Amanda Minervini, M.A., Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Brown University 2013

Ph.D., Italian Studies

Areas of interest: Italian Fascism, Modern and Contemporary Italian Culture and Film, mutual influences of Politics and Religion, Holocaust Studies, Animal Studies, Afroitalian Cultures, Political Philosophy

Dissertation: *From Cavalry to Calvary: Representations of St. Francis of Assisi in Twentieth-Century Italy*Dissertation committee: Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg (Chair), David I. Kertzer, Massimo Riva

Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany 2009-2010

Exchange Graduate Student, Researcher

Cornell School of Criticism and Theory June-July 2008

Attended seminar led by Carolyn Dean “On Disbelief, Exaggeration, and the ‘Victim’ in Contemporary Cultural Discourses,” and mini-seminars led by Judith Butler, Homi K. Bhabha, Wendy Brown, Gerald Early, and Hal Foster

University of Massachusetts, Amherst 2007

M.A. in Comparative Literature

English, Italian, and French Literature   
Advisors: William Moebius, Jim Hicks, Roberto Ludovico

Università di Bari, Italy 2002  
Laurea in Lettere, *magna cum laude*

Specialization in Modern French Literature and Theater   
Thesis: “Bernard-Marie Koltès: ‘*Ceci n’est pas la vrai vie’*— Elementi di una drammaturgia.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Colorado College, Assistant Professor 2019-present

**Culture Classes taught in English:**

The Rise of Fascisms: History, Theory, Representations (First Year Seminar)

Gusto: Italian Food as Art, Culture, and Tradition (taught in Italy, and on campus as dynamic half-block)

Love & Anarchy: Romance, Sex, and Politics in Italian Cinema

Voice and the Nonhuman. Animals in the Visual Arts, Literature and Theory

Come to Hell. Dante and Our World

Black Italian Cinema and Digital Activism (with Fred Kuwornu)

Italian Mafia Movies (taught in Italy and on campus)

New Italian Cinema

Italian Neorealism

Storytelling During the Time of the Plague: Boccaccio and The Decameron

Word, Sound, and Drama in Italian and German Culture (First Year Seminar)

Post-WW2 Italian and German Cinema (with Christiane Steckenbiller)

German Cultural History: “Wild Berlin” (First Year Seminar)

**Language and Culture Classes:**

Advanced Italian: Gli italiani e gli *altri*. Fra romanzo, saggio, musica e poesia

Advanced Italian: Lingue, Arti, Culture e Tradizioni in Italia

Advanced Italian: Afroitalians and Pop Cultures

Language Pedagogy Practicum

Intermediate Italian1&2

Elementary Italian 1&2

Elementary German 1

Independent Studies in Italian Literature

Colorado College, Visiting Assistant Professor 2014-2019

Salem State University, Visiting Assistant Professor 2012-2014

Intermediate Italian 1&2, Elementary Italian 1&2, Italian Conversation

Elementary German 1

Brown University 2006-2012

Intermediate Italian 1&2, Elementary Italian 1&2   
Teaching Assistant to S. Stewart-Steinberg: “Italian Representations of the Holocaust”   
Teaching Assistant to S. Stewart-Steinberg: “Freud: Writer and Reader”

Berufsschule “Forum,” Berlin, Germany

Instructor: Intensive Elementary Italian Spring 2010

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Teaching Assistant to E. Petroff: “Spiritual Autobiography” Spring 2006  
Teaching Assistant to W. Moebius: “Myth, Folktale and Children’s Literatures” Fall 2006-Spring 2005

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Suicide prevention training Fall 2022

Equity and Power Mellon Seminar #1 and #2 Summer 2022

Teaching Black Italy (invited speaker) Summer 2021 and 2022

Equity and Inclusion Spring 2020

Cultivating Inclusive Pedagogies on the Block Plan with Dr. S. Brooke Vick Spring 2019

Visual Thinking Strategy (Crown Center semester-long seminar) 2018

Inclusion and Motivation, Colorado College 2016

Mental Health First Aid Certificate, Colorado College 2015

Salem State University Learning Community 2013

*Expanding your Classroom with Digital Media*

Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning in Higher Education, Brown University 2007

*Teaching Certificate*

Theory and Methods of Foreign Language Teaching, Brown University 2007

PUBLICATIONS and INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

# *ReFiguring Global Challenges: Literary and Cinematic Explorations of War, Inequality and Migration* Chief Editor, with Amelie Björck (Södertörn University), Amrita Ghosh (Linnaeus University), Omri Grinberg (University of Jerusalem). Leiden, Netherlands: Brill Publishers (forthcoming, Spring 2023)

*"*It is Time to go Outisde. A Dialogue with Dominick LaCapra" in *ReFiguring Global Challenges,* forthcoming.

*Saint Francis and Mussolini, The Saint, The Duce, The Pope. Religion and Politics in an Age of Crisis.* Oxford, UK: Peter Lang (forthcoming)

“*Mussolini Speaks*. History Reviewed” in *The Massachusetts Review. A Quarterly of Literature, Art, and Public Affairs,* (March 2019)

“Face to Face: Iconic Representations and Juxtapositions of St. Francis of Assisi and Mussolini during Italian Fascism” in M. Epstein, F. Orsitto, A. Righi, *TOTalitarian Arts: the Visual Arts, Fascism(s) and Mass Society.* Cambridge Scholars Publishing (Cambridge, UK, 2017), invited contribution

“My America” in *Our America,* Blog of *The Massachusetts Review. A Quarterly of Literature, Art, and Public Affairs,* November 2016 (with the pseudonym A. Minerva)

“*Uccidete la Democrazia!* (2009) e *Girlfriend in a Coma* (2012): Il Nuovo Documentario Politico sull’ Italia” in William Hope, Luciana D'Arcangeli, and Silvana Serra, *Un Nuovo Cinema Politico Italiano? Vol.2,* Kibworth Beauchamp, Leics, UK : Troubador Publishing (2014), invited contribution

“Saint Francis of Assisi: An Artist Saint, A Saint for Artists” in: Hans Haacke, *Once Upon a Time,* London, UK: Black Dog, 2013, invited contribution

“A Note on the Thought of Roberto Esposito,”*Diacritics*, Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 39:2 (Summer 2009), 95-97

“Fate Finta che sia una Finzione: TV e Scrittori Americani Contemporanei,” *Incroci,* Bari, Italy, Adda Editori, 11 (JulyDecember 2004), 73-92

Translations:

Elettra Stimilli “Debt Economy and Faith. Philosophy in the Age of Terror,” *Diacritics*, 47(2):4-21, 2019)

Adriana Cavarero, *Inclinations,* (with Adam Sitze, English translation of *Inclinazioni,* Milano: Raffaello Cortina, 2013), Stanford University Press (2016)

Carlo Galli, *Janus’s Gaze: Essays on Carl Schmitt* (English translation of *Lo sguardo di Giano. Saggi su Carl Schmitt,* Il Mulino, 2008), Duke University Press and Verso Books (2015)

Giorgio Agamben *Nymphs*, (English translation of *Ninfe,* Torino: Bollati Boringhieri, 2007), Univ. of Chicago Press, 2013; and “Nymphs” in: *Releasing the Image: From Literature to New Media*, Jacques Khalip and Robert Mitchell, eds., Stanford University Press (2011), 60-81

Wendy Brown, *Politica fuori dalla storia*, (Italian translation of *Politics Out of History*, Princeton University Press, 2001), Laterza (2012)

Carlo Galli, “Hamlet: Representation and the Concrete” (with Adam Sitze, English translation of the introduction to Carl Schmitt’s *Amleto o Ecuba. L’irrompere del tempo nel gioco del dramma*) in *Political Theology and Early Modernity*, Julia Reinhard Lupton and Graham Hammill, eds., University of Chicago Press (2012)

Carlo Galli, “On War and on the Enemy,” (with Adam Sitze, translation of “Sulla guerra e sul nemico,” in: *Paranoia e politica*), *The New Centennial Review*, 9:2 (2009), 195-219

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS and EVENTS ORGANIZED

Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grants, Dean's Office Colorado College: "Gender Inclusion in the Language Classroom," Summer 2021; "Afroitalian Cultures," Summer 2022; "Reception and Representations of Mussolini in US media," Summer 2023

CC Mellon Grant (internal, for new course preparation) 2022

Creativity and Innovation Grant in support of the creation of the non-profit foundation EGLHE (Equine-Guided Learning and Healing Experience), Spring 2022 <https://amandaminervini.weebly.com/eglhe.html>

Creativity and Innovation Grant, Colorado College, for the realization of animation videos for Italian language learning, Summer 2021, renewed in Fall 2021

Sheffer Grant to conduct research in Vatican Archives, 2020 (Research conducted in 2021)

\*Vice President of *Deciders for Change* (Designing & Exploring Critical Inter-Disciplinary Education and Research for Climate, Health, Artificial Intelligence, Nutrition, the Global Economy and Energy), Mindo Valley, Ecuador, August 2020 (**\***postponed due to global pandemic)

Co-Organizer of the conference “Global Challenges: Borders, Populism and the Postcolonial Condition,” The Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, Teleborgs Slott, Växjö, Sweden, June 2018

President’s Office, Office of the Provost, NEH Professorship, German Program, Comparative Literature, and French and Italian grants for event: “Beyond Anthropocentrism. New Directions in the Humanities,” a double talk by Dominick LaCapra (Cornell University) and Johan Höglund (Linnaeus University, Sweden), October 2018

Film and Media Studies, German Program, Italian Program, and Dean’s Grant to invite Thomas Doherty (Brandeis University), author of *Hollywood and Hitler* (Columbia UP, 2013),Colorado College, February 2017

NExT Grant to invite German Scholar and Film-Maker Axel Bangert (NYU Berlin), author of *The Nazi past in Contemporary German* *Film*  (Camden House, 2014), Colorado College, September 2015

Course Preparation Grant for GER 101/121 “Wild Berlin,” Colorado College, Summer 2015

Research Fellowship for research at Vatican Archives, Brown Graduate School, Summer 2011

International conference travel grant, Brown University International Affairs, Spring 2011

Conference travel grant, Graduate Student Council, Brown University, Spring 2011

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Exchange Student Fellowship, Department of German Studies, Brown University, 2009-10

Travel grant for Research at Auschwitz Museum, Oswięcim, Poland, Department of Italian Studies, Brown University, March 2009

Tuition fellowship for the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University, Cogut Center for the Humanities, Brown University, Summer 2008

Italian Fulbright Fellowship for graduate Study at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2004-05

INVITED TALKS

Beyond Gender Binaries in Italian Language (Teaching), Colorado College Faculty Lunch Talk, Fall 2022

"Teaching Black Italian Cinema: A Pioneering Course at Colorado College," Fred Kuwornu's Online Course for Teachers of Italian, Spring 2021 and 2022

\*“Why Dante Matters Today” CSU Pueblo, March 2020 (**\***postponed due to global pandemic)

“Of Saints and Screens,” roundtable on “Post-secular Political Theologies” organized by Feisal Mohamed (CUNY Graduate Center), MLA, January 2020

“Hollywood and Mussolini. Representations of the Duce in the US Media in the 20s and 30s.” Colorado College Faculty Lunch Talk, Fall 2018

"Religion and Politics during Italian Fascism: the Fascist St. Francis” talk and student seminar, Smith College, March 10, 2015

“Roberto Rossellini’s *Audiovisual Encyclopedia of History,*” Signs of Change Film Festival 2, United Nations Infopoverty World Conference, New York City, March 2012

“Saint Francis of the Fascists: Reconstructing the Uses of St. Francis in the Fascist ‘Catechism,’ 1919-1939,” for graduate students of Italian, University of California, Los Angeles, January 2012

“Uccidete la democrazia,” at “A new Italian Political Cinema?” (Research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council), Cremona, Italy, July 2011

“Giorgio Bassani’s ‘A plaque in via Mazzini’ and Italian Holocaust memorialization,” Brown University Summer Program in Rome, July 2010

CONFERENCES

III Encuentro Continental por el Agua y Crisis Climática, January 2023, Cuenca, Ecuador (in Spanish, attended and spoke at press conference)

"Gender Neutrality in Italian Language (Teaching)" AATI 2022, Lucca, Italy, May 2022

"The Emergence of Black Italians" ACLA 2022, Panel Chair and Organizer, virtual, June 2022

\*“Trauma Talk in Institutional Discourses,” Panel Chair, Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Boulder, CO, April 2020 (\*Rescheduled in April 2022, online)

“Mussolini Speaks (1933): The American Encounter with Fascism,” at ACLA, Georgetown University, March 2019.

“Film Star Mussolini: The Duce and Hollywood in the 1920s and 1930s,” at “Global Challenges: Borders, Populism and the Postcolonial Condition,” The Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, Teleborgs Slott, Växjö, Sweden, June 2018

“Cinematographic Journeys to Italy: *The Trip to Italy* (2014), *Voyage to Italy* (1954), and the Grand Tour,” Romanticism in the Mediterranean Conference (International Conference on Romanticism), Athens, Greece, June 2017

“Innovations and Tensions in the cinema of Paolo Sorrentino: Levity, Ethics, and Aesthetics in *Youth* (2015) and *The Great Beauty* (2013),” Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Rome, Italy, June 2017

“*Mussolini Speaks* (1933): Il Duce’s American Biopic,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chicago, IL, March 2017

“Dandies in Search of Beauty: Understanding Sorrentino’s *The Great Beauty* through Fellini’s *La Dolce Vita*,” American Association of Teachers of Italian, Naples, Italy, June 2016

“The Dialectic of Ethics and Aesthetics in Italian Cinema: Sorrentino’s 'Dolce Vita,'” American Association of Italian Studies, Baton Rouge, LA, April 2016

“From Mussolini to Pope Bergoglio: Political, Economic, and Social Legacies of St. Francis of Assisi in Modern Italy,” The World of St. Francis of Assisi, Siena, July 2015

“Labor and Capital in Transnational Cinema,” presenter and panel co-organizer, American Comparative Literature Association, New York University, March 2014

“Best Practices for Film Discussions in the Italian Language Class from Beginner to Advanced,” Massachusetts Foreign Language Association, Sturbridge, MA, October 2013

“The Parallel Lives of St. Francis of Assisi and Mussolini,” at “The Monk, The Priest, The Nun,” University of Pennsylvania, March 2013

“The Cinema of Crisis: Germany Year Zero, by Roberto Rossellini,” American Comparative Literature Association, Brown University, March 2012

“Revealing and Re-veiling Italy through its Patron Saint: Comparing Representations of Saint Francis of Assisi during Fascism and in the Aftermath of World War II,” Brown-Harvard Italian Studies Graduate Student Conference, “Chiasmi,” March 2012

“From the Cavalry to the Calvary: Indexing St. Francis’s Stigmata,” Department of Italian Studies Colloquium, Brown University, April 2011

“Sister War: Mapping Representations of Saint Francis of Assisi in the Aftermath of World War II,” Northeast Modern Language Association, April 2011

“San Francesco d’Assisi e il trauma postbellico,” American Association of Italian Studies, St. John’s University, Manhattan Campus, May 2009

“Traumatic Memories of Post-WW II Italy, Unburied,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst Graduate Student Conference, “Crossroads,” October 2008

“Remnants of Primo Levi (Quel che resta di Primo Levi): A Commentary on Giorgio Agamben,” American Association of Italian Studies, Taormina, Italy, June 2008

“Primo Levi and Giorgio Bassani: Lifelong Struggles for Testimony and Literary Representation,” American Comparative Literature Association, Long Beach, CA, April 2008

“Carved in Memory? Crisis of Witnessing in Post-WW II Italy,” Department of Italian Studies Colloquium, Brown University, April 2008

“Violence and Theater Beyond the Border: Roberto Zucco by Bernard-Marie Koltès (1988),” American Comparative Literature Association, Puebla, Mexico, April 2007

“Requiem. Un’allucinazione, di Antonio Tabucchi (1991): fra lutto e gastronomia – uno studio ‘intersezionista,’” Dombroski Italian Studies Conference, University of Connecticut, Storrs, September 2006

“Uses of Mirrors in Derek Jarman’s The Tempest,” Harvard University, Humanities Center Graduate Student Conference, “Mirrorings: Reflections on Reflection,” April 2006

OTHER INITIATIVES

Founder, Director, of nonprofit organization EGLHE (Equine-Guided Learning and Healing Experience) 2022-present

Athena I certification with Rupert Isaacson (equine training for therapy programs) 2023

PROFESSIONAL AND HONOR SOCIETIES

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)   
American Association of Italian Studies (AAIS)   
Modern Language Association (MLA)

Phi Sigma Iota (International Foreign Language Honor Society)

LANGUAGES

Italian,native speaker   
English, near-native fluency  
German, fair reading, writing, and speaking knowledge (B.2.2 certificate from Humboldt Universität zu Berlin)   
French, good reading knowledge

Spanish, good reading knowledge, improving writing and speaking skills

Latin,fair reading knowledge

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Colorado College:

Director, Italian Program on Campus and in Italy 2019-present

Chair, Paul F. Sheffer Fund for Catholic Studies Committee 2022-present

International Study Task Force 2019-2022

Writing Grants Committee 2019-present

Film and Media Studies Hiring Committee 2018-19

Block 8 in Perugia, Italy, Creator and Coordinator 2017

Service to the Community 2013-present

Just World Awards: Val Veirs Environmental Justice Award (Nomination) Spring 2023

Other Institutions:

German Summer Study Program in Berlin, Creator and Director, Salem State University 2013

Foreign Languages Department Representative, College of Arts and Sciences

Strategic Planning Committee, Salem State University September 2012-May 2014

Sexual Assault Advisory Board, Graduate Student Representative, Brown University 2010-2012

Committee, “Chiasmi,” Brown-Harvard Graduate Student Conference   
in Italian Studies 2006-2012

Peer Evaluator, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University 2006-2009

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer for various journals (including undergraduate scholarship) for research and translations

Fulbright Scholarship Selections 2019-2022

Panel organizer and chair “Religion and Politics in the Visual Arts” (with Mark Epstein), American Association of Italian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, March 2015

Reader, *Working Papers*, graduate student journal of the Department of Romance Languages, University of Pennsylvania, 2007-2013

Panel Chair, “Staging Theory,” at Brown-Harvard Italian Studies Graduate Student Conference, “Chiasmi,” March 2011

English-Italian and Italian-English interpreter, *Diacritics* Conference, “Commonalities,” Cornell University, September 2010

Panel organizer and moderator, “Politics of Sanctity”, American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, LA, April 2010

Panel chair, “Resurrections,” at “The Moving Image: Reconfiguring Spaces of Loss and Mourning in the Twenty-First Century”, Cambridge University, UK, February 2010

Research assistant to Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg at the National Library, Rome, Italy for project on “Church and Sexuality,” Summer 2009

Panel Chair, “Dance, Drama and Translations: Negotiations of Pleasure and Pain,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst Graduate Student Conference, “Crossroads,” October 2008

English-Italian and Italian-English interpreter, “New Paths in Political Philosophy,” State University of New York, Buffalo, March 2008

Panel Chair, “Political Issues in Popular Culture” for the “Junior Year Writing Colloquium,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst, December 2005

Member of the jury for the short story writing competition “Una storia in quindici righe” (“A Story in Fifteen Lines”), Università di Bari, Italy, 2002

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant to Renzo Rossellini for advancement and promotion of the *Audiovisual Encyclopedia of History by Roberto Rossellini* at universities, foundations, and cultural institutes in Europe and in the United States 2011-2013

Supervisor in the production of national award winning short films by writer, director, and visual artist Francesco Carofiglio, Bari, Italy 1998-2001

Assistantfor cinema workshops directed by Francesco Carofiglio, Bari, Italy 1999-2000

LIST OF REFERENCES

Alistaire Tallent, Associate Professor of French, Department of French, Colorado College

Ofer Ben-Amots, Professor of Music and Composition, Chairperson, Department of Music, Colorado College

Omri Grinberg, Postdoctoral fellow, Minerva Center for the Rule of Law Under Extreme Conditions, University of Haifa. Research fellow, Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Amelie Björck, Senior Lecturer in Comparative Literature, Södertörn University, Sweden

Elizabeth Blood, Professor of French and Italian, World Languages and Cultures, Salem State University

Thomas Doherty, professor of Film History and American Studies, Brandeis University

Jim Hicks, Graduate Program Director, Comparative Literature, UMass Amherst; Editor, *The Massachusetts Review*

Adam Sitze, Professor of Law, Jurisprudence, and Social Thought, Amherst College

Claudio Fogu, Associate Professor of Italian Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

Anna Botta, Professor of Italian Language and Literature, and Comparative Literature, Smith College

Cristina Abbona-Sneider, Director, Italian Language Studies, Brown University

Dominick LaCapra, Bryce & Edith M. Bowmar Professor in Humanistic Studies; Professor Emeritus of History and Comparative Literature, Cornell University