

Vincenzo Gannuscio

Sketch

Vincenzo Gannuscio is Associate Professor for German Language and Translation at the Department of Language and Cultural Studies of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. He is responsible for teaching German language, mediation and translation (with particular attention to subtitling). His main research interests are: didactics of German as a foreign language, contrastive grammar, grafematics, German spelling, German language history and politolinguistics.

Education and training

Vincenzo Gannuscio graduated *cum laude* from the University of Palermo and obtained his PhD in English and German Literatures and Languages in 2008 with a doctoral thesis entitled *The capital letter in German orthography: a historical and linguistic description with analysis of written productions of Italian-speaking learners*. He has been research assignee and lecturer in German language and linguistics at the Faculty of Literature and Philosophy of the University of Palermo. From 2011 to 2014 he was researcher (RTDa) and teacher of German Language and Translation and History of the German language at the SDS of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Catania.

Research history

Since the years of doctorate Vincenzo Gannuscio has collaborated with national and international research groups that have given a strong imprinting to his research path. This is characterised by the presence of three main research areas:

- From the collaboration with the research group of the international project Eurogr@mm, coordinated by the *Institut für deutsche Sprache* of Mannheim, his interest in the contrastive and comparative grammatical description of German and Italian phenomena was born. In particular, his research focuses mainly on the complex syntactic and semantic aspects of negation in German and Italian.
- The interest in grafematics brings Vincenzo Gannuscio closer to the diachronic and synchronic study of German spelling. His research focuses, in fact, not only on its historical evolution, but also on the consequences the spelling reform of 1996 (and subsequent changes up to 2006) had on the current German *usus scribendi*. The collaboration with Prof. Horst Sitta (University of Zurich and member of the *Rat für deutsche Rechtschreibung*), who was considered one of the fathers of the highly contested reform, was of fundamental importance for this research area.
- The orthographic reform, experienced by many Germans as an intolerable imposition from above, also gives rise to Vincenzo Gannuscio's interest in the relationship between language and politics. The research focuses in a first phase on the language policy implemented by the German and Italian governments for the protection and promotion of German and Italian. In recent years, however, the research focuses on the language in politics. These politolinguistic studies are characterized by a diachronic and synchronic approach, comparing intra-linguistically the language of persuasion of past and present (the language of national socialism and the language of the new German right) and inter-linguistically the language of

the rhetoric of the German and Italian populist parties (AfD and Lega Nord). Of importance in this context the participation in the international research project *Sprach(kritik)kompetenz als Mittel demokratischer Willensbildung. Sprachliche In- und Exklusionsstrategien als gesellschaftliche Herausforderung* financed by the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst as part of the Hochschuldialog mit Südeuropa programme.

Recent scientific collaborations include:

- Jean Monnet Excellence Project on Artificial Intelligence and European Integration, 2020-2023 (Centro Studi sull'Europa TO-EU, Turin), participation in the panel Rights and Language Variations in the Age of AI.
- FAR - Departmental Project 2020 (DSLCL Modena), Gender language and digital public communication in a European linguistic perspective (GLiC_D Laboratory).
- Horizon 2020 project (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange): Spatial Practices in Art and Architecture for Empathetic EXchange (SPACEX).
- DAAD-Hochschuldialog mit Südeuropa: Politolinguistik kontrastiv: Diskurs- und Kommunikationsstrategien bei den Parlamentswahlen in Deutschland und Italien.

Research organisation and administration

Vincenzo Gannuscio was a member of the editorial staff and responsible for web-editing of the online magazine LC (ISSN 1974-9465) and is a reviewer for the magazine *Linguistics and Literature Studies* (ISSN: 2331-6438) published by Horizon Research Publishing Corporation (USA). He was Peer-Reviewer for the journal 'Testi & Linguaggi' (Carocci) and in 2017 he was referee for the PhD in literary, linguistic and historical studies at the Department of Humanities of the University of Salerno.

Teaching and administrative activity

Vincenzo Gannuscio has been the holder of the following teachings at the Universities of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Catania and Palermo: German Language, German Language and Linguistics, German Language and German Translation, Mediation and Translation (German), Languages for Special Purposes and Translation (German), German Language History, German Language Translation Laboratory.

Extra details

- Vincenzo Gannuscio is a certified examiner at the Goethe-Institut.
- He is a member of the “Multiplikatoren-Netz” of the Goethe-Institut, which, as part of the 'DLL - Deutsch Lehren Lernen' project, provides training and further education for GfL-teachers.
- He is a member of the Associazione Italiana Germanisti (AIG).
- He is a member of the Gesellschaft für angewandte Linguistik (GAL).
- He is a member of the Internationale Vereinigung für Germanistik (IVG).
- He is a member of the Interuniversity Centre for Metaphor Research (CIRM).