Current position
Associate professor in **Special Pedagogy** (Italian Scientific Sector M-PED/03) at the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering, Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI). Holding a **qualification for a full professorship** (2022).

Research interests
Educational Technology design, Students' Response Systems, Mixed Reality in education.

Institutional Teaching Activities
1999-now: courses on communication skills at bachelor, graduate and PhD level at **POLIMI**.
2004-2011: Appointed professor in Technology-Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage at the **Università della Svizzera Italiana**, Lugano, Switzerland.
2010: visiting professor at **City University of Hong Kong**, with a course on Digital Storytelling.

Other Teaching Activities
2021: "Communication Skills for the Engineering Scholar" MOOC on POK and Coursera.
2017-now: instructor of the "Communication skills" course at the Alta Scuola Politecnica, an honors program for talented students from Politecnico di Milano and Politecnico di Torino.

Projects
15 international and 14 national research projects (as Coordinator/PI/scientific responsible/Task leader of 9). **Coordinator of a H2020 project** with 16 partners (2015-2018).
Participation in several private-funded projects in the fields of innovative education that have involved more than 200,000 students and teachers from all over the world.

Appointments
2023-now: **Deputy director** with responsibility for communication and relations with schools of the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering at POLIMI.
2017-now: Co-director of MIDIS, master on Innovation at school, in cooperation with SOM (the managerial school of Politecnico).
2017-2023: Responsible for the Innovation & Entrepreneurship courses within the EIT digital master programs at Politecnico di Milano.
2016-now. Scientific director of DOL, online master in technologies for education at Politecnico.

Invitations & Awards
Invited to the **Google summit "Future of Education"** (Madrid, Oct. 2023).
Invited to the **"Vision Summit"** (Toronto, Aug. 2013) on badges in education by **Mozilla Foundation** and **McArthur Foundation**; member of Mozilla's visionary team up to 2015.
3 times "Conference highlight": at SITE 2021, 25 highlights out of 288 papers; at SITE 2016, 25 highlights out of 556 papers; at Online Educa Berlin in 2012, 17 highlights out of 400 presentations.
6 best paper awards: 2021, Helmeto conference (best technical presentation); 2020, DIDAMATiCA conference (national); 2017, SITE (Society for Information and Teacher Education) conference, Ann Thompson award; 2010, eLearn conference, 4 awards out of 466 papers; 2008, eLearn conference, 8 awards out of 687 papers; 2006, EdMedia conference, 9 awards out of 503 papers

Technology transfer
A video-annotation tool developed within an Erasmus+ project (2020) gathered 1,354 unique visitors from 20 countries in 4 months. Currently, the second version is under development, which will be the foundation for a start-up proposal. A tool developed in collaboration with Vodafone (2022) on mixed reality has evolved into a commercial product (Vodafone LeaRning)

Publications
162 publications: 128 international and 34 national (of which, 6 monographs). H-index: 13 in Scopus and 23 in Google Scholar (Note: M-PED/03 is A non-bibliometric sector in Italy).

NICOLETTA DI BLAS

Curriculum Vitae – March 2024

EDUCATION

2001. PhD in Linguistic Sciences. Doctoral thesis on: "The deictic function of the definite article" (Catholic University, Milan, Italy).

1996. Degree in Classics: 110/110 *cum laude*. Degree thesis in general linguistics on: "Doubt and Certainty in the Greek and Latin lexicon" (Catholic University, Milan, Italy).

1989. High-school diploma: 60/60 (Liceo Scientifico A. Gramsci, Ivrea [Torino], Italy).

LANGUAGES

Modern languages
Italian (mother tongue)
English (Proficiency diploma, Cambridge University, 1998; fluent, excellent writing and speaking skills)
French (good reading, listening and speaking skills, fair writing skills)
German (Grundstufe III level, zweite hälfte, Goethe Institut; fair reading comprehension)
Arabic (basics)

Classical languages
Ancient Greek (good translation skills)
Latin (good translation skills)
Ancient Hebrew (basic translation skills)

CURRENT POSITION

2020 – present. Associate Professor (tenure track) at the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering of Politecnico di Milano. 2022: obtained **qualification for a full professorship**

TEACHING

Politecnico di Milano - Master of science - course offered by the School of Industrial and Information Engineering and embedded to several Engineering tracks

Title	Level	Credits	Years
Communication and Argumentation	Graduate	5	Since 2018

Politecnico di Milano - Master of science in Computer Science and Engineering

Title	Level	Credits	Years
Scientific Communication	Graduate – Honors Program in Scientific Research	3	Since 2018
Communication skills embedded in the Technologies for Information Systems course	Graduate	1	Since 2018
Information and ICT: principles and applications	Graduate	5	2018-2020

Politecnico di Milano - Bachelor in Chemical Engineering

Title	Level	Credits	Years
Communication Skills for the final project	Bachelor	3	2018-2020

1999- 2018   Como Campus.

Bachelor and master of science in Computer Science and Engineering

Title	Type	Credits	Years
Information and ICT: principles and applications	Graduate	10	2014-2018
Communication and society	Graduate	5	2005-2013
Information and communication quality	Graduate	5	2005-2013
Foundations of communication sciences	Bachelor	5	2005-2013
Computer science project	Bachelor	2,5	2008-2010
Sociology of Communication	Graduate	10	2002-2005
Communication project	Graduate	2,5	2002-2005
Communication Theory (as TA)	Graduate	10	1999-2001

Other Teaching Activities

2021. Launch of the MOOC "Communication Skills for the Engineering Scholar" on Polimi Open Knowledge portal and on Coursera

2017-present	Communication Lab, 1.5 CFU, Alta Scuola Politecnica (honors program by Politecnico di Milano and Politecnico di Torino, for high-performing students).
2017-present	Professional Communication, 3CFU, Politecnico doctoral school.
2016-2017	Professional Communication, 3CFU, Dept. of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering doctoral school.
2016-2023	Tutorship of three projects at Alta Scuola Politecnica. Two in cooperation with IBM (on the gap between academia and industry in terms of soft-skills and on conversational chatbots for education), one in cooperation with Vodafone.

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS – ABROAD

2004-11	UNIVERSITÀ DELLA SVIZZERA ITALIANA (*University of Italian Switzerland*) Master in Technology-Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage

Title	Type	Credits	Years
Communication for cultural heritage	Master	3	2004-2011
Multi-channel communication lab	Master	3	2007-2011

2010-11	HONG-KONG CITY UNIVERSITY Master in New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management

Title	Type	Credits	Years
Digital Storytelling for cultural heritage	Master	3	2010

PROFESSIONAL COURSES

2018-19. Trainer as part of the FUTURA MIUR project (teaching and training initiatives to spread digital and educational innovation throughout the Italian school system) with three master classes entitled "Teaching in the Cloud": Varese, September 14th, 2018; Genoa, April 5th, 2019; Rome, October 14th, 2019.

2012, April-May. Master in business innovation & ICT management. Teacher of the module: "Human Interaction Design" at MIP School of Management, Politecnico di Milano. 6 hours

2012, January. Accademia di belle arti (Academy of Fine Arts) Santa Giulia, Brescia (Italy). Teacher of the module "Multimedia design for cultural heritage". 10 hours

2011. November. Lesson on Digital Storytelling for Cultural Heritage in the frame of Master in New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management at the Hong-Kong City University (Online)

2005-07. Doctoral School of IMT Lucca, Institute for Advanced Studies (Italy). Teacher assistant of the module "Communication for Cultural Heritage". 12 hours

2003-08. Information and Communication Technology master at the CEFRIEL research institute. Teacher of the module "Communication Techniques". 6 hours (years 2003-06) and 12 hours (years 2007 and 2008).

2002-03. Master in Bioethics at the Faculty of Medicine of the Catholic University of Rome (Italy). Appointed professor in Communication Methods (1.2 credits).

2001-03. Expert on the subject in Computational Linguistics and in Philosophy of Language, Catholic University, Milan.

2001, 2-4 October. Teacher Assistant of the module "Modelling of Multimedia products" within the course "Systems of Digital Publishing for Cultural Heritage. Processes and methodologies of perception and communication" (Cortona, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy)

APPOINTMENTS

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

2023-present	Deputy director with responsibility for communication and relations with schools of the Department of Electronics, Information and Bionengineering at POLIMI
2016-present	Co-director of MIDIS[1], a blended master on Innovation at school, in 2023 – present Deputy Director with responsibility for communication and relations with schools at the Department of Electronics, Information, and Bioengineering, POLIMI
2023 – present	Member of the Computer Science Review Group for the AVA[2] Process of Monitoring Higher Education Quality
2023 – present	Member of the Computer Science Group for the "Students' Experience" investigation commission (by the School of Information and Industrial Engineering, POLIMI)
2023 – present	Member of the Group for the revision of the Computer Science research areas at the Department of Electronics, information and Bioengineering (POLIMI)

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[1] http://www.mip.polimi.it/it/offerta-formativa/istituzioni-e-pubblica-amministrazione/master/midis
[2] AVA stands for "AutoValutazione, Valutazione periodica e Accreditamento delle istituzioni e dei corsi di studio", i.e. "Self-Assessment, Periodic Evaluation, and Accreditation of Institutions and Study Programs". It is an integrated evaluation system adopted by the MIUR (Ministry of Education, University and Research) and managed by ANVUR (National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research Systems) to ensure the quality of the educational offerings of universities

2022 – present	Responsible for the design, development and management of the institutional website of the Computer Science and Engineering Course of Study official website at POLIMI
2018 – present	Scientific responsible of PoliCollege (www.policollege.polimi.it), a program by the School of Information and Industrial engineering. A set of online STEM course aimed at high-school students. More than 3,000 students involved so far.
2017 – present	Co-Director of MIDIS, master on Innovation at school, in cooperation with GSOM (the managerial school of POLIMI).
2017 – 2023	Responsible for the Innovation & Entrepreneurship courses within the EIT (European Institute of Technology) digital master programs at the Computer Science and Engineering Course of Study (POLIMI).
2016 – present	Director of DOL, an online master on how to infuse technology into the classroom (www.dol.polimi.it)
2016 – present	Scientific responsible of HOC-LAB, a laboratory devoted to innovative education
2016 – present	Scientific responsible of PoliCultura (www.policultura.it), a program, supported by the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering, on digital storytelling aimed at K-12 schools, which has gathered so far more than 47,000 participants (public engagement activity).

SCIENTIFIC AND PROGRAM COMMITTEES

I have participated in the organization of the following conferences/events
- 2020. Organizer of ELSE (Eco/logical Learning and Simulation Environments, Erasmus+ program) international study week, Milan, ~100 attendees
- 2016. Member of the Program Committee of AVI conference (Advanced Visual Interfaces)
- 2015. Demo chair of eLEOT (International Conference on e-Learning e-Education and Online Training) – September 16-18, Novedrate (Como), Italy, ~50 attendees
- 2009. Short paper chair of IDC (Interaction Design and Children) – June, 3-5, 2009, Como, Italy, ~150 attendees
- 2001. Demo chair of ICHIM (International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting)– Sept., 3-7, 2001 Milano, Italy. ~150 attendees

I am/have been been part of the scientific committees of the following conferences:
- AVI (international Working Conference on Advanced Visual Interfaces) 2014
- BH (Built Heritage) conference 2013
- CSCL (Computer Supported Collaborative Learning) conference from 2011 up to now
- eLEOT (e-Learning e-Education and Online Training) 2014, 2015
- ENTER (eTourism conference) 2012, 2013, 2014

- IADIS (Interfaces and Human Computer Interaction) conference 2009 and 2010
- ICLS (International Conference for the Learning Sciences) conference 2006, 2007, 2008
- IDC (Interaction Design and Children) 2013, 2014, 2015
- INTERACT (IFIP Conference on Human-Computer Interaction) 2013
- MCCSIS – IADIS multi-conference on computer science and information systems, 2010
- VSMM – Conference on Virtual Systems and Multimedia, 2008

I am/have been a reviewer for the following journals:
- ACM Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage (jocch.acm.org/)
- Computer Assisted Language Learning (https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/ncal20)
- Computers & Education (https://www.journals.elsevier.com/computers-and-education/)
- EAI Transactions on e-Learning. http://eai.eu/transaction/e-learning (from 2014)
- IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine System
- IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies
- Journal of Museum Management and Curatorship (MMC; www.tandf.co.uk/journals/rmmc)
- REM, Research on Education and Media (www.sirem.org/rem/)

I am a member of the editorial board of the following journals:
- IJEL International Journal on eLearning of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). ISSN 1537-2456
- JTATE Journal of technology and Teacher Education of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). JTATE ranks as the first journal in "Teacher Education and Technology" (H-Index). ISSN 1059-7069.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

2020-2022. Member of the scientific committee of "Collegio Einaudi" in Turin (Italy). a university residence "of merit" with competitive admission and additional training for higher education students.

2014-on. Member of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (USA). SITE is an academic association that brings together teacher educators, researchers, practitioners, and collaborating organizations across various disciplines. It was founded in 1990 and is a society of AACE (Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education), an international educational and professional organization dedicated to advancing knowledge, theory, and quality of learning and teaching at all levels using information technology.

2012-on. Member of SIREM (Società Italiana di Ricerca sull'Educazione Mediale), an Italian association devoted to research on Media Education.

2016-18. Co-chair of the SIG (Special Interest Group) on "Digital Storytelling/Video" of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education.

2016. Member of the "Cantiere Scuola Digitale" of Forum PA (www.forumpa.it/scuola-digitale). Forum PA is an Italian company that has been organizing for more than 25 years a national convention in Rome on the digital innovation of public administration. The "cantiere scuola digitale" is a workshop gathering experts in charge of facilitating innovation in the Italian school system.

VISITING EXPERIENCES

2023, October. I have been invited to the **Google summit "Future of Education"** in Madrid.

2013, August. Invited at the "Vision Summit" in Toronto about badges in education by Mozilla **Foundation** and **McArthur Foundation**. I then served as member of the "Badges visionary team", one of the only two members from Europe, from 2013 to 2015.

2010-2011. Visiting scholar at the **Hong Kong City University**, in the frame of the Intelligent Heritage series of the "New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management" master course.

AWARDS

2021. Best paper award
Calchi, V., Di Blas, N., Torrebruno, A. (2021). Flipped Classroom and Educational Videos: Instant Students' Feedback. In M. Cimitile and R. Pecori (Eds.), *Book of Abstracts of HELMeTO*, 3rd International Workshop on Higher Education Learning Methodologies and Technologies Online, September 9-10, 2021, Pisa, Italy. ISBN 978-88-99978-36-5

2021. Research highlight
Di Blas, N. (2021). Instructor Social Presence in Remote Teaching: "Yes, we Can!". In E. Langran & L. Archambault (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 1196-1203). Online, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). 25 highlights out of 288 papers.

2020. Best paper award
Di Blas, N., Di Santo, B., & Torrebruno, A. (2020). Voci dalla scuola al tempo del Coronavirus: dal MOOC all'eBook. In G. Adorni, A. De Lorenzo, L. Manzoni, E. Medvet (Eds.), *Atti Convegno Nazionale DIDAMATiCA 2020* (pp. 199-208). Trieste, Italia: AICA. ISBN: 978-8-89-809161-4
5 best paper awards out of 43 accepted papers.

2017. Ann Thompson best paper award
Distributed and Dynamic TPACK as an Educational Approach. In P. Resta & S. Smith (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference 2017* (pp. 2311-2318). Chesapeake, VA: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). ISBN: 978-1-939797-27-8

2016. Research highlight
Di Blas, N., Paolini, P. (2016). Distributed and Dynamic TPACK: Evidences from a Real-Life Case Study. In L. Liu, D. Gibson (Eds.), *Research Highlights in Technology and Teacher Education 2016* (pp. 29-36). Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education. ISBN 978-1-9397-9726-1

25 highlights out of 556 papers.

2012. Conference highlight
Di Blas, N. (2012) Interactive Digital Storytelling in Formal Education: PoliCultura and 20,000 Students Telling Multimedia Stories. *Online Educa Berlin 2012*, Berlin, 20-30 November 2012. 17 highlights out of more than 400 presentations.

2010. Outstanding paper award
Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Torrebruno, A. (2010). Digital Storytelling at School. Does the TPCK Model Explain What's Going On?. In J. Sanchez & K. Zhang (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education 2010* (pp. 2239-2248). Chesapeake, VA: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). ISBN 978-1-880094-83-9.
4 awards out of 466 papers

2008. Outstanding paper award
Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Poggi, C. (2008). 3D Worlds to Learn and Play: 6 Years of Projects with an Engaging, Pedagogically Effective, and Versatile Educational Format. In G. Richards (Ed.), *Proceedings of World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education 2008* (738-745), Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
8 awards out of 687 papers

2008. Invited talk
Invited talk on "Instant Multimedia: a New Approach for Cultural Heritage Communication", in the Summer Course "Las Instituciones de la Memoria en la Red: Nuevas Dimensiones del Museo" by the Fundación Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Museum Thyssen-Bornmisza of Madrid.

2006. Outstanding paper award
Di Blas, N., Poggi, C., Torrebruno, A. (2006). Collaboration and Playful Competition in a 3D Educational Virtual World: The Learning@Europe Experience. In E. Pearson & P. Bohman (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications 2006* (1191-1198). Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
9 awards out of 503 papers

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

In the context of the Erasmus+ project ELSE, I developed an initial version of a **video-annotation tool** called EVOLI, which was made publicly available as an open educational resource **between March and June 2020.** In just 4 months, it attracted **1354 unique visitors from 20 countries around the world**, including several European countries, the US, Canada, Indonesia, and China. The tool is currently being further developed within the framework of a PhD thesis, focusing on video-based learning and learning engagement. It is being used in a prototype form in two large courses at POLIMI.

In the context of a research collaboration with Vodafone ("Augmented Classroom" – 2022/23, see the table above), focused on the use of mixed reality in educational settings with an innovative approach, **I contributed to the creation of the product "Vodafone LeaRning"** an immersive learning platform that uses mixed reality for schools.

Current research

My field of research is educational technology, in which I explore **how technology influences teaching and learning**. I use Educational Design Research (an approach that entails iterative cycles of design, implementation, analysis, and refinement of educational strategies to tackle real-world issues while generating new theoretical knowledge) to both address real-world challenges and build theoretical insights. My studies leverage the HOC-LAB laboratory's (www.hoclab.polimi.it) projects and activities, where I've progressed from a founding member in 2002 to its scientific coordinator in 2016.

My current research focuses on enhancing **student-to-teacher feedback** in digital learning environments. This focus addresses the potential muting of student voices in remote or virtual classrooms. I explore how various factors like age, gender, and subject area shape the feedback students give, including expressions of comprehension and requests for further explanation. To support this, I'm developing "Evoli," a tool designed for asynchronous settings (like flipped classrooms), synchronous remote or hybrid formats. Currently, my efforts are focused on **enhancing the tool with AI**.

My secondary research area delves into **Mixed Reality for education**. In collaboration with industry partners, I'm investigating innovative strategies centered on the representation of "concepts" instead of "objects" to design activities that foster competence development.

Another key interest of mine is **collaborative digital storytelling**, a topic I've extensively researched for its educational and creative impact. This research is grounded in data from a large-scale initiative targeting K-12 schools known as "PoliCultura," a program I've been actively involved in since the 2006-07 academic year and currently lead. Specifically, I've explored how this activity fosters schools' interest in **cultural heritage**.

Past research

I have also dealt with the competencies required by teachers to manage technology-based educational experiences, contributing to the **conceptualization of a dynamic and distributed interpretation of the TPACK model** (Technology, Pedagogy, and Content Model), in cooperation with **Punya Mishra** (Arizona State University), one of the most influential scholars in the field of educational technology.

Earlier research, spanning from 2003 to 2013, concentrated on design principles and the impacts of learning experiences in **multi-user collaborative virtual environments**. During this period, I partnered with Thomas Reeves from the University of Georgia to assess the educational utility of Multi-User Virtual Environments and explore the Educational Design Research methodology.

Eventually, in the very early years of my academic career, I was interested in various aspects of computer-mediated communication, including **usability**, accessibility for visually-impaired users, and linguistic interpretation in terms of a 'dialogue' of human-computer interactions.

I have taken part in **15 international** (6 times as Principal Investigator/Scientific Responsible/Task Leader; 2 times as Coordinator) and **14 national research projects** (2 times as Coordinator). I have coordinated the H2020 project City4Age (2015-2018, 16 partners – 4,5M euros funding).

I am the scientific coordinator of **PoliCultura**, a digital storytelling competition that has engaged around 47,000 students from all grade levels (www.policultura.it). Additionally, I lead **PoliCollege** (www.policollege.polimi.it), offering online STEM courses to high school students.

I cooperated (as experience designer, content editor and evaluator) to **4 educational programs** based on **Multi-Users Virtual Environments** that involved more than 9,000 students from 18 European countries, Israel and USA, as well as to a number of other ICT-based educational programs by HOC-LAB (see comprehensive list below).

Furthermore, I worked at 13 digital storytelling applications as designer, executive producer, content editor for various cultural institutions in Italy and Switzerland.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

MUSA (Multilayered Urban Sustainability Action). National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Mission 4, Component 2 Investment 1.4, funded from the European Union - NextGenerationEU. Responsibility of the subtask 2.4.7 within spoke 6, consisting in the creation and deployment of online courses to teachers on the job on innovative education and STEM subjects. ECS00000037. 107,000.500 euros funding. 01/09/2022-31/08/2025. Role: Task Leader

EIT URBAN MOBILITY – POLI Rennes. Organization of a summer school. 87,000 euros funding. 01/01/2021-31/12/2021 Role: Project Coordinator.

EIT URBAN MOBILITY. Creation of two MOOCs on Communication and Entrepreneurship Skills. ~50,000 euros funding. 01/01/2020-31/12/2020. Role: Task Leader

EIT DIGITAL (European Institute for Innovation and Technology). As responsible of the I&E (Innovation and Entrepreneurship) sector for the double degree programs of EIT digital (European Institute for Innovation and Technology) at the Politecnico di Milano, I have carried out several projects participating in annual competitive calls as scientific responsible for the improvement of the I&E courses, promoting various forms of innovative teaching methods, both face-to-face and online, in remote collaboration with the students of the European universities participating in the EIT network. Overall funding: over 150k euros; 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2022. Role: Task Leader

ELSE (Eco/logical Learning and Simulation Environments in Higher Education). Erasmus+ program (2018-1-IT02-KA203-048006); Call: 2018 KA2 - Cooperation for Innovation and the Exchange of Good Practices KA203 - Strategic Partnerships for higher education. The project investigated innovative tech-based educational approaches in higher education; in particular, virtual simulation environments and 'video-annotation' systems to facilitate the flipped classroom. 35,276 euros funding. 09/03/2018-03/02/2021. Role: principal investigator.

City4Age. Horizon 2020; Call: H2020-PHC-2015-single-stage; Topic: PHC-21-2015; Type of action: RIA; Grant Agreement #689731. The project investigated how technologies can help identify cognitive impairment in the elderly population and how, through multi-channel educational communication, it is possible to train healthy habits and lifestyles that help prevent and delay the decline itself. The project brought together 16 partners from all over Europe and was deployed in 6 pilot cities: Athens, Birmingham, Lecce, Madrid, Montpellier, Singapore. Overall amount granted: 4.5 M euro (450k euros to POLIMI). 12/01/2015-31/05/2018. Role: Project Coordinator

EIT (European Institute for technology), TASK 17221-A1703: Development of the Blended Master in Data Science. Development of a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) to be deployed in Coursera, on the POLIMI course on Recommender Systems by prof. Cremonesi. The course is part of the Blended Master in Data Science. 100k euros funding; 01/01/2017-12/31/2017.

DIS-CODE (Disconnected, discouraged, disenabled? Let's code!). Erasmus+ program with Fondazione Politecnico di Milano, call 2016, on introducing computational thinking at school. KA 201 Strategic Partnership for school education, agreement no. 2016-1-IT02-KA201-024525. The project focused on bringing some technology-based activities into the school, including teaching coding and digital storytelling, to increase the motivation of struggling students. Amount granted: 22k euros. 01/11/2016 – 31/12/2018 (26 months).

EBA. European Badge Alliance. Erasmus+ program (2015-1-IT03- KA205-005757). The EBA project investigated the use of digital badges to recognize the skills and abilities acquired by young people in international mobility programs. Amount granted: 27k euros. 09/01/2015-09/01/2017 (24 months). Role: Principal Investigator.

TALES. European Union Comenius program (project number: 539033-LLP-1-2013-1-BE-COMENIUS-CMP). 50k euros funding. 11/01/2013 – 11/01/2015 (24 months). Role: Principal Investigator.

COMFIT (Comunicazione Multimediale Integrata per la Filiera del Turismo – Integrated Multimedia Communication for Tourism). Interreg project. ID 13737544. Amount granted: 364,920 euros. Duration 01/11/2010 - 31/03/2013 (29 months).

MAPS (Marketing Activities for the Promotion of Syrian Cultural Heritage). European Union Cultural Tourism Development Program. Amount granted: 90,000 euro. 01/02/2006 – 30/07/2006 (6 months).

VNET5 – Advanced User-Centred Product Creation. European Union IST Programme – EU contract N. IST-2000-25465. Amount granted: 149,403 euros. 09/01/00-08/31/02 (24 months). http://www.vnet5.org/.

WED (WEb as Dialogue). Swiss National Research Fund – FNSRS 105211-102061/1. Amount granted: 150,000 CHF. 09/01/2003-09/01/2005 (24 months).

HELP: Seeing a work of art by visually impaired people. Swiss National Fund (contract FNRS 105211-102061/1) and by Culture2000 (project HELP European Commission, Culture 2000. www.munchundberlin.org.

THROUGH THE CITY. Co-design of immersive serious games for urban and periurban landscape education and interpretation in formal and informal contexts. PRIN (progetti di Ricerca di Interesse Nazionale - Research Projects of National Significance) 2023. Funding for the Politecnico unit: 70k euros circa. 20/10/2023-20/10/2025.

ENI – Communication and education about nuclear fusion. Participation as researcher in the working group led by prof. Matteo Passoni (department of energy, Politecnico di Milano) as part of the work order between ENI and Politecnico entitled "Support to the identification of advanced models for plasma-wall interactions and didactic communication strategies for magnetic fusion." I was involved in Work Package 2, in which methods of communication and training on nuclear energy topics aimed at various recipients, ranging from ENI employees to high schools, were investigated. 05/01/2021-10/31/2021

Digital divide and COVID-19: which effects on students' achievement? Investigation on the effects of digital divide on students' results, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project investigated the impact of the pandemic on the performance of primary and lower secondary school students. FISR, 2020, D45F21001890005. 2.5k euros funding. 01/06/2021-30/11/2021

ACTION FOR 5G–EDU. How to use Augmented Reality in formal education and professional training not by representing virtual objects but by representing virtual concepts. In cooperation with VODAFONE and FifthIngenium. 15k euros funding. 2021-2022

POLISOCIAL–TWIN project. On territorial regeneration, slow tourism, recovery of disused buildings or areas and social inclusion. Project funded by Politecnico di Milano, under the Polisocial program. Amount granted: overall, 80k euros (split among the partners). 03/02/2020-12/10/2021 (21 months and 8 days).

BASE5G. "Broadband InterfAces and services for Smart Environments enabled by 5G technologies" – ID 1155850 di REGIONE LOMBARDIA on the use of virtual and augmented reality to enhance education. In cooperation with Vodafone, AKKA, LIFE, ANOTHEREALITY, YAPE. Amount granted: 35.829,83 euros. 13/01/2020-12/07/2022 (30 months).

5G Trial casi d'uso su Turista 4.0 e Lezioni 4.0. Financed by Vodafone plus a number of other Italian telco companies. Amount granted: 30k euros. 24/09/2018-31/03/2021.

POLISOCIAL – SCAR project. On the role of schools to enhance understanding and communication of peripheral urban areas. Project funded by Politecnico di Milano, under the Polisocial program. Amount granted: overall, 80k euros (split among the partners). 01/04/2018-01/04/2020 (24 months). <u>Role: Project Coordinator</u>.

SALA DELLE ASSE DI LEONARDO. Applied research collaboration to communicate the restoration activities of the "Sala delle Asse" at the Sforza Castle of Milan (Accordo di collaborazione per la realizzazione di una ricerca applicata avente come obiettivo la comunicazione delle attività di restauro delle decorazioni pittoriche della Sala delle Asse del castello sforzesco, tra Comune di Milano e Politecnico di Milano). Overall amount granted:

172,000 euros. 30/10/2013-30/11/2015 (25 months); 22/01/2018-31/12/ (12 months). Role: Project Coordinator (of the second contract).

EDOC@WORK3.0 (Education and Work on Cloud). Progetto PON04a2_B, PON Ricerca e Competitività 2007 – 2013. D.D. Prot. n.84/Ric. del 2 marzo 2012. Amount granted: 405k euros. 11/30/2013 - 11/30/2015 (24 months).

Voci, Parole e Testi della Campania (Voices, Words and Texts from the Campania Region); POR CAMPANIA FESR 2007-2013. Valorization through (1) multimedia digital stories, (2) interactive applications and (3) an archiving SW for three archives of the Campania region. Amount granted: 70,000 euros. 12/09/2012-12/09/2015 (36 months).

L4All (Learning for All: is everyone learning?). Firb, RBNE07RCPX. Investigation on how technology for education can enhance inclusion. Amount granted: 280,273. 06/10/2009 - 12/10/2012 (42 months).

Comunicare la qualità dei prodotti biologici: dal web all'iPhone (Communicating the quality of organic products, from the web to iPhone). Agreement between "Consiglio per la Ricerca e la sperimentazione in Agricoltura – Centro di ricerca per la Produzione delle Carni ed il Miglioramento genetico (CRA-PCM)" and the Dept. of Electronics and Information of Politenico di Milano, protocol n. 200801544. Amount granted: 34,000 euros. 06/19/2008-06/19/2009 (12 months).

DICE (Distributed Infrastructure for Cultural Heritage). Programma Operativo Nazionale, progetto n° 13023. 11/2002-11/2005 (36 months).

OTHER PROJECTS

Formal education

2023-24. Sus4Teachers. Online courses about sustainability and innovative education, aimed at teachers on the job. Financed by Fondazione Bolton. 15k euros funding. Role: coordinator

2019-present. PoliCollege (www.policollege.polimi.it): a national program for high-school students with online courses on STEM subjects. Role: scientific responsible

2006-present. PoliCultura (www.policultura.it): a national **competition on digital storytelling** at school. More than 40,000 students of all school grades (from pre-school to high school) have taken part so far. Self-financed through support by Politecnico and sponsorships. Role: scientific responsible (since 2016).

2003-2012. Designer, editor, instructor and evaluator in the **PoliScuola program**, a set of coordinated actions to promote the use of technologies at school. PoliScuola was supported by a private foundation (Fondazione Cariplo), the Italian Ministry of Education and the final users. More specifically:

> 2007-2008. PoliLabKids: interactive animations about physics, math, science…for primary school children. Financing: 100,000 euros.

2007, 2013. PoliCollege: a set of online modules for "excellent" high-school students.

2005-2011. Hi-Tec: on-line and in-presence (at Politecnico di Milano) courses for high-school students. Financing: 50k euros approx.

2002-09. Designer, editor and evaluator of **educational experiences** based on **Multi-Users Virtual Environments (3D)** for junior and high-school students.

2002-04. SEE (Shrine Educational Experience): in cooperation with the Israel Museum and the Dorot Foundation, on the "Dead Sea Scrolls" and related religious, historical, sociological issues. Over 1,400 middle and high school students from Italy, Israel and Belgium were involved. Amount granted: 50k euros approx.

2005-06. Stori@Lombardia: with the support of the Regional Government of Lombardy (Italy), on the medieval history of the Lombardy region. More than 1,100 middle and high school students were involved. Amount granted: 50k euros approx.

2004-08. Learning@Europe: with the support of Accenture Foundation, as part of the Accenture Corporate Citizenship investment program, executed in cooperation with Fondazione Italiana Accenture. On European history. More than 6,000 high school students from 18 European countries and the USA (West Point cadets) involved. Amount granted: 876.400 euro.

2007-09. Learning@SocialSport: in cooperation with SBS Master Verde Sport (by the Italian fashion brand Benetton), Fondazione Italiana Accenture and the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) on ethical, social and psychological issues related to sport. More than 350 young athletes from Italian sport associations involved. Amount granted: 35k euro.

Cultural Heritage

2017-18. Il museo si racconta **(Museum's tales)**. Educational experience with an Italian high-school (Liceo Scientifico op. Scienze Applicate "A. Berenini" High School) in Fidenza, in collaboration with the local museum (Museum of the Diocese of Fidenza). Website and 3 multimedia narratives were created. http://www.museocattedraledifidenza.it

2012. Regine d'Italia (**Queens of Italy**). 4 multimedia narratives about relevant historical characters. In cooperation with Inner Wheel Club of Monza (Italy). Amount granted: 25,000 euros. 01/10/2008-01/10/2012 (48 months). www.regineditalia.it.

2007-10. **Roman Milan**. In cooperation with the Civic Archeological Museum of Milan (Italy), with the support of the Lombardy Region: three educational narratives aimed at schools. Amount granted: 20,000 euros approx.

2007-11. **Art exhibitions and culture in Lugano**. In cooperation with TEC-LAB (faculty of communication sciences, Università della Svizzera Italiana), multimedia and multi-channel narratives to support school trips to museums and cultural institutions. Source of funding: the LAC (Lugano Art and Culture); amount granted (approximately): 5,000 CHF per project.

2010. Nippon, 4 exhibitions about Japanese culture. In cooperation with the Polo Culturale of Lugano.

2009. Look at me: faces and gazes in art. In cooperation with Museo Cantonale d'Arte and Museo d'Arte of Lugano (CH).

2008. Enigma Helvetia Tales. In cooperation with Museo Cantonale d'Arte and Museo d'Arte of Lugano (CH).

2007. Hermann Hesse: Seekers of Truth. In cooperation with Hermann Hesse Museum of Montagnola, Lugano (CH).

PUBLICATIONS

CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL BOOKS

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2. Di Blas, N. (2022). ScAR's Activities Under the Lens of Pedagogy: Overview of the Pedagogical Approaches Underlying the Project. In C. Casonato e B. Bonfantini (Eds.), *Cultural Heritage Education in the Everyday Landscape* (pp. 159-173). Springer. ISBN 978-3-031-10394-0 and 978-3-031-10395-7 (ebook)

3. Casonato, C., Di Blas, N., (2022). With new eyes: teaching students to discover their local landscape and communicate it with technologies. In S. De Ascaniis & L. Cantoni (Eds.), *Heritage, sustainable tourism and digital media* (pp. 129-141). Edward Elgar Publishing. ISBN 9781788970075

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150. Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Poggi, C. (2004). E-Learning e accessibilità per il patrimonio culturale, E- Learning and Accessibility for Cultural Heritage. *Rivista Politecnico, "Beni Culturali e Politecnico di Milano"*, 8, 144-149.

151. Di Blas, N. (2002). L'indicazione nel testo: anafora e deissi testuale. *Analisi Linguistica e Letteraria*, 10, 27-53.

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153.	Di Blas, N. (2017). Digital Badges in Formal Education: Are Teachers Ready?. In M. Rui (Ed.), *Design the future! Proceedings of the conference EMEMITALIA2016*. Modena, 7-9 Sept. 2016. Genova University Press ISBN: 978-88-97752-89-9

154.	Di Blas, N. (2015). ICT in education: teachers' competences in a distributed TPACK perspective. In M. Rui, L. Messina, T. Minerva (Eds.), *Teach Different! Proceedings della Multiconferenza EMEMITALIA2015*. Genova, 9-12 Sept. 2015. Genova University Press. ISBN: 978-88-97752-60-8; pp. 99-103

155.	Di Blas, N., Torrebruno, A. (2014). MOOCs for Teachers: eBooks, Digital Storytelling and EXPO2015. In F. Falcinelli, T. Minerva, P. Rivoltella (a cura di), *Apertura e flessibilità nell'istruzione superiore: oltre l'e-learning? Atti del convegno Sirem-Siel, Perugia, 13-14-15 Novembre 2014*. ISBN 9788898819003; pp. 94-97

156.	Paolini, P., Di Blas, N. (2009). Il ruolo della comunicazione supportata da tecnologie per i beni culturali. In S. Alaura, A. L. D'Agata (a cura di), *Quale futuro per l'archeologia?*, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Gangemi Editore, pp. 201-215. ISBN 978-88-492-1805-3

157.	Di Blas, Boretti, B., Di Santo, B., N., Paolini, P. (2009). The Theater of Posillipo: a communication paradigm for cultural heritage. In Atti del Congresso: *Un nuovo "made in Italy" per lo sviluppo del Paese, ICT per la valorizzazione dei beni e delle attività culturali*, Congresso nazionale AICA, Roma, 4-6 Novembre 2009, Sapienza Università di Roma

158.	De Caro, S., Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Spagnolo, L. (2009). Search-enhanced web information architecture for findability and discovery of archeological heritage: the MiBAC-DGA case study. In Atti del Congresso: *Un nuovo "made in Italy" per lo sviluppo del Paese, ICT per la valorizzazione dei beni e delle attività culturali*, Congresso nazionale AICA, Roma, 4-6 Novembre 2009, Sapienza Università di Roma

159.	Di Blas, N., Marini, L., Boretti, B. (2009). Comunicare Cultura con le Nuove Tecnologie: 1001storia per Policultura. In A. Andronico, L. Colazzo (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2009*. ISBN 978-88-8443-277-3

160.	Paolini, P., Di Blas, N., Franzosi, P. (2008). POLICOLLEGE corsi on line per studenti "eccellenti" di scuole secondarie di secondo grado. In A. Andronico, T. Roselli, V. Rossano (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2008*, Laterza, Bari, 2008; 188-197. ISBN 978-88-902981-2-7

161.	Di Blas., N., Fontana, C., Paolini, P., Parravicini, C., Poggi, C. (2008). Polilab-Kids: una tecnologia semplice e divertente per supportare la didattica e

l'apprendimento. In A. Andronico, T. Roselli, V. Rossano (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2008*, Laterza, Bari, 2008; 178-187. ISBN 978-88-902981-2-7

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162.   Di Blas, N. (2002). Francesca Piazza, Il corpo della persuasione. L'entimema nella retorica greca, Novecento, Palermo 2000, "Rivista di filosofia neo-scolastica", 2

THESIS

Di Blas, N. (2001). *L'articolo definito in funzione deittica (The deictic function of the definite article).* Doctoral dissertation. Catholic University of Milan, Italy, School of Foreign Languages and Literature.

Di Blas, N. (1996). *Dubbio e certezza nel lessico greco e latino (Doubt and Certainty in the Greek and Latin lexicons).* Master thesis. Catholic University, Milan (Italy), School of Literature and Philosophy

SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS & DEMOS

2016, February 19. Opening seminar on "Communication skills: presentation and defense" at Alta Scuola Politecnica, Politecnico di Milano. 3 hours.

2012, June 5-6. Digital Storytelling a Scuola: PoliCultura, un progetto su larga scala. *Congresso nazionale SIREM, Società Italiana di Ricerca sull'Educazione Mediale, contenuti, significati e valori nella cultura transmediale*, Milano, 5-6 giugno 2012, Università Bicocca

2012, April 12. Demo "All devices, all formats, all contexts", Museums & the Web conference, San Diego, California, USA.

2012, April 14. Demo "PoliCultura Portal: 15,000 Students Tell their Stories about Cultural Heritage", Museums & the Web conference, San Diego, California, USA.

2008, July. Invited Seminar on "Instant Multimedia: a New Approach for Cultural Heritage Communication", in the Summer Course "Las Instituciones de la Memoria en la Red: Nuevas Dimensiones del Museo" by the Fundación Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Museum Thyssen-Bornmisza of Madrid.

2006, March 22. Workshop "Semiotics and Museum Websites: Do users understand your interfaces?", Museums & the Web conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

2005, April 13. Workshop "Evaluation of educational benefits in advanced 3D learning environments", Museums & the Web conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA.

2005, April 13. Workshop "Introducing advanced learning paradigms for 3D environments", Museums & the Web conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA.

2003, March 20-22. Workshop "From Requirements to Usability for Museum Web Sites", Museums & the Web conference, Charlotte, South Carolina, USA.

2002, April 17-20. Workshop "Systematic Requirements Analysis", Museums & the Web conference, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

2002, April 21-22. Position paper (MiLE: a Method for Evaluating the Quality of Hypermedia Applications) for the workshop "Automatically Evaluating the Usability of Web Sites", CHI (Computer-Human Interaction) 2002, Minneapolis, USA.

2002, June 4. Workshop "MiLe: a methodology for Usability Evaluation of Web Sites", European project VNET5 – Advancing User-Centred Product Creation in Interactive Electronic Publishing, Lugano, Switzerland.

2001, October 10-12. Workshop "Systematic Usability Evaluation"; European project VNET5 – Advancing User-Centred Product Creation in Interactive Electronic Publishing, Milan, Italy.

2001, 26 September. Discussant at a Round Table about "Human Computer interaction: towards a profession", VII national Congress "Ergonomics in the Information Society", Florence (Italy).

2001, September 4. Tutorial "Systematic Usability Evaluation" at the ICHIM01 conference (International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting), Politecnico di Milano, Italy.

PRESENTATIONS AT EDITORIALLY REVIEWED CONFERENCES

Di Blas, N. (2012). Interactive Digital Storytelling in Formal Education: PoliCultura and 20,000 Students Telling Multimedia Stories. Online Educa Berlin 2012, Berlin, 20-30 November 2012. Conference's highlights, with 17 highlights out of more than 400 presentations.

Di Blas, N., Negrini, M., Paolini, P. (2011). The Man Ray Game: Involving Young Audiences Through Social Spaces. *10th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Geneva, Switzerland, September 7-10, 2011

Di Blas, N., Ferrari, L. (2010). Kids Create Multimedia Stories: an "Authentic" Educational Value?. *IDC 2010 workshop on Interactive Storytelling for Children*, ACM, New York, NY.

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P. (2010). Multimedia for Cultural Heritage Communication: Adapting Content to Context. *Esa Culture Bocconi 2010 conference*, Milano, October 7-9, 2010

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P. (2009). Developing a Common European Identity using Technology-Based Education: Learning@Europe. *9th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Lisbon, Portugal, September 2-5, 2009

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Rubegni, E. (2009). ICT for Cultural Heritage Communication: Investigating the Impact. *9th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Lisbon, Portugal, September 2-5, 2009

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