

FRANCESCA CIANCIMINO HOWELL

howell.francesca@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Writing, research, editing and interviewing skills
- Wide teaching experience, including international settings, in Italian and Spanish
- On-line teaching background, most recently with Canvas Learning Management System
- Advising/counseling
- Curriculum development and pedagogical knowledge
- Public speaking and presenting, including in Italian & Spanish

RECENT PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

NAROPA UNIVERSITY, Boulder, CO — 2002-2006; 2014-2016; 2019; 2021; 2022 & invited for 2023

Senior Adjunct Faculty in Religious Studies; College Core; Environmental Studies, Environmental/Resilient Leadership, & Eco-psychology.

Among various courses taught: MDiv — Ritual Arts, summer semester 2021; BA — Geography, Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape; Deep Ecology in Context; MA — The New Science and Its Cultural Applications; MA — Environmental Leadership Capstone.

As Adjunct faculty have taught classes and led workshops in the BA, MA and MDiv programs, as well as College Core first and second year students. Have advised numerous BA and MA students on theses — MA students were writing their Capstone Thesis projects, in “Applied Leadership”. In at least two cases, internships I advised led to full-time jobs for the students. Assisted in all areas of curriculum development, pedagogical strategies, admissions student interviews and selection, study abroad advising, etc. Have been called in to substitute in both BA & MA classes, & to advise on theses in various departments.

MA Academic Advisor — 2004 to 2006

While teaching was also MA Advisor; maintained databases and files on approximately 35 students; role also required personal meetings with students to advise on coursework, thesis projects, career planning, etc.

Adjunct Faculty in School of Extended Studies (adult continuing ed.) — 2003 to 2005

JOURNEY LANGUAGE CENTER, Boulder/Longmont, CO — 2017

Taught adult and children’s **Italian** language classes, both at the school centers and private home.

(Full professional CV listing other positions, such as ESL/EFL in NYC & abroad; recent work in spiritual care/chaplaincy. Also, the range of all publications is available upon request.)

EDUCATION

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY, UK — Doctor of Philosophy in Religious Studies

Dissertation — *Sense of Place and Festival in Northern Italy: Perspectives on place, time and community*. Supervisors: Dr. Graham Harvey and Dr. Marion Bowman

The ethnographic study was based on over **one hundred interviews, carried out in Italian**. My doctoral and post-doctoral work was adapted for publication by Bloomsbury Academic, with the title: *Food, Festival and Religion: Materiality and Place in Italy*, (2018; paperback edition, 2020).

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, UK — Masters of Philosophy in Latin American Studies Thesis — *National Sovereignty and Environmental Conservation in Latin America*. Supervisor: Dr. David Lehmann. Much of the thesis research was carried out in Spanish.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, School of Languages and Linguistics, Washington, DC — Bachelor of Science in Languages & Linguistics. **Major: Italian**; Minors: French & Theatre. Graduated Magna Cum Laude and Received SLL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (for academic achievements over four years of undergraduate work).

SOME ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Food, Festival and Religion: Materiality and place in Italy, London and NY: Bloomsbury Academic Publishing, July 2018; softcover edition, Feb. 2020.

“**Bellisama and Aradia: Paganism re-emerges in Italy**”, in *Modern Pagan and Native Faith Movements in Europe: Colonial and Nationalist Impulses*. Rountree, K. ed. NY and Oxford: Berghahn Publishers, May 2015.

“**Heterotopia, Community and Sense of Place: Performing land and folding time in the Badalisc festival of Northern Italy**”, *Folklore Journal*, Vol. 124. Issue 1. April 2013.

(Other publications in the academic & popular press, in the US & abroad, available upon request.)

A SELECTION OF ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PAPERS

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, annual conference, Denver, Colorado, Nov. 2018 — panel on Space, Place and Community. Paper: “Materiality, Food and Power of Place: Animic Explorations from Italian Festivals”

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION, NATURE AND CULTURE, The New School, NYC, April 2017 — "Mountains and Sacred Landscapes" Conference. Paper: “Materiality of Place: Finding Sacredness and Resilience through Bonds with Place”

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, annual conference Chicago, IL, Nov. 2012 – panel on Religion in Europe. Paper: “Celticity, Place and Power — Civil Religion

and Materiality in Northern Italy's 'Celtic New Year' Festival"

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION (BASR), University of Bangor, North Wales, Sept. 2009. Paper: "Dragons, Druids, and Other Companions for Sunday in the Park: Fieldwork on Northern Italy's Local Festivals"

(I have presented many other papers in conferences and held myriad workshops on varied topics, throughout the US, UK, Europe and South America. Many of those were in Italian, while living abroad 2006 to 2012.)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The American Academy of Religion; The Association of Professional Chaplains; Spiritual Directors International; The Parliament of World Religions; Life member: Clare Hall, The University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Fluent in Italian and Spanish; proficient in French.
- Adept with Mac and PC programs — eg Canvas & Zoom for on-line teaching; Excel/Numbers, PowerPoint/Keynote, Google Hangout, ISIS, PeopleSoft; in healthcare: Centura's EPIC for patients' medical charts
- Founding member and workshop leader for *Boulder Rights of Nature*; organizer/presenter Rights of Nature Film Festival
- Volunteer at Milan's national dog shelter "La Lega Nazionale per la Difesa del Cane" — 2007-2009
- Fifteen+ years experience in professional theatre, TV and radio, including in Italian and Spanish; coached numerous children's & teens' productions. (Theatre/film CV available)
- Life member — The Sierra Club and The Nature Conservancy
- Interests and hobbies include: fiction/writing fiction & poetry; theatre, acting, dance, music/singing; hiking, nature & animals; religious studies and theology; international issues, languages, history and travel.