

Avalle Arianna

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Research project's website: <https://www.facebook.com/transmediatouritaly>

Education

August 2020- August 2024

Ph.D. Italian Studies

University of Texas at Austin

Portfolio in Arts Management and Cultural Entrepreneurship

Ph.D. Dean's Distinguished Graduates Honorable Mention

August 2018-May 2020

M.A. Italian Studies University of Texas at Austin

August 2015-May 2018

B.B. A, Marketing with minor in European Studies

Texas Tech University, Rawls College of Business, Lubbock, Texas.

Summa Cum Laude and Highest Honors.

September 2014-June 2015

Laurea "Economia delle imprese e dei mercati (Economics, English profile)" Università Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Italy.

No degree received because transferred to Texas Tech.

June 2014-September 2014

Equipollenza (High School Equivalence Diploma) Liceo Classico Alighieri, Latina, Rome, Italy.

Grade: 100/100.

High School Diploma, Permian High School, Odessa, Texas.

August 2013-June 2014

Rank: 16th out of 628 students.

GPA: 3.94/4.0.

Exchange Student with the study abroad program WEP.

September 2010- June 2013

Liceo Classico “G. Arimondi”, Savigliano (CN), Italy.

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Ph.D. Dean’s Distinguished Graduates Honorable Mention

Spring 2024

Selected as one of Dean’s PhD Distinguished Graduates for Spring 2024. This award recognizes graduating Liberal Arts students who have distinguished themselves in the areas of scholarship, leadership, and service to the College and the University community. It is the highest award that the College offers.

Spring 2024

Dissertation Writing Fellowship

Granted in recognition of continued academic excellence and to support final stages of dissertation writing and research.

Fall 2023

Graduate School Continuing Fellowship

Granted in recognition of academic excellence and to support dissertation writing and research.

Nominated by graduate adviser and selected as the winner among 11,000 graduate students for major publication and research accomplishments since entering graduate school.

Summer 2023

Graduate School Summer Fellowship

Granted to support dissertation writing in the summer. Selected as the winner among 11,000 graduate students at the University of Texas for innovative dissertation project.

Spring 2023

Teaching Excellence Award in Italian

Granted in recognition of excellence in teaching lower division Italian classes.

William M. Jones Award for Outstanding Graduate Paper, Popular Culture Association National Conference

Granted in recognition of the excellent quality of research, writing, topic, approach, and relevance of the original research paper “Elio and Oliver’s Romantic (Grand) Tour” in the field of American Culture Studies. The winner of the award work with the editor of the *Journal of American Culture* to get the paper published in the upcoming issue.

Fall 2022

“Dr. George Joseph Shia Memorial Endowed Presidential Fellowship in Liberal Arts”, College of Liberal Arts Office of Research and Graduate Studies, COLA Travel Grant

Selected as the winner among 11,000 graduate students at the University of Texas for exceptional academic qualifications and presenting an original and innovative research project. The award helped to financially sustain travelling costs of summer research

“Honorable Mention Graduate Travel Grant”, Italian American Studies Association (IASA)

Granted to sustain the travelling costs to attend and present at the 54th Annual IASA Conference at the University of Pittsburgh.

“Professional Development Award”, UT Graduate School

Granted to sustain the travelling costs to attend and present at the 54th Annual IASA Conference at the University of Pittsburgh.

“Summer 2022 Research Award”, Italian and French Studies Department (UT)

Summer 2022

Granted to conduct innovative research for PhD dissertation in Italy.

“Lynn Abell Award-Excellence in Italian”, Italian and French Studies Department (UT)

Granted for excellence in teaching and researching in the field of Italian Studies.

“Professional Development Award”, UT Graduate School

Spring 2022

Granted to participate and present at the 2022 AATI International Conference in Lucca, Italy.

Summer 2020

“Daniela Bini Excellence Award”, Italian and French Studies Department (UT) Granted for outstanding research achievements.

“Michael Schoenecke Travel Grant”, PCA Endowment Fund

Spring 2020

Granted to participate and present at the 2020 PCA Conference (moved online due to COVID-19).

“Professional Development Award”, UT Graduate School

Granted to participate and present at the 2020 PCA Conference (moved online due to COVID19).

“Emerging Scholar Award”, Research Network

Granted to outstanding graduate students, who have shown scholarly excellence in the field of tourism studies, to participate and present at the *Fifth International Conference on Tourism and Leisure Studies* (moved online due to COVID-19).

Spring 2019

“Dina Sherzer Excellence Scholarship in Italian”, Italian and French Studies Department (UT)

Granted to participate at the Bologna Summer School “Mediating Italy in Global Culture”.

“Graduate School- College Recruitment Fellowship”, University of Texas at Austin

Fall 2018

Granted to top quality graduate students showing academic excellence.

May 2018

“Highest Ranking Graduate Rawls College of Business 2018”, Texas Tech Alumni Association.

Certificate presented to the graduates of Rawls College of Business with the highest GPA.

Active member of the Honors societies (TTU):

2016-2017

-Phi Kappa Phi (selected for ranking in the 7.5 % of junior class, all majors)

-Beta Gamma Sigma (selected for ranking in the upper 10% of junior class, business majors only)

-Golden Key (selected for ranking in the 15% of junior class)

2017

President’s list, Texas Tech University

(GPA must be higher than 3.8/4 to qualify)

TTU Scholarships: Warren Warner, Chancellors Council and John Montford

2014

The Italian Connection Award, Permian High School 3rd place, Editorial Writing, Plains High School, UIL Invitational 5th place, Literary Criticism, Plains High School, UIL Invitational National Honor Society

2013

1st place, writing competition “Imbokkiamoci” Savigliano Library,

International Book Fair, Turin, Italy.

2012

Participation prize for Ancient Greek and Latin translation competition “Hermes” Liceo Classico Vincenzo Gioberti, Turin, Italy.

Certificate of excellence, French language exam DELF A2

2010

Research

Publications

Avalle, Arianna. 2025." Dante in the Digital Age: Revitalizing the *Divina Commedia* Through Media Translation." *Simultanea, Journal of Italian Media and Popular Culture*, Volume 4, No.1.

Avalle, Arianna.2023." Elio and Oliver's Romantic (Grand) Tour: Gender, Genre and Film-Induced Tourism in *Call Me By Your Name*." *Journal of American Culture*, Volume 46, Issue 3, <https://doi.org/10.1111/jacc.13498>

Avalle, Arianna.2021. "The Ultimate Ferrante Experience: Convergence Culture, Literary Tourism, and the Quest for Authenticity." *Journal of Italian Culture*, Volume 39, Issue 1, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01614622.2021.1938841>

Research projects

Avalle, Arianna. "The Transmedia Grand Tour of Italy: A Gender Reading of Media Convergence and Tourism in the Neapolitan Novels and *Call Me By Your Name*." PhD dissertation, 2024.

Avalle, Arianna.2022." Measuring the Ferrante Fever Through Coding." Digital Humanities Project for *FC342: French Through Coding*, Dr. Bullock, Python 3.

Avalle, Arianna. 2018. "Elena Ferrante as *L'Amica Geniale*: The Novel, the Marketing and the Mysterious Pseudonym". Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Honors College at Texas Tech University. Advisors: Dr. Aliza Wong (chair), Dr. Stefano D'Amico, Dr. Kurt Caswell, Dr. Michael San Francisco

Translation projects

Bonifazio, Paola. (In press). *Il Fotoromanzo: Una Lettura Femminista della Cultura di Massa*. Translated by Avalle, Arianna; Pisano, Claudia and Bonifazio, Paola. Francesco Coniglio Editore (forthcoming).

Cultural and Social Awareness Theatre's Projects

2011

"Maffia", Liceo Classico "G.Arimondi", Savigliano, Italy

Show written and created by students to publicly condemn the crimes of the Italian criminal organization (Mafia) and encourage the audience to stand up in the name of justice and legality

2010

"Donna è Cavaliere" Liceo Classico "G.Arimondi", Savigliano, Italy

Show created in collaboration with the association "*Mai + Sole*" ("Never Alone Again") to denounce violence against women and gender discrimination and to raise funds for victims of domestic violence.

Conferences and Lectures

Spring 2023

“Elio and Oliver’s Romantic (Grand) Tour: Gender, Genre and Media-Induced Tourism in *Call Me By Your Name*”

Presenter, Panel “Gender and Media Studies IV: Gender Issues in Film, Graphic Novels, and Television Advertisements.” *2023 Popular Culture Association National Conference*, Marriot Rivercenter, San Antonio, Texas.

This paper was also presented at:

-lecture for Dr. Paola Bonifazio’s course *ITL 382 Stardom Italian Style: Gender, Industry and Fandom*, University of Texas at Austin (Spring 2023)

- Panel 4 “Queer(ing) Films,” *Symposium Queer(ing) Italian Cultures: Home and Beyond*, University of Toronto (virtual) (Spring 2022).

- Roundtable “Representing Gender and Sexuality in Transnational and Transmedia

Productions/Narratives”, with Paola Bonifazio (UT) and Silvia Carlorosi (Bronx Community College), *AAIS 2021 Conference* (virtual) (summer 2021).

“Transnational Reflections on Elena Ferrante’s Neapolitan Novels”

Fall 2022

Panelist, Roundtable discussion, with Michele Deramo (Virginia Tech), Giusy Cesari (UNINT), Angela Princiotta (University of Santiago de Compostela), *54th Annual IASA Conference*, University of Pittsburgh.

Summer 2022

“Narrating the American Frontier: Cowboys and American Indians in Italian Comics”

Chair, Panel, with Paola Bonifazio (UT), Cinzia Russi (UT) and Claudia Pisano (UT), *AAIS 2022 Conference* (virtual).

“Dante in the Digital Age: Revitalizing the *Divina Commedia* Through Media Translation”

Presenter, Panel “Adaptations of Dante’s *Divine Comedy*,” *3rd IASA & AATI International Conference*, Fondazione Campus, Lucca, Italy.

Spring 2022

“The Ultimate Ferrante Experience: Convergence Culture, Literary Tourism, and the Quest for Authenticity”

Speaker, Lecture for the *America-Italy Society of Philadelphia* (virtual).

This paper was also presented at:

- *FIGSO Working Paper Series*, Department of French and Italian at the University of Texas at Austin (virtual) (Summer 2021)

- Panel “Ferrante Unframed II #2 “, *CAIS Conference* (virtual) (Summer 2021)

- *2021 Popular Culture Association Conference* (virtual) (Spring 2021)

- *Fifth International Conference in Tourism and Leisure Studies*, Research Network (virtual) (Summer 2020)

- *Bologna Summer School* “Mediating Italy in Global Culture,” Bologna, Italy (Summer 2019)

Educational Workshops and Summer Schools

Fall 2023

“Introduction to StoryMaps- Digital Humanities Workshop Series”

Participant, workshop teaching participants to create a digital exhibit using StoryMaps, a digital tool used to craft a narrative using maps, images, videos and texts.

Spring 2023

“Exploring Career Possibilities for Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Advanced Degrees”

Participant, course offered by Texas Career Engagement to help PhD students explore career options and learn about the job market.

“Italian Through Food”

Participant, professional development training course on Italian food culture and language teaching. The course was led by Dr. Polegato, offered by California State University-Fresno, and funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

“Teaching Black Italy”

Participant, educational workshop, led by Fred Kudjo Kuwornu and offered by Black Italia, exploring the historical and contemporary presence of African diaspora in Italy and providing pedagogical tools and methodologies to diversify and design syllabi on Black Italy.

“Publishing in Academia: A Graduate Student’s Perspective”

Fall 2022

Presenter and Participant, *FIGSO Workshop “Paper to Publication,”* with Dr. Picherit, Department of French and Italian Studies, University of Texas at Austin (virtual).

“The Digital Turn: When, Why, and How to Embrace it”

Summer 2021

Participant, *Second Interdisciplinary Italy Postgraduate Summer School* “Interdisciplinary Italy: Interart/Intermedia,” Department of Italian Studies, Trinity College Dublin (virtual).

Spring 2021

“Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop Series”

Participant, workshop series on inclusive pedagogy, organized by the Department of French and Italian and the Program in Comparative Literature introducing tools and resources to improve racial inclusivity in the language classroom. Received a Certificate in Inclusive Pedagogy at the conclusion of the series.

“Mediating Italy in Global Culture”

Summer 2019

Participant, *Bologna Summer School*, Bologna, Italy.

“Deeper Dive Instructional Guide on Architecting Online Courses”

Spring 2019

Participant, workshop series organized by the UT Faculty Innovation Center providing tools and resources to help participants design their own online courses.

Teaching and Educational Experience

Language Teacher, Italian Cultural Center of Houston

January 2025- Current

- Customize conversation and grammar classes for a variety of different learners
- Design engaging lessons and create educational material

March 2023- May 2023

Assistant to the Director of the Rome Study Abroad Program, University of Texas at Austin

- Organized and efficiently categorized study abroad material
- Helped to fairly distribute financial awards to applicants participating in the program
- Sent email reminders and communications to students about study abroad deadlines

August 2022- December 2022

Assistant Instructor, University of Texas at Austin ITC 330: Ferrante Fever: Lit, Film and TV

- Designed, developed, and planned an entire lower division Italian culture course based on research interest and expertise
- Taught gender, literature, and media theories to a variety of undergraduate students and created engaging lessons and assignments to support their learning
- Moderated class discussion and encouraged students to think critically and broaden their horizons

Language Teacher, America-Italy Society of Philadelphia

August 2021- Current

- Lead private conversation classes with non-traditional students of Italian
- Explain Italian grammar topics and teach aspects of the Italian culture

Proctor, CILS center, University of Texas at Austin

October 2021- Current

- Administer the CILS Italian language exams to a variety of candidates
- Fill out the administrative paperwork in an efficient and timely manner
- Adapt the tone and topics of the conversation to valorize the oral knowledge of the candidate

August 2020- May 2022

Assistant Instructor, University of Texas at Austin

ITL 601 (Italian for beginners) and 611(Intermediate Italian):

- Guided students to the discovery of the Italian language and culture using the flipped classroom model
- Developed innovative and creative educational material (class activities, reviews, quizlets)

-Provided constructive criticism and feedback to students' assignments in a timely manner

May 2021- July 2021

Content creator, Italian Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin OER (Open Educational Resources) project

- Developed visually appealing and instructive educational material for ITL 601 and ITL 611
- Learned how to efficiently use Canva to create pages explaining grammatical rules and vocabulary
- Explored digital tools to create educational videos (ex. Powtoon)

January 2019-May 2020

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin ITL 601 (Beginner Italian) and 611 (Intermediate Italian)

- Created online quizzes and tests on Canvas for ITL 601 and 611
- Helped answering students' questions and doubts during office hours
- Participated to lectures as teacher's helper in ITL 601 and ITL 611

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin

August 2019- December 2019

UGS 303, *Films and Filmmakers of Italy*, Dr. Douglas Biow

- Taught two discussion sections encouraging students to debate on the themes and issues emerging in the various movies watched in class
- Graded students' essays on movie analysis every two weeks and provided feedback on students' compositions every week in a timely and efficient manner

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin

January 2019- May 2019

UGS 303, *Dante's Hell and Its Afterlife*, Dr. Guy Raffa

- Taught two discussion sections inviting students to reflect on the class material
- Graded various types of assignments (diary entries, oral presentations, and papers) in a timely and efficient manner

January 2018- January 2019

Educational baby sitter

- Organized educational play dates for three Italian-American girls to encourage them to speak and learn Italian while having fun
- Developed creative educational activities and games to engage the girls and promote second language acquisition

January 2018-May 2018

Tutor, “TECHniques Center” Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

- Helped students with various learning disabilities (autism, dyslexia, dyscalculia, ADHD) preparing for exams and completing homework in various subjects (Accounting, Management Information System, Business Law e Management)
- Attended monthly training meetings to learn the essentials of tutoring

September 2017- December 2017

First Year Experience Mentor Honors College, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

- Assisted incoming freshmen and first-generation students with their transition to Texas Tech and college life
- Taught students the value, mission, and vision of the Honors College

Writing and Editorial Experience

Research Assistant, French and Italian Department, UT

August 2024-December 2024

- Conduct archival research in historical magazines, focusing on Italian films and production companies
- Analyze relevant keywords and organize detailed records of data for the research project of Dr. Bonifazio
- Collaborate closely with the supervising professor, providing regular updates and insights to support the project's progress

Interdisciplinary Qualitative Researcher, UT

August 2018-August 2024

- Write and edit research essays and dissertation chapters meeting deadlines in a timely manner
- Conduct research in tourism, media and gender studies that has resulted in a 300 pages dissertation and three published academic articles
- Design original audience surveys and analyze qualitative data in English and Italian from 662 responses to the surveys

Public Relations Intern, Austin Florence Alliance

January 2023-Current

- Create educational and cultural programs for the non-profit cultural organization
- Organize cultural events and lectures to promote cultural diversity and create economic and cultural ties between Austin, Texas and Florence Italy
- Collaborate with a variety of stakeholders (government officials, team members, students, professors and business owners) to develop partnerships with the city, universities, local business and tech companies

Translator, Department of Italian and French Studies, UT

January 2022-March 2022

- Translated accurately Dr. Bonifazio's book *The Photoromance: A Feminist Reading of Popular Culture* (MIT Press, 2020) from English into Italian (*Il Fotoromanzo: Una Lettura Femminista della Cultura di Massa*, Francesco Coniglio Editore, forthcoming)
- Transformed the academic tone and style of the book to be easily readable and understandable by the general public
- Researched information and specific terms on the topics to provide an accurate translation

May 2020- August 2020

Editorial Assistant, *G/S/I (Gender/Sexuality/Italy)*, peer-reviewed journal

- Copy edited articles in Italian and English coming from multi-lingual and diverse writers
- Collaborated and communicated effectively with authors and team members through email using professional tone
- Troubleshooted problems and difficulties arising from the copy-editing process

Content creator, *Odyssey*, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

September 2017- January 2018

- Produced 20 original articles with more than 19k views using different writing styles such as letter and gifs list
- Generated catchy social network briefs to increase the virality rate of the articles
- Exchanged constructive feedback with fellow writers to improve writing skills

January 2017- May 2017

Intern, *Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts*, Lubbock, Texas

- Helped planning, organizing, and promoting the annual Gala for the donors
- Learned tips for managing social media more efficiently
- Wrote biographies for recipients of awards at the Gala

January 2016- December 2016

Staff writer, *Daily Toreador*, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

"La Vida" section

- Developed original ideas for articles and researched relevant news on tight deadlines -
- Conducted interviews with a variety of people and transcribed recordings efficiently -Wrote and edited 48 articles covering a wide range of issues

Professional and Honor Societies' Memberships

August 2018-Current

- Phi Kappa Phi (top 10% of graduate students)
- PCA (Popular Culture Association)
- IASA (Italian American Studies Association)
- AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian)
- AAIS (American Association for Italian Studies)
- AAIS Film and Media Studies Caucus

Leadership Experience

August 2022-May 2023

Member of FIGSO (French and Italian Graduate Student Organization) Workshop Committee, UT

- Organized useful and informative professional workshops for fellow graduate students
- Facilitated and moderated discussion at workshops
- Sent email reminders and collaborated with graduate coordinator for room reservations and scheduling

August 2022-May 2023

Member of FRIT (French and Italian) Film Series Committee, UT

- Planned the film series for the Italian department selecting high quality and educational Italian movies
- Attended film screenings and led post-viewing discussion
- Collaborated with graduate coordinator and other instructors to solve scheduling conflicts

August 2021-May 2022

Vice President and Treasurer of FIGSO (French and Italian Graduate Student Organization), UT

- Delegated tasks and supervised the officers of FIGSO
- Helped and assisted the President with useful advices and suggestions
- Managed the funds of the organization efficiently

January 2020- May 2021

Member of the FIGSO Social Committee, UT

- Planned social and wellness events for Italian and French graduate students
- Managed communication emails for the social committee
- Brainstormed creative ideas with the other members of the committee

September 2017- May 2018

Member of the Membership Committee for the Women Leadership's Initiative, Texas Tech University

- Planned engaging workshops that helped women improve their leadership skills
- Organized events to promote women empowerment and gender equality
- Collaborated efficiently with the other members and successfully resolved scheduling issues

September 2015- May 2018

Historian and Social Media Chair, International Professional Business Fraternity Delta Sigma Pi, Texas Tech University

- Managed social media accounts and maintained an active social presence
- Created engaging and innovative posts to promote the values of the fraternity
- Created a scrapbook to document the progress of the fraternity
- Took pictures at various fraternity's events

September 2016- May 2018

Winer House Captain, Honors College, Texas Tech University

- Organized events between the houses of the Honors College
- Led the members of the Winer House encouraging school spirit
- Worked as liaison between professors of the Honors college and Winer House students

September 2016-May 2017

Ambassador of the Italian Language, Italian Club, Texas Tech University

- Led a conversation class every Friday teaching students about Italian grammar and culture
- Promoted the study of the Italian language during various campus events

September 2016-May 2017

President for Global Techsan, Texas Tech University

- Assisted international students with their transition to Tech and American culture
- Organized cultural events focused to promote a relationship of mutual learning between domestic and international students

September 2016-May 2017

Ambassador, Honors College, Texas Tech University

- Participated at college recruiting events to represent the Honors College

-Met prospective students to inform them about the opportunities offered by Tech

September 2015-May 2016

Planning committee member, International Students Council, TTU

-Organized activities and events to build cultural awareness among the student body

-Represented Italy in annual Homecoming parade to promote the acceptance of diversity

September 2014- June 2015

Member, theater company “Ai Due Chiostrì”, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Italy

September 2013-June 2014

Member, One Act, Decathlon and Yearbook teams at Permian High School, Odessa, Texas

Member, theater company “Kaleidoscope”, Odessa, Texas

September 2010-June 2013

Member of the theater company “Albatros”, Savigliano, Italy Journalist for the school newspaper “Il Messaggero”, Liceo Classico “G. Arimondi”

Girl Scout member, group Saluzzo 1, Saluzzo, Italy

September 2004-June 2006

Languages

Italian- native language

English- fluent, excellent writing, speaking, and reading skills

French- beginner level

Ancient Greek and Latin- beginner level

Skills

-Certificate in inclusive pedagogy, experience in instructional design and creating an inclusive syllabus and educational material

-Experience in data analysis and survey design for qualitative research projects (Proficiency with Qualtrics and Google forms)

-Digital Marketing certificates (Hubspot Email Marketing, Hubspot Content Marketing, Google Analytics Certification)

- Experience managing social media accounts (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Tik Tok) and using digital creation tools (MailChimp, Squarespace, Weebly, Canva, Powtoon)