

Dr. Valentina Pagliai

Department of Anthropology
Battelle T-45
American University
4400 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington DC 20016

(908) 668-4840
v.pagliai@yahoo.com
<http://www.aisearchive.com/ValentinaPagliai/>

EDUCATION

- 2000 Ph.D. **University of California Los Angeles**
 Department of Anthropology
- 1995 Master of Arts, **University of California Los Angeles**
 Department of Anthropology
- 1992-93 Graduate program in Cultural Anthropology, **Northern Arizona University**
 Department of Anthropology
- 1992 Bachelor of Arts (Laurea), **University of Padua**, Italy
 Department of Psychology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- ∞ Immigration, racialization and racism, racial formation processes in discourse
- ∞ Argumentative discourse, verbal duels, narratives, community theater
- ∞ Citizenship and human rights, nationalism
- ∞ Identity, gender identities, womanhood, masculinities; ethnic, local and national identities
- ∞ Art and aesthetic systems, verbal art and politics
- ∞ Europe, Italy, Italian-Americans

Methodological Training:

- ∞ Ethnography of speaking, ethnographic fieldwork, multi-modal analysis, discourse analysis and conversation analysis

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Chapters

- Forthcoming “Politics, Citizenship and the Construction of Immigrant Communities in Italy.” Accepted for inclusion in the edited volume *Integration, Globalization and Racialization: Theories and Perspectives on Immigration*, ed. by Glen Jacobs. To be published by Routledge.
- 2011 “Unmarked Racializing Discourse, Facework and Identity in Talk about Immigrants in Italy.” Part of the edited issue *Racializing Discourses*, by Hilary Parsons Dick and Kristina Wirtz (editors), *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. Forthcoming.
- 2010 “Introduction: Performing Disputes” to the edited issue “Performing Disputes: Cooperation and Conflict in Argumentative Language.” *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, Vol. 20, No.1.
- 2010 “Conflict, Cooperation and Facework in Contrasto Verbal Duels.” In “Performing Disputes: Cooperation and Conflict in Argumentative Language.” *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, Vol. 20, No.1
- 2009 “Conversational Agreement and Racial Formation Processes.” *Language in Society*, vol. 38, No.5:549-579.
- 2009 “The Art of Dueling with Words: Toward a New Understanding of Verbal Duels across the World.” *Oral Tradition Journal*, Vol. 21/1:61-88.
- 2005 Valentina Pagliai and Brooke Bocast. “Singing Gender: Contested Discourses of Womanhood in Tuscan-Italian Verbal Art.” *Pragmatics Journal*, 15 (4), December 2005.
- 2004 “The Italians in the United States.” In C. Ember & I. Skoggard (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Diasporas*. New Haven, CT: Human Relations Area Files.
- 2003 Valentina Pagliai and Brooke Bocast. “Performing Hierarchies: Language and Gender in Italian Verbal Art.” In *Crossroads of Language, Interaction and Culture*, Vol. 5, 2003.

- 2003 (Republished) "Lands I Came to Sing: Negotiating Identities and Places in the Tuscan *Contrasto*." Reprinted in C. B. Paulston & R. G. Tucker (Eds.) *Sociolinguistics: The Essential Readings*. London: Blackwell.
- 2002 "Poetic Dialogues: Performance and Politics in the Tuscan *Contrasto*." *Ethnology* Vol. XLI, No. 2, Spring 2002: 135-154.
- 2000 "Lands I Came to Sing: Negotiating Identities and Places in the Tuscan *Contrasto*." *Pragmatics* 10 (1): 125-146.
- 2000 "In Rhyme I Will Answer You: Verbal Fights and the Poetical Construction of Politics in the Tuscan *Contrasto*." In N. Merchant Gross, A. M. Doran and A. Coles (Eds.) *Proceedings of the Seventh Annual Symposium About Language and Society-Austin*. *Texas Linguistic Forum* 43, 2000: 153-163.
- 1999 "Costruire un Ponte di Rispetto: La Chiesa Metodista Unitaria Nativo Americana di Los Angeles." (Building a Bridge of Respect: The Native American United Methodist Church in Los Angeles) *Hako*, NY 15, Spring: 25-30.
- 1997 "Narrando l'Identità Etnica: Gli Italoamericani a Los Angeles." (Narrating Ethnic Identity: The Italian Americans in Los Angeles) *Etnosistemi*, Anno IV, NY4 - Gennaio: 61-82.
- 1996 "Vivere nella Terra Indiana: Los Angeles." (To Live in the Indian Land: Los Angeles) *Hako*, N.6, Spring: 34-37.
- 1992 "Nativi D'America: Assimilazione e Repressione" (Native Americans: Assimilation and Repression) *Germinal*. Vol. 58, Spring 1992:4-6.

Books and Edited Issues

- 2010 *Performing Disputes: Cooperation and Conflict in Argumentative Language*. Edited Issue, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, Vol. 20, No.1.
- 2000 Valentina Pagliai and Marcia Farr (eds.) "*Art and the Expression of Complex Identities: Imagining and Contesting Ethnicity in Performance*." *Pragmatics*, Special Issue, March 2000, 10 (1).

Other Publications in Preparation

- Article (in preparation) “Refusing Intersubjectivity: Non-Alignment in Footing as a Strategy for Dissent in Racializing Talk about Immigrants” To be submitted to *Language and Communication* by October 2010.
- Article (in preparation) “The Good and the Bad (Queer) Immigrant: Putting Discrimination against Minorities on the Map in Italy.” To be submitted for inclusion in the volume *Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape*, edited by Celine-Marie Pascale, to be published by Sage.
- Article (in preparation) “Arguing Racism: Performing Disagreement in Conversations on Immigration among Italians.” To be submitted to *Discourse and Society*.
- Book “Thorny Rhymes: Poetry, Insults and Politics in Tuscany.” Completed, to be submitted to publishers.

Book Reviews

- 2010 “Living Memory: The Social Aesthetics of Language in a Northern Italian Town,” by Jillian R. Cavanaugh. *Language in Society*, 39(3):417-420.
- 2004 “Verbal Art across Cultures: The Aesthetics and Proto-Aesthetics of Communication.” Ed. by H. Knoblauch and H. Kotthoff. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, Dec 2004, Vol. 14, No. 2: 300-302.
- 2001 “Che Bella Figura! The Power of Performance in an Italian Ladies' Club in Chicago” by G. Nardini. *Italian American Review*, Spring 2001.
- 1996-97 “Creativity/Anthropology,” ed. by S. Lavie, K. Narayan and R. Rosaldo. *Anthropology UCLA*, Vol. 22.
- 1994 “I spent my life in the mines: The Story of Juan Rojas, Bolivian Tin Miner,” by J. Nash. *Anthropology UCLA*, Vol. 21.

Dissertation and Theses

- 2000 *Through Veils of Words: Performing Politics, Gender and Identity in the Tuscan Contrasto*. Ph.D. Dissertation. University of California Los Angeles. Advisors: Paul V. Kroskrity, Marjorie H. Goodwin, Marcyliena Morgan, Mariko Tamanoi, Edward Tuttle.
- 1995 *The Italian Americans in Los Angeles: Representations of Identity and Community*. Master Thesis. University of California Los Angeles. Advisors: Paul V. Kroskrity, Alessandro Duranti, Mariko Tamanoi.
- 1992 *I Volti della Trasformazione: Relazioni fra Mitologia, Rito e Struttura Sociale nella Cultura Hopi Pueblo dell'Arizona*. (The Faces of Transformation: Relations between Mythology, Ritual and Social Structure in the Hopi Pueblo Culture of Arizona). Bachelor Thesis. Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy. Advisors: Paolo Palmeri, Antonio Marazzi.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2011 *Constructing an Anti-Immigrant Public Opinion in the Italian Media*. To be presented at the Northeast Modern Language Association conference, Rutgers, April 2011.
- 2010 *Contrasting Histories: Italian Hip-Hop, Contrasto Verbal Duels and the Construction of an Afro-Mediterranean Identity*. To be presented at the American Anthropological Association conference in New Orleans.
- 2010 *Nowadays It Is OK to Be Racist (Even if You Are Leftist): Building the Normality of Racism in Media Discourse in Italy*. Council for European Studies conference, Montreal.
- 2010 *Multiculturalism and the Moral-Politics of Antiracism in Italy*. Northeast Modern Language Association conference, Montreal.
- 2009 *Contesting Discourses about Immigrants in Disagreement Sequences among Italians*. American Anthropological Association conference, Philadelphia.
- 2009 *Politics, Citizenship and the Construction of Immigrant Communities in Tuscany, Italy*. Social Theory Forum, University of Massachusetts Boston.
- 2009 *Putting Discrimination against Sexual Minorities on the Map in Italy*. Society for Applied Anthropology conference, Santa Fe.
- 2008 *The Unmarking of Racist Discourse in Italy and the Role of the Media*. American Anthropological Association, San Francisco.

- 2007 *Conflict, Cooperation and Face-Work in Contrasto Verbal Duels*. American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC.
- 2007 Co-authored with Giulia Marchetti: *Conversational Footing and the Creation of Racialized Sameness and Difference in Tuscany*. International Pragmatics Conference, Sweden, Goteborg.
- 2006 *Art, Insult and Freedom of Expression in Italian Contrasto Verbal Duels*. Performance Studies International Conference in London.
- 2006 *Art and the Meaning of Being Human in the Tuscan Contrasto*. Canadian Anthropology Society Conference in Montreal.
- 2006 *The Mirror of Ethnography: Interpreting the Creation of Italian Folk Art and Its Exclusions*. Central States Anthropological Society Conference, Omaha.
- 2006 *Anti-Language in the Contrasto and the Italian "Question of the National Tongue."* Council for European Studies International Conference, Chicago.
- 2005 Co-authored with Elia Gilbert: *"What We Don't Know We Create:" Teaching the Art of Insulting in Tuscany*. Central States Anthropological Society conference.
- 2004 *Verbal Duels: The Participation Structure of Disrupting Everyday Realities*. Poster paper, American Anthropological Association.
- 2003 *The Construction of Images of Masculinity and Family Ties in Tuscan Verbal Art*. International Pragmatics Conference. Part of the panel "Masculinities in the Plural: Discourse Analyses of Men's Identity Performances."
- 2002 *Ideologies of Art and the Formulation of Subaltern Aesthetic Systems in Italian Verbal Art*. American Anthropological Association.
- 2002 Co-Authored with Brooke Bocast. *Performing Hierarchies: Language and Gender in Italian Verbal Art*, Conference on Language Interaction and Culture, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2002 Co-Authored with Nedra Lee. *Nationalism, Art and Language in the Unfinished Creation of the Italian Nation State*. International Conference of Europeanists.
- 2000 *Singing the 'Original' Male: Doing/Undoing Masculinity in Speech Play*. American Anthropological Association.
- 1999 *Like Romeo and Juliet Upside Down: Gender and Power in Tuscan Community Theater*. American Anthropological Association.
- 1999 *In Rhyme I Will Answer You: Verbal Fights and the Poetical Construction of Politics in the Tuscan Contrasto*. VII Annual Symposium About Language and Society Austin.

- 1998 *I Found Myself Singing in This land: Reflexing Emotions/ Creating Identities in the Tuscan Contrasto*. American Anthropological Association.
- 1996 *Confronting Identities in Los Angeles: Italian Americans and Italian Nationals on Uncommon Ground*. American Ethnological Society.
- 1996 *Code-Switching and the Communicative Construction of the Italian American Identity*. California State University Conference on Theory and Research on Communication and Culture.
- 1995 *The Italian Americans in Los Angeles: Representations of Identity and Community*. American Anthropological Association.

Conference Panels Organized

- 2011 (Co-organized with Sabina Perrino) *Making Citizens: Discursive Practices at the Boundary of Nationhood*. Double panel, to be presented at the International Pragmatics Association Conference in Manchester, UK, July 2011.
- 2010 *Performing the Mediterranean: Migration, Race and Identity Among Shores*. Double-Panel, American Anthropological Association, New Orleans.
- 2010 *Normalizing Racism: Security Laws, Media and Immigration in Italy*. Council for European Studies conference, Montreal.
- 2007 *The Discreet Charm of Insults: The Argumentative Dimension of Communication*. Double-panel, American Anthropological Association, Washington DC.
- 2007 *Language and Racial Formation Processes*. Double-panel for the International Pragmatics Association conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, July.
- 2006 *Empowering Fieldwork: Rethinking Reifications and Misrepresentations of Cultures and Identities and the Role(s) of Ethnography*. Central States Anthropological Society Conference.
- 2002 (Co-organized with Brigittine French) *Envisioning Language, Ideology, and Human Agency: Approaches, Critiques, And Possibilities*. American Anthropological Association.
- 2000 (Co-organized with Cynthia Strathmann) *Repositioning Masculinity as Public Display: Anthropological Perspectives*. American Anthropological Association.
- 1998 *Art and the Expression of Complex Identities: Imagining and Contesting Ethnicity in Performance*. American Anthropological Association.

Invited Presentations

- 3/19/10 *Contesting Racializing Discourse in Italy: Exploring Disagreement Sequences.*
CUNY Graduate Center, Sociolinguistics Series.
- 1/29/09 *“Foreigners’ Councils” in Tuscany, attempts toward inclusive citizenship and the re-inclusion of the race/national divide.* Presented at the University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology.
- 11/9/08 *The Use of Non-alignment in Withholding Agreement from Racist Stances.*
Presented at the University of California, Department of Anthropology.
- 11/6/08 *Constructing Agreement in Conversation, Racialization and the Role of Media Discourse.* Presented at the University of Southern Carolina, Department of Anthropology.
- 4/25/08 *Immigration to Tuscany and Racial Formation Processes in Interaction,*
Grinnell College, Department of Anthropology.
- 4/9/08 *Language and Sexual Identity,* Wooster College, Department of Anthropology.
- Summer 2007 *Cross-cultural Communication and Prejudice,* University of Florence, Italy.
Workshop as part of the M.A. degree in Mediation of Social and Intercultural Conflicts.
- 5/14/07 *Immigrazione in Toscana e la Costruzione Interazionale delle Categorie del Sé e dell’Altro* (Immigration in Tuscany and the Interactional Construction of the Categories of Self and Other), University of Florence, Italy.
- 11/28/06 *Lingua Nazionale e L’Antilinguaggio Poetico dei Contrasti in Ottava* (National Language and the Poetic Antilanguage of the Contrasti in Octets), University of Modena and Reggio-Emilia, Italy.
- 4/17/97 *Theory and Methodology in Linguistic Anthropology,* University of Chieti, Italy.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Extramural Competitions

- 2006-09 **National Science Foundation Grant** for research on *The Interactional Construction of Racial Identities and Racist Attitudes in Italy*.
- 2009 **Remarque Institute** (New York University) Fellowship for Spring Semester 2009.
- 2006-07 **Wenner-Gren Grant for Anthropological Research** on *The Interactional Construction of Racial Identities and Racism in Italy*.
- 2005 **Mellon Oberlin-Grinnell Faculty Collaboration Grant** for the creation of a course on discourse, linguistic ideologies and nationalism in collaboration with Professor Brigittine French (Grinnell College).

Internal Competitions

- 2007-08 **Grant** through Oberlin College to hire a Research Assistant.
- 2006-07 **Powers Travel Grant** from the Committee on Research and Development at Oberlin College.
- Summer06 **Mellon Grant** through Oberlin College to hire a Research Assistant.
- Spring06 **Mellon Grant** through Oberlin College to hire a Research Assistant.
- 2005 **Grant-in-Aid of Research** from the Committee on Research and Development at Oberlin College, for a pilot study in Italy in Summer 2005.
- 2005 **Mellon Oberlin College/Grinnell College Faculty Career Enhancement Grant** to participate to a proposal-writing workshop at Grinnell College.
- 2002-03, 2005 **McGregor Research Scholar Grant** from the Committee on Research and Development at Oberlin College.
- Summer 2002 **Powers Travel Grant** from the Committee on Research and Development at Oberlin College.
- 1999 **Travel Grant Award** from the Center for the Study of Women, UCLA
- 1998 **Research Grant** from the Department of Anthropology, UCLA
- 1997 **University Fellowship** from the University of California Los Angeles.
- 1996 **Research Grant** from the Department of Anthropology, UCLA

- 1995 **Dean Special Fellowship** from the Awards Committee of Anthropology, UCLA
 1994 **Research Grant** from the Department of Anthropology, UCLA
 1993 **Graduate Seminar's Scholarship** from the University of San Marino.

EDITORSHIPS

- 2010 Reviewer, *Language in Society*.
 2010 Guest Editor, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.
 2010 Reviewer, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.
 2008 Reviewer, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*.
 2008 Reviewer, *Journal of Multicultural Discourses*.
 2005 Reviewer, Prentice Hall.
 2003 Reviewer, *American Anthropologist*.
 2002 Reviewer, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.
 2000 Reviewer, *International Journal Of Bilingualism*.
 1995-1996 Book Review Editor of *Anthropology UCLA*.
 1993-1994 Associate Editor of *Anthropology UCLA*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2006-09 *The Interactional Construction of Racial Identities and Racist Attitudes in Italy*.
 Ethnographic fieldwork was conducted in Italy from June 2006 through August 2007 and from June 2008 through January 2009. Participant observation, video registration of everyday conversations and open in-depth interviews. Concurrent monitoring of mass-media. Analysis to be done using Critical Discourse Analysis, Multimodal Discourse Analysis, Conversation Analysis and Ethnography of Speaking. Research Assistants: Dr. Giulia Marchetti, Dr. Irene D'Agostino. Expected completion of analysis and write-up of results: December 2009. Funded by National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren Foundation and Oberlin College, conducted in collaboration with the Social Observatory of the Province of Pistoia, the Center Against Discrimination of the Province of Pistoia, and the Department of Social Politics of the Province of Prato.

- Summer 2005 Pilot research in Tuscany with the goal to contact institutions working against racism and interview some of their members.
- Summer 2002 Pilot fieldwork in Tuscany with the goal to study the connections between local and trans-national identities, increased immigration are changing perceptions that Italians have of their identities.
- 1994-99 *Voices of Art, Voices of Resistance: Stage Performances, Linguistic Ideologies and Social Change in Tuscany*. Dissertation Fieldwork in Tuscany, conducted during summer 1994, summer 1996, from January through December 1997, summer 1998 and summer 1999. Participant observation with video and audio recording of verbal duel performances and theater performances. In-depth interviews with folk singers, actors and verbal artists. Videotaping of performances of Tuscan folk singers. Funded by the University of California Los Angeles.
- 1994-95 Fieldwork with the Italian American community in Los Angeles, from September 1994 through June 1995. Participant observation with video and audio recording of community events, meetings, religious activities and festivals, family dinners. In-depth interviews with community members.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Appointments

Professorial Lecturer, American University, 2010-2011.

Adjunct Professor, CUNY Queens College, 2009-2010.

Adjunct Professor, CUNY Lehman College, Spring 2010.

Fellow, Remarque Institute, New York University, Spring 2009.

Research Associate, University of California Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology, 2008-09.

Research Associate, Oberlin College, Department of Anthropology, 2008-2009.

Assistant Professor, Oberlin College, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2001 to Spring 2008.

Lecturer, University of California Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology, Spring 2001.

Lecturer, California State University Long Beach, Department of Linguistics, Spring 2001.

Research Associate, University of California Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology, 2000-01.

Research Assistant, UCLA, Department of Pediatrics, Fall 2000 and Spring 2001.

Courses Taught

- ∞ Language and Human Experience
- ∞ Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology
- ∞ Language in Culture and Society
- ∞ Discourse, Nationhood and Racism
- ∞ Language, Gender and Sexual Identities
- ∞ Language and Social Identity
- ∞ Language and Cognition
- ∞ Art, Language and Society
- ∞ Micro-ethnography of Communication
- ∞ Culture and Communication
- ∞ Native Americans: Contemporary Issues
- ∞ Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- ∞ Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2007-2011 Reviewer, National Science Foundation doctoral dissertation research advisory panel, Cultural Anthropology Program.
- 2010 Reviewer, National Science Foundation Cultural Anthropology Program (senior proposals).
- Spring 2010 Reviewer, PSC-CUNY Research Award Program (Regular Competition)
- 2004-2008 International Studies Program Committee, Oberlin College.
- 2002-05 & 07-08 Off Campus Study and Study Abroad Committee, Oberlin College.
- 2006 International Studies Sub-Committee, students' nominations for the Alliance Toward Harnessing Global opportunities, International Symposium, United

Nations, 2006.

- 2005 Session Chair for the panel “Recent Research in Linguistic Anthropology.”
Central States Anthropological Society Meeting.
- 2003-2004 Student Assemblies Committee, Oberlin College.
- 1999-2001 Web-Master for the Italian Oral History Institute in Los Angeles.
- 1999-2000 Colloquium Committee graduate representative, Department of
Anthropology, UCLA
- 1998-99 President of the Anthropology Graduate Student Association at UCLA

Participation in Special Seminars and Workshops

- 2006 Dexus – Discourse Nexus 4.0 – Advanced Discourse Studies seminar,
Aalborg University, Denmark, August 14th – 19th, 2006.
- 2005 Faculty Career Enhancement proposal-writing workshop
Grinnell College, April 2-4, 2005
- June 1995 Intensive Graduate seminar: “Language and Understanding.”
University of the Republic of San Marino
International Center for Semiotic and Cognitive Studies
- June 1993 Intensive Graduate seminar: “Language, Culture and Socialization.”
University of the Republic of San Marino
International Center for Semiotic and Cognitive Studies

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- ∞ American Anthropological Association, Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Society for the Anthropology of Europe, Association for Queer Anthropology, Sexuality Studies and Anthropology Special Interest Group
- ∞ International Pragmatics Association
- ∞ Council for European Studies
- ∞ Northeast Modern Language Association

LANGUAGE TRAINING

English, Standard Italian, Tuscan Italian, Spanish (basic).

OTHER CURRENT PROJECTS

- ∞ Currently preparing the entry “Linguistics” for the Oxford Bibliographies Online project (www.oxfordbibliographiesonline.com).
- ∞ Preparing a book review for the book *A New Language, A New World: Italian Immigrants in the United States, 1980-1945*, by Nancy Carnevale (2009, University of Illinois Press). To be published in the *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.
- ∞ Organizing, together with Rafael Lainez (AU) a double-panel for the Lavender Languages Conference 2011. The double panel is entitled *Language, Migration and Sexualities* and it includes two parts. Part 1: *Seeking Inclusion: Discourses Surrounding Sexualities, Migration and Belonging*. Part 2: *Discourses of Citizenship and Queerness*.
- ∞ In Spring 2011 I plan to start writing a book based on my research on immigration and racialization, tentatively entitled *Becoming Us: Immigration, Citizenship and Racial Formation Processes in Italy*. I intend to submit a prospectus to Wiley-Blackwell for their series *New Directions in Ethnography*.