

CRISTINA IANI

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY, MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND MORPHOLOGICAL SCIENCES WITH INTEREST IN TRANSPLANT,
ONCOLOGY AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MODENA AND REGGIO EMILIA
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CURRENT POSITION

2019 – PRESENT
FULL PROFESSOR IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
Department of Surgery, Medicine, Dentistry and Morphological Sciences with interest in Transplant, Oncology
and Regenerative Medicine
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010 – 2019
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
Department of Communication and Economics
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy

2004 - 2010
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
Faculty of Communication Sciences
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy
(April – September 2008: Visiting Scholar/Researcher, School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences,
University of Texas, Dallas, USA)

2002-2004
POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (USA)

EDUCATION

2001
PH.D. IN PSYCHOLOGY
University of Bologna, Italy

1995
LAUREA (MASTER'S DEGREE) IN GENERAL AND EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
Università di Padova, Italy

TEACHING

- General Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology in digital contexts

UNIVERSITY SERVICES

2025 – PRESENT
MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY EVALUATION BOARD
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

2016 - 2024
MEMBER OF THE QUALITY COMMITTEE
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

EXTERNAL SERVICES

2019 – 2022
Member of the Board
Istituzione Scuole e Nidi dell'Infanzia del Comune di Reggio Emilia (Institution of Schools and Early Childhood Centers of the Municipality of Reggio Emilia)

FUNDED PROJECTS (2022-2025)

2023
The attentive homunculus in somatosensation: Investigating the mechanisms of spatial attention in the tactile and nociceptive sensory modalities
Funding body: Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR-PRIN2022)
Role: Research member

2023
The Green European University
Funding body: Erasmus+, key action 2
Role: Manager and Researcher

2022
The role of attention in the tactile and nociceptive modalities
Funding body: Fondo di Ateneo per la ricerca, FAR Mission Oriented 2022, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
Role: Principal Investigator

2022
SERMAS - Socially-acceptable Extended Reality Models and Systems
Funding body: European Community (HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01)
Role: Research member

2022
ACT2- Acting together: How motor styles shape action prediction and brain-to-brain connectivity in typical and autistic populations
Funding body: Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR-PRIN2020)
Role: Research member

PUBLICATIONS (2015-2025)

ARTICLES

- Biagi, F., **Iani, C.**, Biagiotti, L. (in press). The use of the social robot NAO in medical settings: How to facilitate interactions between healthcare professionals and patients with autism spectrum disorder. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*. DOI:10.3389/fpsy.2025.1675090
- Iani, C., Rubichi, S. (2025). Acting and Practising Together: Modulations of the Joint Simon Effect in 6- to 8-Year-

Old Children. *Infant and Child Development*, 34:e70044. DOI: 10.1002/icd.70044

- Scerrati, E., Iani, C., Rubichi, S., Goldstone, R. (2025). An attentionally modulated motor-to-semantic priming: Evidence from the property-verification task. *Language & Cognition*, 17, e61, 1–1. DOI: 10.1017/langcog.2025.10017
- Scerrati, E., Rubichi, S., Iani, C. (2025). For your eyes only: quick and long gaze differently affect action. *Visual Cognition*. DOI: 10.1080/13506285.2025.2524334
- Gherri, E., Fiorino, F.R., Iani, C., Rubichi, S. (2023). Searching for a tactile target: The impact of set-size on the N140cc. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, 17:1209555. DOI: 10.3389/fnhum.2023.1209555
- Scerrati, E., Rubichi, S., Iani, C. (2022). Does a look of fear prompt to act? The effects of gaze and face emotional expression on manipulable objects. *Frontiers in Psychology. Emotional Science*, 13. DOI: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.927104
- Scerrati, E., Rubichi, S., Nicoletti, R., Iani, C. (2022). Emotions in Motion: Affective Valence Can Influence Compatibility Effects with Graspable Objects. *Psychological Research*. DOI: 10.1007/s00426-022-01688-6
- Bellini, P., Iani, C., Macaluso, G.M., Zucchelli, G., Franchi, M., Mattioli, A.M., Consolo, U. (2022). Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on dental hygiene students in the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna. *Minerva Stomatologica*. DOI: 10.23736/S0026-4970.20.04475-1
- Generali, L., Iani, C., Macaluso, G.M., Montebugnoli, L., Siciliani, G., Consolo, U. (2021). The perceived impact of COVID-19 pandemic on dental undergraduate students in the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna. *European Journal of Dental Education*, 25(3), 621-633. DOI: 10.1111/eje.12640
- Iani, C., Ciardo, F., Panajoli, S., Lugli, L., Rubichi, S. (2021). The role of the co-actor's response reachability in the joint Simon effect: remapping of working space by tool use. *Psychological Research*, 85(2), 521-532. DOI: 10.1007/500426-019-01271-6
- Bellini, P., Checchi, V., Iani, C., Bencivenni, D., Consolo, U. (2021). Psychological reactions to COVID-19 and epidemiological aspects of dental practitioners during lockdown in Italy. *Minerva Dental and Oral Science*, 70(1), 32-43. DOI: 10.23736/S0026-4970.20.04430-1
- Scerrati, E., Iani, C., Rubichi, S. (2021). Does the activation of motor information affect semantic processing? In L. Bechberger, K-U. Kühnberger, & M. Liu (Eds.), *Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning and Application* (pp. 153-166). Springer Nature.
- Trifiletti, E., D'Ascenzo, S., Lugli, L., Cocco, M.V., Di Bernardo, G.A., Iani, C., Rubichi, S., Nicoletti, E., Vezzali, L., (2020). Truth and lies in your eyes: Pupil dilation of White participants in truthful and deceptive responses to White and Black partners. *PLoS ONE* 15(10): e0239512. DOI: pone.0239512
- Scerrati, E., D'Ascenzo, S., Lugli, L., Iani, C., Rubichi, S., Nicoletti, R. (2020). Exploring the role of action consequences in the handle-response compatibility effect. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, section Cognitive Neuroscience*, 14: 286. DOI: 10.3389/fnhum.2020.00286
- Consolo, U., Bellini, P., Bencivenni, D., Iani, C., Checchi, V. (2020). Epidemiological aspects and psychological reactions to COVID-19 of dental practitioners in the northern Italy districts of Modena and Reggio Emilia. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(10). 3459. DOI: 10.3390/ijerph17103459
- Scerrati, E., Iani, C., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., Rubichi, S. (2020). Do my hands prime your hands? The hand-to-response correspondence effect. *Acta Psychologica*, 203, Article 103012. DOI: 10.1016/j.actpsy.2020.103012
- Iani, C., Maiorana, N.V., Rubichi, S. (2020). L'influenza del tipo di prime sull'emergere degli effetti affordance. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 1, 293-303. DOI: 10.1421/96611
- Pellicano, A., Iani, C., Maiorana, N. V., Horoufchin, H., Rubichi, S., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., Binkofski, F. (2020). Correspondence effect driven by salient visual asymmetries in integral object stimuli. *Psychological Research*, 84(3), 738-742. DOI: 10.1007/s00426-018-1079-3
- Scerrati, E., Iani, C., Lugli, L., Rubichi, S. (2019). C'è un effetto di potenziamento dell'azione con oggetti bimanuali? *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 46(4), 987-996.
- Peruzzini, M., Toniatti, M., Iani, C. (2019). Transdisciplinary design approach based on driver's workload monitoring. *Journal of Industrial Information Integration*, 15, 91-102. DOI: 10.1016/j.jii.2019.04.001
- Ciardo, F., Ricciardelli, P., Iani, C. (2019). Trial-by-trial modulations in the orienting of attention elicited by gaze and arrow cues. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 72(3), 543-556. DOI: 10.1177/1747021
- Iani, C., Ferraro, L., Maiorana, N.V., Gallese, V., Rubichi, S. (2019). Do already grasped objects activate motor affordances? *Psychological Research*, 83(7), 1363-1374. DOI: 10.1007/s00426-018-1004-9
- Pellicano, A., Lugli, L., Binkofski, F., Rubichi, S., Iani, C., Nicoletti, R. (2019). The unimanual handle-to-hand correspondence effect: evidence for a location coding account. *Psychological Research*, 83(7), 1383-1399. DOI: 10.1007/s00426-018-1009-4
- D'Ascenzo, S., Lugli, L., Baroni, G., Guidotti, R., Rubichi, S., Iani, C., Nicoletti, R. (2018). Visual versus auditory Simon effect: a behavioural and physiological investigation. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 71, 917-930. DOI: 10.1080/17470218.2017.1307429
- Ciardo, F., Campanini, I., Merlo, A., Rubichi, S., Iani, C. (2018). The role of perspective in discriminating between social and non-social intentions from reach-to-grasp kinematics. *Psychological Research*, 82(5), 915-928. DOI: 10.1007/s00426-017-0868-4.
- Iani, C., Ciardo, F., Ricciardelli, P., Nicoletti, R. (2016). Relazione tra campo dipendenza-indipendenza e controllo cognitivo. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 3, 649-658. DOI: 10.1421/84499.
- D'Ascenzo, S., Iani, C., Guidotti, R., Laeng, B., Rubichi, S. (2016). Practice-induced and sequential modulations in

the Simon task: evidence from pupil dilation. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 110, 187-193. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijpsycho.2016.08.002.

- Pistoia, F., Cornia, R., Conson, M., Gosseries, O., Carolei, A., Sacco, S., Quattrocchi C.C., Mallio, C.A., Iani, C., Di Mambro, D., Sarà, M. (2016). Disembodied Mind: Cortical Changes Following Brainstem Injury in Patients with Locked-in Syndrome. *The Open Neuroimaging Journal*, 10(1), 32-40. DOI: 10.2174/1874440001610010032.
- Ciardo, F., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., Rubichi, S., Iani, C. (2016). Action-space coding in social contexts. *Scientific Reports*, 6, 22673. DOI: 10.1038/srep22673.
- Ricciardelli, P., Lugli, L., Pellicano, A., Iani, C., Nicoletti, R. (2016). Interactive effects between gaze direction and facial expression on attentional resources deployment: the task instruction and context matter. *Scientific Reports*, 6, 21706. DOI: 10.1038/srep21706.
- Romano, A., Cornia, R., Moraschi, M., Bozzao, A., Chiacchiararelli, L., Coppola, V., Iani, C., Stella, G., Albertini, G., Pierallini, A. (2016). Age-Related Cortical Thickness Reduction in Non-Demented Down's Syndrome Subjects. *Journal of Neuroimaging*, 26(1), 95-102. DOI: 10.1111/jon.12259.
- Ciardo, F., Ricciardelli, P., Lugli, L., Rubichi, S., Iani, C. (2015). Eyes keep watch over you! Competition enhances joint attention in females. *Acta Psychologica*, 160, 170-177. DOI: 10.1016/j.actpsy.2015.07.013
- Lugli, L., Iani, C., Milanese, N., Sebanz, N., Rubichi, S. (2015). Spatial parameters at the basis of social transfer of learning. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 41(3), 840-849. DOI: 10.1037/xhp0000047.
- Romano, A., Moraschi, M., Cornia, R., Bozzao, A., Gagliardo, O., Chiacchiararelli, L., Iani, C., Stella, G., Albertini, G., Pierallini, A. (2015). Age effects on cortical thickness in young Down's syndrome subjects: a cross-sectional gender study. *Neuroradiology*, 57(4), 401-411. DOI: 10.1007/s00234-014-1482-4.

PROCEEDINGS

- Ciardo, F., Fava, A., Ricciardelli, P., Villani, V., Iani, C., & Sabattini, L. (in press). Diffusion of responsibility in HRI: Reduction of human agency does not occur when sharing a task with a robotic arm. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Social Robotics + AI (ICSR)*, Naples, Italy, 2025.
- Quamara, M., Schmuck, V., Iani, C., Primavesi, A., Plaum, A., & Viganò, L. (in press). Evaluating Social Acceptance of eXtended Reality (XR) Agent Technology: A User Study. *CHIItaly 2025*, Salerno, Italy, 2025.
- Ruo, A. *et al.* (2025). Systematic Analysis of Requirements for Socially Acceptable Service Robots. In: Paolillo, A., Giusti, A., Abbate, G. (eds.) *Human-Friendly Robotics 2024. HFR 2024*. Springer Proceedings in Advanced Robotics, vol 35. Springer, Cham. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-81688-8_2
- Patarini, F. et al. (2025). Handling Kinematic Features in an Action Observation Task to Optimize a Brain Computer Interface-Based Rehabilitation Training. *2025 International Conference On Rehabilitation Robotics (ICORR)*, Chicago, IL, USA, 2025, pp. 1078-1082. DOI: 10.1109/ICORR66766.2025.11062958
- Iani, C., Bori, L., Rubichi, S. (2024). Relationship Between Arousal and Technical Performance in the Oil and Gas Sector: An Investigation Using a Simulated Well Control Scenario. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*, DOI: 10.1177/10711813241277537
- Villani, V., Ciaramidaro, A., Iani, C., Rubichi, S., Sabattini, L. (2022). To collaborate or not to collaborate: understanding human-robot collaboration. *IEEE 18th International Conference on Automation Science and Engineering (CASE)*, Mexico City, Mexico, 2022, pp. 2441-2446. DOI: 10.1109/CASE49997.2022.9926436

September 19, 2025

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