

Curriculum Vitae

Visar Sylaj

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EDUCATION

PhD Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an, China 2018-2021
Graduate School of Chinese Language and Literature
Major: Linguistics and Applied Linguistics (Department of Sociolinguistics)

MA University of Bologna, Italy (108/110 (A+), with Honors) Sept 2012
LM-39 Linguistics (Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures)
Major: Applied Linguistics (Department of English Language and Literature)
Minor: Chinese Studies (Department of East Asian Studies)

BA University of Bologna, Italy Mar 2010
L-11 Languages and Modern Civilizations (Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures)
Major: Applied Linguistics (Department of English Language and Literature)
Minor: Chinese Studies (Department of East Asian Studies)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My main research interests are Chinese studies, Italian studies, English studies, sociolinguistics, applied linguistics, media studies (framing theory, agenda setting), corpus linguistics, critical discourse analysis (political discourse analysis (in particular political speech patterns, political rhetoric, metaphors, election campaign discourse), economic discourse analysis (corporate social

responsibility), public health discourse analysis (particularly around obesity, mental health, climate change and sustainability through culturally-embedded frames).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Head of Communication and International Relations 03/2013 to 10/2017
University of Medicine, Tirana,
Dibra Street, no. 371, Tirana, Albania
Website: <https://www.umed.edu.al>

- International relations and cooperation
- Internal and external official communication
- Academic management
- Management of projects

Web Content Editor 03/2013 to 10/2017
Research journal “Albanian Journal of Medical and Health Sciences” (ISSN 2412-6373)
Dibra Street, no. 371, Tirana, Albania
Website: <http://ajmhs.umed.edu.al>

- Management of online archive
- Internal and external communication
- Management of publications

OTHER WORK COOPERATIONS

China – CEE Institute, 12/2019 to on-going
1052 Budapest Petőfi Sándor utca 11, Hungary
Website: <https://china-cee.eu>

- Research

WEF Global Shapers Albania, 10/2018 to on-going
Location: Rruga Brigada e VIII 6, Tirana, Albania.
Website: <https://www.globalshapers.org/hubs/tirana-hub>

- Projects

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

- Sylaj, V. (2020). Mapping China’s Belt and Road Initiative in the Albanian Media – A Corpus Content analysis study. China – CEE Institute working papers 2020 No. 21. ISSN: 2560-1628.
- Alimehmeti, G. & Sylaj, V. (2017). CSR reports similarity and self-promotion: a study with modality markers unveiling the truth of communication. Scientific bulletin of University of Vlora—Ismail Qemal - Special issue, 2017. ISSN 2310-6719.
- Alimehmeti, G. Sylaj, V. & Shala, A. (2015). CSR Communication in Albania: Strategy or Imitation. Economics and Business.

Conference Papers

(Abstract-Reviewed)

- Alimehmeti, G. & Sylaj, V. (2017). Online CSR Communication of Albanian companies: an investigation of the communication features. The 3 international conference on: research and education – challenges towards the future ICRAE 2015.

Journal Papers in Review

- Dong, H. J., & Sylaj, V. (In press). Literature Review on Multilingualism and Poverty Alleviation [多种语言与脱贫研究综述]. (in Chinese).
- Visar Sylaj. (In press). Framing Metaphors: The Representation Narratives over the Belt and Road Initiative in the European English-Language News Reports.

INVITED LECTURES

Lecture: “Introduction to China and Chinese Studies for young sinologists”, April 09, 2019
Xi'an University School of Literature 西安文理学院文学院, Xi'an, China.

Lecture: “Cross-cultural Communication 跨文化交际”, October 10, 2018
Xi'an University School of Literature 西安文理学院文学院, Xi'an, China.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

ERASMUS+ KA107 workshop for ERASMUS+ project staff
University of Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany, November 20-26, 2016

Training workshop for teachers of Italian language for foreigners
Province of Bologna, Bologna, Italy, June 6, 2012

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

2017 Visiting Program for Young Sinologists, July 9-29
Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, China.

2016 Visiting Program for Young Sinologists, September 6-25
Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an, China.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

2016 Project manager and LEAR of University of Medicine, Tirana in the European project, “Genetic and environmental factors of insulin resistance syndrome and its long-term complications in immigrant Mediterranean populations. Project reference: 279171
Funded under: FP7-HEALTH (2012-01-01 - 2016-07-31)
http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/101810_en.html

LANGUAGES

Albanian: Native Language

English: Advanced levels in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

Italian: Advanced levels in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

Chinese: Advanced levels in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Very good command of office suite software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Design) in Microsoft Office, OpenOffice, LibreOffice, etc.
- Very good command of social media analytics (SEO) (Google Analytics, etc).
- Very good skills for website management, Internet archive management, Internet safety procedures.
- Good command of online course software (Moodle Platform e similar MOOC).
- Good command of corpus linguistics analysis software (Antconc, Sketch Engine, Google Ngrams, GraphColl, Wordsmith, QDA Miner, NVIVO, PRAAT, etc).
- Good command of statistics analysis software (SPSS).
- Good command of real-time media repository software.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Rector's academic achievement letter in Master's studies award, University of Bologna, Italy	2012
Two-Year Master's Fellowship, University of Bologna, Italy	2010-2012
Two-Year Master's Fellowship Tuition Waiver University of Bologna, Italy	2010-2012

CERTIFICATIONS

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| 2017 | Certificate of English Language Proficiency GTELP (C2) 94/100 points, issued by University of San Diego, USA. |
| 2017 | Certificate of Mandarin Chinese Language Proficiency (HSK5) 207 points, issued by Confucius Institutes Headquarter (HANBAN), Beijing, China. |