

Cinzia Cecchetto, PhD

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Current position

Assistant Professor (Fixed Term Researcher type a) – 06/2024 at present
Department of General Psychology, University of Padua, Italy

Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher - 11/2019 to 05/2024
Department of General Psychology, University of Padua, Italy

Postdoctoral Researcher - 05/2017 to 07/2019
Section Neuropsychology/Neuroimaging, Department of Psychology,
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Graz, Austria

International Visiting student – 06/2014 to 12/2014
Monell Chemical Senses Center (Philadelphia, PA)
Working with Valentina Parma and Prof. Johan Lundström in the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory

Junior research manager – 02/2012 to 09/2012
Department of Neurology, Ospedale Santa Maria della Misericordia, Udine (Italy)

International Visiting student – 03/2011 to 05/2011
Erasmus Placement Fellowship
Neuroscience Center, University of Helsinki (Finland)
Working with Prof. J. Matias Palva

Education

PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience (magna cum lauda) – 11/2012 to 01/2017
International School of Advanced Studies (SISSA, Trieste, Italy)
Thesis “Contribution of perceptual and emotional skills to moral decision-making”, advisor Prof. Raffaella Ida Rumiati, Neuroscience and Society Lab

MA, Neuroscience (110/110) – 10/2009 to 10/2011
University of Trieste, Italy

BA, Biological Science – 10/2006 to 10/2009
University of Trieste, Italy

Teaching

Academic years 2020-2024: Lecturer of “**Olfactory perception in the healthy and diseased brain**”
Bachelor program in Psychology at the University of Klagenfurt (Austria) – 30 hours.

Academic years 2022-2023: Lecturer of “**SENSO-PERCEZIONI E PSICOPATOLOGIA**” Master program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Padova – 21 hours.

Academic years 2019-2023: Supporting Lecturer (“Didattica Integrativa”) “Laboratories and practical exercises” “**Psicopatologia sperimentale e clinica – Experimental and clinical psychopathology**” held by Prof. Claudio Gentili at the University of Padova

Academic year 2022-2023: Lecturer of “**PSICOBIOLOGIA E PSICOFISIOLOGIA FISIOLOGICA – 9 cfu**”. Bachelor program in Psychology at the University of Roma Tor Vergata (Italy) – 72 hours (9 CFU).

Academic years 2017-2019: Lecturer of “**Special chapters in neuropsychology: olfactory cognition**” Bachelor program in Psychology at the University of Graz (Austria) – 30 hours.

Students' supervision

Academic years 2019-2023: **Co-advisor** of 16 master students (Andrea Castellani, Giorgia Pirrone, Ilaria Bresolin, Ludovica Natali, Nicole Andreini, Magda Bettio, Irene Mackowski, Denisi Cortese, Laura Ceccarelli, Sofia Pezzetti, Giada Marciano, Debora Venturelli, Jan Koivisto, Martina Bariselli, Massimo Poletti, Emine Gulden Ozcan) at the University of Padova.

Academic years 2017-2019: **Co-advisor** of 2 master students (Christoph Gufler, Sarah Gorkiewicz) at the University of Graz (Austria).

Academic year 2015-2016: **Co-advisor** of 1 bachelor student (Elisa Maria Lancini) at SISSA, Trieste, Italy.

Academic prizes/recognitions

02/2019 - "Polak Postdoctoral Travel Award" to participate to the XLI AChemS Annual Meeting

05/2018 - "International Communication" travel grant of the Austrian Research Association "Österreichische Forschungsgemeinschaft"

04/2016 - AChemS Student Travel Award to participate to the XXXVIII AChemS Annual Meeting

11/2012 - Ph.D. Scholarship, SISSA, Trieste, Italy (4 years)

02/2012 - Predoctoral Fellowship, Department of Neurology, Ospedale Santa Maria della Misericordia, Udine, Italy (8 months)

Research support

July, 2021 - *Postdoctoral fellowship from MIUR (Dipartimenti di Eccellenza DM 11/05/2017 n. 262)* – "Alexithymia and Social chemosignals: using social odors to facilitate emotional processing in alexithymic individuals" (€44K, 2 years)

October, 2019 - *Postdoctoral fellowship from MIUR (Dipartimenti di Eccellenza DM 11/05/2017 n. 262)* – "The role of the female hormonal status on processing of social olfactory stimuli" (€44K, 2 years)

December 2017 - Grant from the Naturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät (University of Graz), Role: Senior Investigator; Principal Investigator: Sarah Gorkiewicz "The role of social odor context cues in cognitive processing" (2700 euro)

Scientific services

Reviewer activities

Journal reviewer: Chemical Senses, PLOS one, Perception, i-Perception, Frontiers Psychology, Frontiers Psychiatry, Science Advances, Autism Research, Emotion, Cogent Psychology, Cerebral Cortex, Brain Science, International Journal of Psychology, Journal of Clinical Psychology

Guest Associate Editor for Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience for the Research Topic "*The Functional Connectome of Chemosensory Perception*"

Grant Reviewer: Czech Science Foundation, Czech Republic; Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation), Germany

Conference contributions

03/09/2022 – **Organizer and chair** of the Symposium "Perturbing Chemosensation" ECRO 2022 Annual Meeting, Sep 1st -3rd 2022, Berlin, Germany

20/07/2022 – **Co-Organizer and chair** of the Symposium "Social connection & the nose: How human chemosignals contribute to wellbeing" ESCAN 2022 Annual Meeting, July 19th -22nd 2022, Vienna, Austria

16/09/2021 – **Co-Organizer and chair** of the Symposium “*Can Chemosensory Perception be Represented in a Single Connectome?*” ECRO XXXI Annual Meeting, September 13-16, 2021, Cascais (Lisbon), Portugal

Invited Scientific talks

18/01/2023 - *Human chemosignals and affective disorders: how individuals with depressive and social anxiety symptoms perceive social olfactory cues*, Invited by Prof. Lorenzo Stafford, Department of Psychology, University of Portsmouth, UK

19/12/2018 - *The Psychophysics of Smell: Basic Research and Potential Applications*, Themenfeld Sensory Sciences (Inst. für Psychologie) at FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany

6/03/2018 - *Influence of social odor context on cognitive processes*, Sensorik Netzwerk Österreich Talks. Invited by Prof. Barbara Siegmund, Universität für Bodenkultur Wien, Austria

Scientific talks

17/09/2021 - *Olfactory meta-cognition in anxiety and depression: the different role of common and social odors*, AIP Lecce 2021 - Congresso 2021 della sezione di Psicologia Clinica e Dinamica

19/04/2018 - *Influence of social odor context on cognitive processes*, AChemS 40th Annual Meeting, April 17-22, 2018, Bonita Springs (Fort Myers), Florida

14/04/2018 - *Influence of social odor context on cognitive processes*. 13th Tagung der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Psychologie. Linz (Austria)

Selected poster contributions

Cecchetto C., Osimo S.A., Dal Bò E., Gentili C., Aiello M. (May 2024). *The differential role of alexithymia and interoception in liking and wanting components of reward responsiveness*. 7th bi-annual ESCAN meeting, Ghent, Belgium

Cecchetto, C., Gentili, C., Dal Bò, E. (September 2022). *Emotional body odors enhance the effects of mindfulness treatment in individuals with social anxiety: a pilot study*. European Chemoreception Research Organization (ECRO) XXXII Annual Meeting, 31 August – 3 September 2022, Berlin – Germany

Cecchetto, C., Gentili, C., Aiello, M., Fischmeister, F.P.S., Osimo, S., Dal Bò, E. (April 2022). *Olfactory abilities in alexithymic individuals*. AChemS 44th Annual Meeting, April 20-23, 2022, Bonita Springs (Fort Myers), Florida

Cecchetto, C., V., Pisanu, E., Schöpf, V., Rumiati, R., Aiello, M. (September 2021). *Food olfactory cues reactivity in individuals with obesity and the contribution of alexithymia*. ECRO XXXI Annual Meeting, September 13-16, 2021, Cascais (Lisbon), Portugal

Cecchetto, C., Fischmeister, F.P.S., Gorkiewicz, S., Bagga, D., Parma, V., Schöpf, V. (April 2019). *Social odor context enhances encoding and recognition of faces*. AChemS 41th Annual Meeting, April 14-17, 2019, Bonita Springs (Fort Myers), Florida

Cecchetto, C.*, Cavazzana, A.*., Gordon, A.G., Rebeschini, V., Parma, V., Lundström, J.N. (April 2016). *Chemosensory threat signals: the case of strangers' body odor*. AChemS 38th Annual Meeting, April 20-23, 2016, Bonita Springs (Fort Myers), Florida

Cecchetto, C., Korb, S., Rumiati, R.I., Aiello, M. (November 2015). *Moral decision-making in alexithymic participants*. Società Italiana di Neuropsicologia Annual meeting, November 27-28, 2015. Padua, Italy.

Cecchetto, C., Aiello, M., D'Amico D., Cutili D., Cargnelutti, D., Eleopra, R., Rumiati, R.I. (May 2014). Emotion recognition in Multiple Sclerosis: investigating the role of alexithymia and other characteristics of the disease. European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience ESCAN (May 7-10, 2014). Dortmund, Germany.

Cecchetto, C., Papeo, L., Mazzon, G., Granello, G., Cattaruzza, T., Verriello, L., Eleopra, R., Rumiati, R. (January 2013). *Action and Language Processing in Patients with Motor Neuron Disease*. Thirty-one European workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy.

Public scientific divulgation

13/11/2019 – *Il disgusto morale*, Trieste Città della Conoscenza, Trieste

18/05/2019 - *Olfatto ed emozioni*. “Cibo a regola d’arte (Orto delle Idee)”, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milano

19/03/2016 - *Peripheral physiology, perception and moral decision-making*, Parma, V. & Cecchetto, C. Brain awareness week: Neuroscienze e comportamento sociale, International School of Advanced Studies (SISSA), Trieste

13/03/2014 - *Azione, linguaggio e funzioni esecutive in pazienti con malattia del motoneurone (Action and Language processing in patients with Motor Neuron Disease)*, Invited by Dr. Tatiana Cattaruzza, Department of Neurology, "Ospedali Riuniti", Trieste (Italy)