

LAURA MADELEINE MARIA TURCHI CV

Introduction

Laura Turchi is a tenured researcher in Modern History (SSD HIST-02/A) at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia and is affiliated with the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Studies, where since the 2021-2022 academic year, she has taught Political History of Modern Europe in the master's program in Anthropology and History of the Contemporary World. Now she teaches Political History of Europe in the program in Anthropology and History of the Contemporary World, which was reformed in the 2025-2026 academic year. She also taught History (Medieval and Modern History) from the 2006-2007 to the 2010-2011 academic year in the undergraduate program in Cultural Heritage Sciences, Faculty of Mathematical, Physical, and Natural Sciences, which was concluded in the 2012-2013 academic year. She also taught Modern History from the 2008-2009 to the 2020-2021 academic year, first in the undergraduate program in Cultural Sciences, then in the undergraduate program in Contemporary History and Cultures. In the latter program, she also taught History Teaching in the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years. Finally Laura Turchi taught History of Historiography and Cultural History of the Modern Age (2018-2019) in the undergraduate program in Cultural Sciences. Laura Turchi's interests include the history of institutions—particularly the history of justice and the history of diplomacy, specifically in the Este state between the 15th and 17th centuries and from a comparative perspective, extending to the Italian peninsula and Europe between the late Middle Ages and early modernity. Laura Turchi's other interest lies in the documentary history of institutions, through the case study of the central and territorial archives of the Este State, again from the aforementioned comparative perspective.

Education

Laura Turchi graduated with honors in Modern Literature, with a specialization in History, from the University of Bologna in the 1988-1989 academic year, and in 1990 she earned a diploma from the School of Archives, Paleography, and Diplomatics at the State Archive of Modena. In 1995, she earned a PhD in History (European Social History) (VI cycle) from the University of Venice. In 1991, she also won the competition for the PhD in History (History of European Society) (VI cycle) from the University of Pisa. From 1997 to 1999, she held a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Bologna. From the 2001-2002 academic year to the 2003-2004 academic year, she served as a research fellow. From 2005 to 2006, she taught a supplementary course in Modern History for the

undergraduate degree in Cultural Sciences at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. From July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006, she was a research fellow in Modern History at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. Since 2006, she has been a permanent researcher in the HIST-02/A Modern History Sector at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.

Main Research Experience

Since her doctoral studies, Laura Turchi has been interested in the history of the Este family from the 15th to the 16th centuries. She has participated in this capacity in various national and international research groups and in publishing initiatives concerning the history of Ferrara, seigneurial statutes, the history of the Duchy of Modena and Reggio, and the history of the Principality of Carpi in the 16th century. More recently, she has focused on the history of Este diplomacy in the 15th and 16th centuries and the role of ducal and territorial archives in shaping the domestic and foreign policy of the Este state, from a comparative perspective. She has also worked on archival inventories. From 1997 to 2001, she participated in the international seminar “Matrimonial Processes as a Historical Source”, promoted by the University of Trento and the Italian-German Historical Institute of Trento. From 1998 to 2000, she was part of the Bologna Unit “Women, City, Nation” of the PRIN (National Research Programme) “Roles and Images of Women in Italy in the Modern and Contemporary Age”. From 1999 to 2002, she was a member of the Italian-German studies seminar “Petitions, Gravamina, and Supplications of the Old Regime”, at the Italian-German Historical Institute of Trento. She was part of the Modena research unit coordinated by Professor Gianvittorio Signorotto of the PRIN 2008 “Rome, the Po Plain duchies and the state of Milan. Politics, religion and culture. 16th-18th centuries” and of the FAR 2010 Project coordinated by Professor Gianvittorio Signorotto “History, cultural memory and image of the Este state. Between the ancient regime and modernity (15th-19th centuries)”. In the three-year period 2015-2017 she was again a member of the FAR project “The state of Modena and Europe (16th-19th centuries). Court, consensus and representation of sovereignty”, coordinated by Professor Gianvittorio Signorotto. In 2017 Laura Turchi obtained the FFABR 2017 incentive provided by the MIUR. Between 3 and 5 October 2019 she participated at the international conference “Logiques de l’inventaire: classer des archives, des livres, des objets (Moyen Âge-XIXe siècles)”, held at the University of Geneva. She was a member of the FAR mission-oriented 2021 research groups “The origins of the Roman Inquisition: sources, protagonists, tools”, coordinated by Professor Matteo Al Kalak and of the FAR mission-oriented 2022 project “ARTistiC”: Art at Court: Archival Collections and Artistic Documentation in the Este Archives”, with Professor Elena Fumagalli as P.I. Recently, her interest in the history of the Po Valley states in the European

context continued with the presentation of the paper “The Safe-Belt of Milan: the Principalities of the Po Plain (Second Half of the XVIth Century-First Half of the XVIIth Century)” at the international conference “Navigating the Society of Princes: the Strategies of Early Modern Small States in Their Foreign Policy” (Budapest, 30-31 May 2023). This conference inaugurated the activities of an ERC Consolidator Grant on the diplomacy of small European states. Also in the context of the history of the Este state, Laura Turchi participated in the International conference “Representing the Este dynasty”, held at the University of Ferrara (May 23-25, 2024).

Scientific roles

Laura Turchi was a member of the Board (1997-1999) of the Italian Society of Women Historians (SIS). Since 2016, she has been a member of the Scientific Committee of the ARCE Study Center, (the Este Correspondence Research Archive), located at the Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies of the University of Bologna and at the State Archives of Modena. Since 2017, she has been a member of the Scientific Committee overseeing the implementation of the Protocol between the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Studies and the State Archive of Modena, and was a member of the Scientific Committee of the journal “Quaderni estensi” (2023-2024). She is a member of the Interdepartmental Research Center on Digital Humanities at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. She has also served as an anonymous referee for scientific journals (“Storie e linguaggi,” “Historical Research,” “Cuadernos de Historia Moderna”), as well as for the publishing house Ledizioni.

Teaching Appointments

She has also taught Modern History in the Tirocinio Formativo Attivo (TFA) I and II cycle courses, aimed respectively at training teachers of Italian, History and Civic Education, Geography in middle schools, Italian Literature and Latin, Italian and History and Philosophy and History in high schools. In the academic years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, and 2025-2026, she was finally a teacher of Didactics of Modern History within the training program for the A12 competitive exam class (Italian, History, Civic Education, Geography in middle schools).

Other informations

In 1994, she was qualified to teach Italian, History and Civic Education, Geography in middle schools, as well as Italian Literature and Latin in high schools.

From 2000 to 2005, she was a tenured teacher of Italian, History and Civic Education, Geography in middle schools, and in 2005, she was promoted to tenured teacher of Italian Literature and Latin in high schools.

She was a member of the Department Board. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Library Council of the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Studies.

She taught History of the Este Institutions and Special Archives, and currently teaches History of International Relations (2024-2026) at the two-year postgraduate specialization school in Archives, Paleography, and Diplomatics of the State Archive of Modena, for the training of state archivists and operators of historical and current archives, both public and private.

She is a member of the Italian Society of Women Historians (SIS), of the Italian Society for the History of the Modern Age (SISEM), and of Modena and Ferrara Deputations of History.