

Sketch

Claudio Baraldi is a professor of Sociology of cultural and communicative processes at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Department of Studies on language and culture, where he teaches Sociology of Communication and Theory and Methods of Dialogue and Mediation. His research concerns communication systems and forms of communication. In particular his research focuses on forms of intercultural and interlinguistic communication, adult-children interactions in educational contexts, and organisational meetings. His most important interest is in the analysis of methods and techniques for dialogic facilitation of participation and language and cultural mediation. He has written and edited many volumes in Italy and has published several papers in international books and journals, including *Communication Theory*, *Interpreting*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Language and Intercultural Communication*, *The European Journal of Applied Linguistics*. He has published volumes for Springer and co-edited volumes with John Benjamins, Bloomsbury, Palgrave e Routledge.

Education and training

Claudio Baraldi received a PhD in Sociology and Social Research from the Faculty of Sociology, of the University of Trento in 1991) and became Researcher in 1994 at the University of Urbino). In 2000 he was appointed Associate Professor of Sociology of cultural and communicative processes at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia and has been Professor since 2005.

Research history

Claudio Baraldi has directed or co-ordinated more than 70 empirical research programmes, and he has published 20 books as a single author or co-author, 23 books as editor or co-editor, 114 papers in national and international volumes, 60 papers in national and international journals. His theoretical research is based on the combination of (1) Social Systems Theory, (2) theories of facilitation and mediation, (3) interaction analysis, (4) narrative approaches, (5) non-essentialist theories of intercultural communication. It follows a methodological model of grounded reflexive theory, based on a reciprocal hybridisation of theoretical assumptions and empirical data. At present, the two main fields of empirical research are: (1) linguistic and cultural mediation in healthcare services, (2) facilitation/mediation in institutional interactions that involve adult, children and young people. This research is based on interdisciplinary team work and systematic connections with institutions (public administrations, schools, healthcare services, non-profit organisations).

Claudio Baraldi has participated in 5 national research programmes (PRIN), in two cases as director of the Modena local unity and in one case as national director, about promotion and achievement of children's rights, intervention policies on cultural diversity, conflict management and forms of dialogue involving children, promotion of intercultural mediation and dialogue for peace. He has directed a research national research programme on Friendly cities for children (sponsored by the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence). He has directed two research programmes funded by Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Modena on "Conditions of peace and conflict management" and "Discrimination and participation among migrants". He has directed a research programme on "Social interventions for peace" (funded by Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2009-10, director) and a series of research programmes on young people's group activities and social participation. He has directed evaluative researches on the project "SicuraScuola", concerning actions against bullying in schools (funded by the Italian Ministry of Instruction, University and Scientific Research), on the project MOSAICO, on the inclusion of young migrants in schools (funded by the European Fund for Integration and promoted by the Local Administration of Modena), and on the project SIAMO on services for migrants (funded by the European Fund for Asylum Migration Integration and

promoted by the Local Administration of Modena). He has directed a research programme on intercultural communication and language and cultural mediation in healthcare services, promoted by the Healthcare Organisation of Reggio Emilia e UNIMORE through a university project. He has also worked as an expert in two European COST programmes (about the evaluation of drug prevention among adolescents, and Health and Social Care for Migrants and Ethnic Minorities in Europe).

Recently, he has been project coordinator of the following projects: (1) Erasmus+ project “Shared Memories and Dialogue” (SHARMED), funded by the European Commission, on cultural memory and intercultural dialogue through photography (2016-2018); (2) the Horizon 2020 research program CHILD-UP (Children Hybrid Integration: Learning Dialogue as a way of Upgrading Policies of Participation) (2019-2022); (3) the PRIN (Project of National Relevance) “Migrant children’s participation and identity construction in education and healthcare” (2019-2023). These projects concern integration of migrant-background children. At present, he is coordinator of UNIMORE research unit of the AMIF project MultiStakeholder Labs for migrants and stakeholders (MUST-a-Lab) (2022-2024).

Research organisation and administration

Claudio Baraldi is past-president of the ISA Research Committee Sociology of Childhood (ISA, International Sociological Association, 2014-2018) and a member of the Board of Research Network Sociology of children and childhood (ESA, European Sociological Association).

Claudio Baraldi is a member of the Editorial Board of the international journals “Language and Dialogue”, “International Journal of Business Communication”, “International Journal of Early Childhood”, “Childhood”.

He has acted as a referee for international journals (among the others, Children & Society, Childhood, European Educational Research, Health Communication, Intercultural Education, International Journal of Business Communication, International Journal of Early Childhood, Interpreting, Journal of International Migration and Integration, Journal of Pragmatics, Language and Intercultural Communication, Pedagogies).

At the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, he was Director of the Research Centre on Peace and Sustainability (Department of Linguistic and cultural sciences, 2004-2011) and is currently Member of the scientific board of the Interuniversity Research Centre for Analysis of Interaction and Mediation (AIM), involving 10 universities in Italy.

Teaching and administrative activity

Claudio Baraldi currently teaches Sociology of Communication and Theory and Methods of Dialogue and Mediation at the Department of studies on language and culture. He also teaches Sociology of cultural and communicative processes (Department of Law), Sociology, and Communication and languages (Faculty of Medicine), Meanings and forms of communication (Master programme in Alternative Facilitating Communication), Intercultural communication and mediation (Master in Intercultural Relations in Healthcare, Social Work and Welfare). He is currently a member of the teaching staff in the PhD programme in Humanities (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia) and the National PhD programme in Peace Studies.

At the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Faculty of Letters and Philosophy and, since 2011, Department of Studies on language and culture), he was Faculty delegate for job orientation (2000-02), Reference person (2000-02), chairperson (2002-05) and then President (2006-07) of the BA in Cultural Sciences, Chair of the commission for quality evaluation (2002-08), Dean of the Faculty (2007-10), Director of the Master Program in International Cooperation (2010-14). At present, he is President of the Commission for quality evaluation of the Department. At present, he is member of the University Observatory for research and the University Research Committee.

Public engagements and extra details

Claudio Baraldi has participated in many national and international conferences on childhood studies, intercultural communication and linguistic mediation, both presenting papers and as invited speaker. He has organized international workshops and conferences in these fields.

For what concerns relations with institutions and organisations out of university, Claudio Baraldi has trained a great number of teachers, educators, social workers, healthcare providers and mediators, in connection with public administrations, schools, health organisations and non-profit organisations.