

LICINIA RICOTTILLI

Academic Career and Didactic Activity

Licinia Ricottilli has a Full Professor of Latin language and literature at the department of “Cultures and Civilizations” of the University of Verona since October 1st, 2001.

She regularly teaches “Latin literature (m)” for the postgraduate degrees in “Tradition and Interpretation of Literary Texts” (LM-14) and “Philosophical Studies” (LM-78), as well as “History of the Latin language (m)” for the postgraduate degree in “Tradition and Interpretation of Literary Texts” (LM-14) and the undergraduate degree in “Arts and Literature” (L-10).

Research Interests

1) Colloquial Latin language.

a) J.B. Hofmann- L. Ricottilli, *La lingua d'uso latina*, Bologna, Pàtron 2003, 3. ed. Italian edition of *Lateinische Umgangssprache* by J.B.Hofmann (Heidelberg 1926; 1936; 1951), translated and with an introduction entitled *Hofmann e il concetto di lingua d'uso* (pp. 9-69) by L. Ricottilli which retraces the history of studies on colloquial and literary Latin preceding Hofmann's studies and provides a modern interpretation of the mimesis of the “Umgangssprache” in Latin texts and singles out, in light of the most recent trends in linguistics, current possibilities of recuperating a genuine colloquial Latin language; a supply of numerous *Notes* to the paragraphs (pp. 91-347, indicated in the text with double square brackets) that are used to provide specific additions to Hofmann's documents as well as a methodological and bibliographical update; Appendixes I and II (pp. 349-352); the *Note di aggiornamento alla seconda edizione* (pp. 449 – 464); Appendix III *La lingua d'uso in Orazio* (pp. 465-509).

b) Various essays in which colloquial formulas that are often obscured in the text (*quid tu?, quid vos?*) are restored in numerous Latin authors.

c) an essay on the function of the mimesis of the “Umgangssprache” in the first book of Seneca's *de beneficiis* (“Paideia” 2014).

2) **Aposiopesis** (or reticence) analysed in *La scelta del silenzio* (Bologna 1984), in the first chapter the figure has been defined and analysed on rhetorical and linguistic bases in relation to its modes and functions, and on anthropological, psychological and semiological levels in relation to its value, in a perspective in which the use that Latin authors make of the figure is also essential.

3) The theme of **silence**, both in its relational and anthropological dimensions according to the methods and functions with which they were adopted by Terence and Virgil, have been studied.

4) **Gestures**: a further line of research consisted in the analysis of the functions and methods of representing gestures. See, for instance an essay centred on a gesture that had hitherto not been recognized by scholars, i.e. Didone's *cogitantis gestus* in *Aen.* 1, 561 (1992); -a monographic volume, *Gesto e parola nell'Eneide* (2000) that provides a new operative definition of "gesture" as well as some starting points for the reconstruction of a theory on the relationship between gesture and word among the ancient scholars; a paper on the function of gestural representation in Seneca's *de beneficiis*.

5) **The Pragmatics of Communication**. L. Ricottilli must be credited for the application of this new methodology (of psychiatric and cybernetic origins) to classical texts. In a 1982 essay, the restoration and interpretation of a colloquial allocution formula (*quid tu? quid vos?*) that had been "obscured" in most Latin texts (and therefore also ignored in the most accredited syntaxes), were already assisted by the acknowledgment of the prevalence of the level of relation over that of

content in such a formula. In general, the application of the pragmatics of communication to classical texts seems to be viable because some aspects of the pragmatic settings were already present in the theories of the ancients in relation to rhetorics or literary criticism.

-For more on the numerous studies following such a method that Ricottilli has published see L. Ricottilli, *Appunti sulla pragmatica della comunicazione e della letteratura latina*, 2009, and *Teatro latino e pragmatica della comunicazione*, 2010.

6) Plautus. A conjecture to Plaut. *Pseud.* 184; the analysis of communicative and relational structures in a Plautine scenes in the paper *Strategie relazionali e 'ridefinizione' di un progetto di matrimonio nell'Aulularia* (vv. 120-176), 2000.

7) Terence. In analysing in detail the traits that characterise the art of the comedy writer, the specific relational methods that the author privileged in his interpersonal relationships among the subjects in the utterance (in prologues) and those among the subjects in the enunciations (in comedies) have been examined; moreover, the forms in which interpersonal relationships are exposed have been framed within the conditioning that is provided by the situation of enunciation (i.e. the theatrical representation).

For more on this, see a series of essays that analyse Terence's work while adding the new methods of the pragmatics of communication to traditional methods (1994, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2014, 2016).

8) Virgil. Two entries in the *Enciclopedia virgiliana* (*aposiopesi* and *taceo e sileo*); an essay that sees a *cogitantis gestus* in Dido's gestures (in *Aen.* 1, 561); a monographic volume, *Gesto e parola nell'Eneide* (2000), that analyses the gestures of the characters in the *Aeneid*, and in particular the ways through which they relate with the forms of direct discourse that are present in the poem.

9) Seneca the philosopher. Participation in a comment to Seneca's *de beneficiis* within a PRIN project funded by the MIUR of which Prof. Giusto Picone is the national coordinator. Study of the function that Seneca attributes to gestural representations in his *de beneficiis* (2009); paper on the mimesis of colloquial language in the first book of *de beneficiis* (2014).

10) Mythe. A further area of interest is the study of Roman Mythical Lore, as tool capable of conveying and handing down models of thinking and patterns of behaviour (with special regard to communication, time, space).

Funded Research Projects

1) CNR grant as scientific supervisor of a three-year research project (1990-1992) on *Inquiries into the sermo tacitus* (*Ricerche sul sermo tacitus*);

2) CNR grant as scientific supervisor of a three-year research project (1993-1995) on *Inquiries into the artistic stylization of gestures in some Latin writers* (*Ricerche sulla stilizzazione artistica della gestualità in alcuni autori latini*);

3) Funded by the MIUR (Italian Ministry of University and Scientific Research) as the scientific supervisor of the Unit of Verona for the 2004 PRIN project *Benefactors and beneficiaries. Ideology, anthropological models and pragmatics of relations between unequals in Seneca's de beneficiis* (National Coordinator: Prof. Giusto Picone, University of Palermo);

4) Funded by the MIUR as the scientific supervisor of the Unit of Verona for the 2007 PRIN project *Benefactors and beneficiaries. A thematic comment on Seneca's de beneficiis* (National Coordinator: Prof. Giusto Picone, University of Palermo): the project was funded following an rating of "excellent".

5) Funded by the MIUR as the scientific supervisor of the Unit of Verona of the 2010-2012 PRIN project *Mythical knowledge. The anthropology of ancient myths* from February 1st, 2013 to March 22nd, 2015 (when Dr. Renata Raccanelli stepped in as the project's scientific supervisor); National Coordinator: Prof. Maurizio Bettini, University of Siena.

6) Funded by MIUR as Scientific Supervisor of the Unit of Verona of the 2015 PRIN project *PROTEUS. An interpretative Database of Greek and Roman mythical Lore* from February 5, 2017 to february 5, 2020; National Coordinator: Prof. Maurizio Bettini, University of Siena.

Approved Research Projects

European project: *The Self in the Gift: Beneficentia and Construction of Identity in Ancient Rome: 1st century b.C. – 1st century a.C.* IDEAS 2010-2011 (ERC 2011) in collaboration with Dr. Evita Calabrese; National Coordinator: Dr. Pietro Li Causi (University of Palermo); favourably evaluated.

PRIN 2006: *The beneficium between methods of communication and pragmatics relations: a thematic comment on Seneca's de beneficiis (Books I-II)*; (National Coordinator: Prof. Giusto Picone, University of Palermo).

FIRB 2008: *Having an identity, constructing memory in ancient Rome. Representations of the 'self' and of 'us' in Latin literature between Republic and Principate*, assessed as eligible. Coordinator of the Unity of Verona: Dr. Evita Calabrese; participants Licinia Ricottilli and Gabriella Rossetti; Coordinator of the Unity of Palermo: Dr. Rosa Rita Marchese.

Roles in PHD School

Scientific coordinator of the PhD course in *Literature and Philology* at its main administrative headquarters at the University of Verona from its foundation (2002-2003 academic year, XVIII cycle) to 2006, when it converged with the *PhD in Humanistic Studies*.

Director of the *PhD school in the Humanities* of the University of Verona for an entire mandate (January 1st, 2007 to December 31st, 2009).

Academic Activities

During the 1995-1996 academic year: Director ad interim of the Institute of Classical Studies (dell'Istituto di Discipline Classiche) of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Verona.

Organizer of the "Laboratory of Latin" courses (previously known as "Zero Latin", "Latin Tutoring", etc.) from 1995-1996 to 2014-2015.

Member of the Department Committee of “Linguistics, Literature and Communication Science” from 2004-2005 to 2010.

President of the Didactic Commission of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Verona (from January 1st, 2009 to October 31st, 2012) following elections.

Member of the Presidential Council of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Verona (from January 1st, 2009 to October 31st, 2012).

Associations, Advisory Boards

-Founding associate of the *Anthropology and Ancient World Association* of Siena.

-Member of the “University Council of Latin Studies” (Consulta Universitaria di Studi Latini).

-Member of the *Advisory Board* of *Dionysus ex machina. Rivista Online di Studi sul Teatro Antico* since its foundation in 2010.

-Member of the *Advisory Board* of *Classico Contemporaneo*, an online journal of studies on classical antiquity, edited in collaboration with the “University Council of Latin Studies” since the foundation of the journal (2014).

- Member of CISP “Centro Internazionale di Studi Plautini”.

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L. Ricottilli, *La scelta del silenzio. Menandro e l'aposiopesi*, Pàtron, Bologna 1984.

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G. Picone, A. De Caro, P. Li Causi, R.R. Marchese, R. Marino, S. Rampulla, G. Raspanti, L. Scolari, L. Beltrami, A. Accardi, M. Lentano, L. Ricottilli, E. Calabrese, E. Dalle Vedove, E. Ducci, R. Raccanelli, *Le regole del beneficio. Commento tematico a Seneca, De beneficiis, libro I*, Palermo, Palumbo editore, Palermo, 2013, pp. 13-205.

L. Ricottilli, *Un appunto di pragmatica antropologica (Eneide, 11.120-32)*, in A. Romaldo (a cura di), *A Maurizio Bettini. Pagine stravaganti per un filologo stravagante*, Milano-Udine, Mimesis ed., 2017, pp. 331-335.

L. Ricottilli, *L'emozione nel gesto: le lacrime in Terenzio*, «Dionysus ex machina» 7, 2016, pp. 70-96.

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L. Ricottilli, *La costruzione della relazione fra poeta e spettatori nei prologhi terenziani*, in Picone G. (cur.), *Clementia Caesaris: modelli etici, parentesi e retorica dell'esilio*. p. 39-64, Palumbo, Palermo 2008, ISBN/ISSN: 88-6017-065-1

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- L. Ricottilli, (in collaborazione con M. Bettini), *Homo sum: humani nihil a me alienum puto. Elogio dell'indiscrezione*, "Lares" LV, 1989, pp. 361-373.
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