offered. Currently, Ennis is working with Dr. Sandi Smith and the TTU Rotaract Club to sustain a 5 year interdisciplinary service-learning project in the Dominican Republic.



Ida Ferrari

Università per Stranieri di Siena

Ida Ferrari teaches Italian Language and Culture courses. She works with Study Abroad students at Cet-Siena and with adult immigrants at the University for Foreigners of Siena. She has been Member of the Coordinamento of the Italian L2 teachers at the Associazione Corte dei Miracoli where she has co-authored and run several projects for young and adult immigrants among which “Impariamo l’italiano” for children in primary schools and “A scuola di cittadinanza” for adult immigrants. She holds a PhD in Linguistics (Universities of Firenze/Siena): she has worked on the acquisition of clitics in Italian by Italian-German bilingual children and on the acquisition of monosyllabic prepositions by Italian monolingual children. She also holds the specialization in teaching Italian as a second language (Università per Stranieri di Siena): for her specialization thesis she developed a syllabus and samples of didactics material concerning the current regulations of work for immigrant workers.

Sonia Forasiepi

Amnesty International

Sonia Forasiepi is affiliated with Human Rights Education Lombardy - Amnesty International, through which she organizes volunteers, develops research and produces educational material related to human rights awareness and the need for actions to respond to human rights violations in the world. She has also served as a board member for Amnesty International-Italy. She is an economics graduate of Perugia (Italy) Economics University, and she has taught and/or spoken on human rights issues at universities and conferences across the Mediterranean region. More complete biographical details are available at it.linkedin.com/in/soniaforasiepi

Daniele Gatti

School Year Abroad Italy

Daniele Gatti: Having earned a BA in Modern Literature and a MA in Modern Philology, Daniele got his Ph.D. in Scienze del testo. He is an expert in the promotion of reading and marketing literature. As a result of this expertise, Daniele has collaborated with the University of Siena, consulted with schools and spoken at conferences and seminars. As a teacher, he has taught both in public schools and in private institutions. Furthermore, he earned a degree in teaching Italian to foreign students and a Master of Education to teach Modern literature, history and geography. In 2011, he started working with School Year Abroad in Viterbo. Daniele is a graduate of the Conservatory of Terni in classical guitar, an instrument that he has taught for many years and, as a performer, has played in Italy and abroad.

Giulia Grosso

Sardinia Italian Studies

Giulia Grosso is the Director of Sardinia Italian Studies. She holds a PhD in Linguistics and Didactics of Italian as a second language from the University for Foreigners of Siena with a thesis on the use of Italian as Lingua Franca in the spontaneous interactions of native and non native migrant workers. She is also currently involved at the University for Foreigners of Siena as a researcher and collaborator for RiUscire (Erasmus + Project) and DEPORT, both projects about intercultural communication in the prison context. She has a long-standing interest in language and identity in migration, and a more recent interest in intercultural pragmatics, applying Conversation Analysis to the study of spontaneous interaction in Italian as a Lingua franca in superdiverse contexts. She is a member of the SLI (Italian Society of Linguistics) and DILLE (Società italiana di Didattica delle Lingue e Linguistica educativa).

Anja Iveković Martinis

Institute for Anthropological Research

Anja Iveković Martinis is Research Assistant at the Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb. Her interests are identity formations and representations, with cross-cutting discourses of gender, class and generation, in both historical and contemporary perspectives. She is currently working on Ph.D. dissertation on historic perspectives of intercultural practices and identities in Croatia.

Talar S. Kaloustian

Yeditepe University

Talar S. Kaloustian completed her doctoral education in Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education at the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. With a background in TESOL and international relations, Talar's research focuses on program development for international students, particularly in curriculum design aimed at developing students' intercultural competence skills, as well as building emotional support systems into program design. She is currently an Assistant Professor of English Language Teaching at Yeditepe University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Wes Kennison

SUNY Geneseo

Wes Kennison, Faculty Fellow for International Studies, teaches Literature, Latin language and Humanities at the State University of New York at Geneseo. A friend of Siena for over three decades, Wes has worked to foster long-term friendships between his hometown of Geneseo and various communities throughout the world. Most recently, he has brought students to El Sauce, Nicaragua, for Service Learning and General Education studies. Unique to this initiative, is the notion of teaching great books in the developing world. Wes has a keen interest in the history of medieval mysticism in Italy.

Vicky Kynourgiopoulou

Università degli Studi Roma Tre

Dr. Vicky Kynourgiopoulou, is a Professor of Cultural Studies at Arcadia University, College of Global Studies, Rome campus/ Università Degli Studi di Roma Tre and a Distinguished Professor of Cultural Heritage Policy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As a professional archaeologist and cultural heritage manager she is head consultant for UNESCO in the MENA region. Her research concentrates in North Africa and the Middle East where she specializes in sustainable development practices and cross cultural communication in underdeveloped countries. She is also a member of the Global Network on Intercultural Competence (ICC Global) and is working in collaborative projects on intercultural competence and cross cultural learning.



Grigoria Kynourgiopoulou

University of Pireaus

Grigoria Kynourgiopoulou, is completing her postgraduate studies in European and International studies, at the University of Piraeus, Greece. She holds a degree in French Literature and Language from the University of Athens, and, a professional diploma in Translation Studies. Her research focuses on cross-cultural communication among immigrant groups and mobility patterns. She teaches foreign languages and is a long standing volunteer at UNICEF.

Kuzmenkova

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Josip Lah

Institute for Anthropological Research

Josip Lah is a Research Assistant at the Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, and a PhD student at the University of Zagreb. His main research interests include cultural heritage, tourism, cyber and digital anthropology, and multimodal communication.

Rachel Lindner

University of Paderborn

Rachel Lindner is Coordinator of Languages for International Business Studies at the University of Paderborn in Germany and Associate Lecturer of English Language Didactics at the Department for English and American Studies of the Technical University of Dortmund in Germany. The main focus of her work is in English for academic, specific and occupational purposes, intercultural education and educational technology.

Gianni Loy

University of Cagliari

Gianni Loy Professore ordinario di diritto del Lavoro nell'Università di Cagliari. Componente del direttivo nazionale dell'AIDLASS (Associazione Italiana di Diritto del lavoro e relazioni industriali), Membro del Comitato scientifico della Rivista "Rivista della previdenza pubblica e privata". Direttore del Master in Relazioni Industriali. A partire dal 2000, direttore delle Summer schools di Ohrid 2000 e 2001(Macedonia); Belgrado 2002 (Serbia); Bucarest 2003(Romania). Già presidente del CORAN (Comitato per la rappresentanza negoziale della Regione Autonoma della Sardegna). Già consulente del Ministero di Giustizia e del Ministero del lavoro per la riforma delle norme del codice di procedura civile riguardanti la normativa lavoristica.

Maura Di Mauro

Maura di Mauro Consulting

Maura di Mauro is specialized in multicultural management, intercultural communication and developing intercultural sustainable competence. She works with several industries and companies, developing customized training programs and tools, which include e-learning and distance training methodologies. She graduated in Psychology of Work and Organization at the University of Padua; she has got a Master in PNL Coaching from the International Teaching School of London and she is a certified Cultural Detective. She attended the ISPI (Istituto di Studi di Politica Internazionale)'s diploma on International Cooperation, specializing herself in co-development projects, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability & Innovation. She currently teaches Cross-Cultural Management at the MINT International Master Program at the Catholic University of Piacenza and Multicultural Management at the International Master Program in Global Business & Sustainability at ALTIS (Alta Scuola di Impresa e Società) of the Catholic University of Milan. She has written books and articles for publication. She is on the European and Italian board of SIETAR (Society for Intercultural Education, Training and Research).

Pascal Montéville

School Year Abroad France

Pascal Montéville has been associated with School Year Abroad since 1986, teaching French Culture and Society, French Literature, and Politics. He also teaches foreign students at the CIREFE in Rennes (France) and has been working for numerous European programs for foreign students and teachers. He lived and worked in the United States and in Vietnam. Pascal Montéville is a graduate of the University of Rennes (M.A History and B.A Journalism).



Maxine Nwigwe

SUNY Old Westbury

Maxine Nwigwe is the Associate Director of the First Year Experience Program (FYE) and the Community Action, Learning and Leadership Program (CALL) at SUNY Old Westbury. In this role, she facilitates the design and implementation of curricular and co-curricular initiatives, which foster inclusive excellence and civic and community engagement. Dr. Nwigwe's scholarly interests include understanding the impact that creating and sharing narratives have on representations of self and other, meaning-making, resiliency and community-building. She is also interested in how cultural forms can be used to examine and facilitate social change and social justice on a broad scale. Dr. Nwigwe received her B.A. in Biology & Society from Cornell University and her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from The George Washington University.

Claudia Olivier

Johannes Gutenberg University

Claudia Olivier is a post-doctoral fellow and the manager of TRANSOS – The Research Center for Transnational Social Support at the Institute of Education at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in Germany. From 2008 to 2011 she was a PhD student and scholarship holder at the DFG-Research Training Group 1474 "Transnational Social Support", Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz/Germany. Her PhD thesis holds the title "TransREmigration. A Transnational Social Work Perspective on Return". Her major fields of interests are return/transnational migration and development; social networks, social capital and social support; international development co-operation, poverty reduction and NGOs (especially in Sub-Saharan Africa).



Jo Pantaleo

St. John's University

Jo Pantaleo serves as the Queensborough Community College Director of the Academic Literacy Learning Center, Academic Service-Learning, and presently as the college's Chief Diversity Officer. She has over 40 years' experience in the education field with specialization in developmental reading, rhetoric, and experiential learning, such as the use of contextualized service-learning pedagogy that encourages civic responsibility. Ms. Pantaleo provides professional development for faculty wishing to incorporate service-learning activities into their courses and oversees the implementation of service learning efforts and events at the college. She has presented both locally and nationally on Queensborough's efforts at institutionalizing service-learning, and she has contributed to a number of chapters and articles on service-learning.

Nicholas Pantaleo

St. John's University

Nicholas Pantaleo, Director of Pharmacy at The Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, which is located in Queens, New York, is an Adjunct Professor of Pharmacy at St. John's University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, an Affiliated Clinical Preceptor for Experiential Programs of St. John's University Department of Pharmacy Administration and Allied Health Sciences, and a thesis advisor of Master of Science pharmacy candidates at the university. Professor Pantaleo specializes in developing students' intercultural and cross-cultural competencies as they apply their professional knowledge in servicing a diverse population of clients. His expertise in cultural communication skills is applicable across disciplines.

Sasha Perugini

Syracuse University Florence

Sasha Perugini (MA, PhD) has lived/worked in different countries developing her multilingual and cross-cultural competencies. She has been working in international higher education since 1994, in teaching and management roles, both in the US and Italy (Academic Manager at University of Siena; Assistant Director at IES Abroad Rome, Centre Manager of the European campus of Monash University--Australia--in Prato). She is currently director of the Syracuse University Florence Centre in Florence.



Sabine Pirchio

Università degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza/Università degli Studi Roma Tre

Sabine Pirchio is senior researcher in Developmental and Educational Psychology at Sapienza University of Rome, department of Dynamic and Clinical Psychology. Her major research interests are about: foreign language teaching and learning with the Narrative Format at school and in the family; bilingual development and education; home-school relationship; the role of the physical features of educational settings for child's behaviour and wellbeing. She is currently coordinating the European project "School and family together for the integration of immigrant children" (SOFT) using language learning activities and teacher-parents shared experiences for enhancing the integration of the immigrant children in the class.

Giulianna Quattrone

CNR/National Research Institute

Giulianna Quattrone, Architect, Doctor of research, Phd in Territorial Planning, is a researcher in Urban planning for the National Research Council. She carries out academic and professional activity in the field of environmental spatial planning. She attended international masters and postgraduate courses both in Italy and Europe. For various academic years she has been a university professor of "Methods of city planning" and "Urban planning" in the course of Bachelor in Urban and Territorial Planning and Architecture at the University of Reggio Calabria. So far she has written more than 100 publications among which essays, articles and papers and she has edited proceedings and research papers, both authored and co-authored, on environmental planning, urban planning, landscape, ecological and social regeneration.

Amy Ramson

Hostos Community College

Amy Ramson is a Professor at Hostos Community College (CUNY) in the Bronx, New York where she is coordinator of the Public Policy Administration, Criminal Justice and Paralegal Unit. She is an attorney licensed to practice in New York State and Georgia since 1983 and 1987, respectively and practices in the area of immigration law. She has practiced at large and boutique sized law firms in New York City and at an international law firm in Geneva. Her areas of academic research are sexual harassment education, instructional technology and service learning. Most recently, she has written two peer-reviewed manuscripts and made numerous conference presentations on service learning.



Juan Carlos Ruiz Coll

Siena Italian Studies

Juan Carlos Ruiz Coll is originally from Venezuela, moved to the United States, and has been living in Italy since 2010. During his studies at The Ohio State University, he came as a student to SIS in 2009. He is currently pursuing a M.A. in linguistics and cognitive studies at the Università degli Studi di Siena. As the SIS Program Coordinator, he is in charge of organizing activities, setting the course schedule, dealing with academic credit transfer, and serving as the main liaison between SIS and the students' home institutions.

Caroline Schmitt

Johannes Gutenberg University

Caroline Schmitt, Ph.D., is research assistant at the Institute of Education, working group Social Pedagogy, Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Germany. From 08/2010 to 03/2013 she was a PhD student and scholarship holder at the Interdisciplinary Research Center Social and Cultural Studies Mainz (SOCUM), Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Germany. Caroline Schmitt wrote her PhD thesis about „Migrant Businesses between Social Exclusion and Societal Incorporation – an Qualitative-Empirical Study on Afro Hair Salons in Germany". Her working areas are migrant entrepreneurship, forced migration, transnational migration, diversity approaches, transnational social work and racism.

Sandi Smith

Tennessee Technological University

Sandi Smith is an Associate Professor of Instructional Technology for the College of Education at Tennessee Technological University. Smith has spent her entire career (more than 25 years) in teacher education. Smith has created, developed, and/or taught undergraduate and graduate (including master, educational specialist, and doctoral level) courses on Technology for Teachers, Emerging Technologies in Education, Internet Integration in Teaching and Learning, Teaching and Learning Online, Technology Applications for Institutional Dissemination of Information, Psychology of Human Development and Learning Theory, and Measurement and Evaluation. She has served as the PI or Co-PI on numerous local, state, and national grants and has presented and authored many papers and documentaries. Smith discovered her love for service work a number of years ago while on vacation in the Bahamas where she taught classes and spoke at career fairs. Each year since, she has donated part of her travel time to local school systems in the Caribbean, both coasts of Mexico, and recently accompanied Dr. Ennis as co- faculty to Dominican Republic.



Karen Steinmayer

Hostos Community College

Karen Steinmayer, Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences at Hostos Community College in the Bronx, NY, earned her Ph.D. in Environmental Psychology and Health Psychology from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her research on the social construction of embodied experience, examines the narratives, discourses and practices through which embodied gender is constructed. She is designing research in collaboration with the Dental Hygiene Program to investigate issues involving ethnic health disparities related to immigration, using this approach. She brings this research to her teaching, emphasizing the examination of gender, ethnicity and immigration on embodied experience and health.

Anita Sujoldzic

Institute for Anthropological Research

Anita Sujoldzic is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Zagreb and Head of the Department of Linguistic & Sociocultural Anthropology, Institute for Anthropological Research. She leads international and national research projects and publishes in the field of interdisciplinary research into the sociocultural effects of acculturation and globalization processes and linguistic anthropology, including politics of identity, minorities, migration and tourism.

Laura Tarabusi

University of Hull/New York University Florence

Laura Tarabusi is a professor of Italian Language and Culture at New York University. Laura is currently doing her PhD research on Intercultural Communicative Competence at the University of Hull (UK). Laura received her degree in Foreign Languages and Literature from the University of Florence (Italy) in 1990. She started teaching Italian as a second language at the University of Florence, and since 2000 has been teaching Italian Language and Culture at New York University's study abroad site in Florence. She was the Director of the Centro Linguistico di Ateneo of the University of Florence from 1997 to 2000.



Aric Visser

School Year Abroad France

Aric Visser is the Director of New Program Development At School Year Abroad and a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Zaragoza in Spain. His Doctoral Thesis, Study Abroad: Growth in intercultural competence and creativity in a sample of U.S. secondary students, followed a group of SYA students in Spain and Italy, and contrasted their growth against a control group of similar students in the U.S. He currently lives in Rennes, France.

