

Laura Gavioli CV

Sketch

Laura Gavioli is Full Professor of English Language, Translation, and Linguistics at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Department of Studies on Language and Culture). She is responsible for curriculum design and instruction in linguistics, mediation, and translation concerning both the English and Italian languages. Her research focuses on interactional studies, analysed through both a cross-linguistic framework (contrasting English and Italian) and in plurilingual settings. Within this scope, she has spent several years studying interaction in dialogue interpreting within public services (particularly healthcare) and commercial transactions (especially product promotion). She has also worked extensively in corpus linguistics, with a specific focus on the pedagogical application of specialized corpora in translation training. A further research interest centers on spoken language corpora: following her pioneering role in compiling the bilingual PIXI corpus (1990), she turned her attention to establishing a corpus of dialogue interpreting data within healthcare environments. These data have been gathered since 2004 through an ongoing partnership with local health authorities, resulting in a corpus that stands as one of the largest in the sector worldwide. Professor Gavioli has also supervised numerous doctoral projects both in Italy and abroad.

Education and training

Laura Gavioli graduated cum laude from the University of Bologna, where she also completed her postgraduate training. She has held tenured university roles since 1993, serving first as a permanent Researcher (1993–1999), then as Associate Professor (2000–2006), and subsequently as Full Professor (2006–Present). She was based at the University of Bologna (School of Modern Languages for Interpreters and Translators, Forlì campus) until 2000, and from 2000 onwards at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.

Research history

Starting from the late 1980s Laura Gavioli has engaged in research within national and international teams working in the fields of analysis of the spoken language and contrastive analysis of English and Italian, an experience which provided her with the opportunity to participate in the international scientific debate on these topics. Some main long-term research projects she was involved in concern: contrastive pragmatics of English and Italian spoken language; the language of Italian institutional documents; corpus analysis in English language and translation teaching and learning, analysis of interpreter-mediated interaction in healthcare, legal and business settings.

Laura Gavioli's recent research interests revolve around the study of dialogue interpreting in community settings such as hospitals and courts and in work settings like business exhibitions. This started as part of a very small, locally funded project. In 2004, a national research cluster was

formed, initially linking four universities (Bologna, Perugia, Siena, and Modena and Reggio Emilia) and eventually expanding to ten institutions. This network led to the founding of the Interuniversity Research Centre on Analysis of Interaction in Mediated Settings (AIM). Within this group, members shared techniques for data collection and processing, gathering a corpus of over 600 interpreter-mediated interactions. The initial phase of this group's work is found in a 2009 volume edited by Laura Gavioli and published by Guerra (*La mediazione linguistico-culturale: una prospettiva interazionista*).

Since the late 2000s, the group has gained increasing international acclaim, becoming a structural benchmark for the study of interaction in dialogue interpreting. A second international collection of essays was published by John Benjamins in 2012, co-edited by Claudio Baraldi and Laura Gavioli (*Coordinating Participation in Dialogue Interpreting*). *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Interpreting Studies* (Pöchhacker, ed., 2015) contains numerous contributions by AIM members, as does *The Routledge Handbook of Public Service Interpreting* (2023).

Academic research activities and service

Laura Gavioli is the Director of the AIM Centre (see above) including 10 universities in Italy. The AIM researchers share interests in studies of interaction from linguistic, psychological and sociological points of view (<http://www.aim.unimore.it/site/home.html>). The Centre has contacts with the Universities of Heriot-Watt, Lyon2, Mainz, Stockholm, Vienna, Surrey and Northampton.

Following her research experience, Laura Gavioli has trained interpreters and language mediators at undergraduate and postgraduate level and she has been involved in the training of cultural mediators in healthcare institutions. She has served as an external examiner of PhD theses dealing with interpreter-mediated interaction, for several Universities (Bologna, Warwick, Ghent, Trieste, Turin, Heriot-Watt and Stellenbosch). She has been the supervisor of several PhD students, one of which, run in collaboration with an international company, was one of the first projects in Italy applying research in human sciences to industrial activity. She has organized a number of seminars and workshops for PhD students and junior researchers in interpreter-mediated interaction and in institutional interaction. Together with Cecilia Wadensjö (Stockholm University), she has edited *The Routledge Handbook of Public Service Interpreting* (Routledge 2023). Since 2024, Laura Gavioli has been part of an international research project called 'At the frontiers of spoken language: Reformulation practices and word-searches in a cross-linguistic and multimodal perspective', funded by the Villa Vigoni Research Centre.

Laura Gavioli has been active in research networking. She was a member of a Research Network (ReN) of the International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA), which worked on the analysis of spoken language at the workplace. She was invited as an expert to join a European "COST" program (Cooperation in Science and Technology: Action number: IS0603 Health and Social Care for Migrants and Ethnic Minorities in Europe), involving 23 countries.

She is a member of associations of linguistics, pragmatics and conversation analysis (AIA, AILA, AItLA, ICCA, IPRA), has been a member of the Directing Board of the Italian Association of Applied Linguistics (AItLA) for nine years and the vice-president of the Association for six years.

She is a member of the advisory board of the European Journal of Applied Linguistics and of the scientific board of the journal ESP across cultures and of AION-Linguistica. She has acted as a referee for international publishers (Benjamins, Palgrave) and journals (e.g. Research on Language and Social Interaction- RoLSI, European Journal of Applied Linguistic – EuJAL, Interpreting, Journal of Pragmatics). She has been in the scientific committee of several national and international congresses and initiatives and was invited as a keynote speaker at several international events.

Academic Teaching and coordinating activities

Laura Gavioli holds courses about dialogue interpreting and corpus-based methods as translation and language learning aids in undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia; she directed an undergraduate programme in European Languages and Cultures for two mandates and a programme in teachers' training for the national qualification in foreign language teaching (middle school and high school). She has been part of the directing board of her faculty and her department for many years and she is currently representing her areas of study in the team constituting the Observatory of Research development in her University.

Public engagement and extra details

Laura Gavioli has coordinated programmes for language teachers' training at the Pädagogisches Institut in Bozen and has collaborated with teachers' training institutions, like LEND.

She has collaborated to training programmes for public service interpreters and intercultural mediators, organized by local healthcare services, in particular the Reggio Emilia services.

Her authored book Exploring corpora for ESP learning, published by John Benjamins in 2005 has been re-published for the Chinese market, with a long introduction in Chinese language, in 2016.