

Francesca Helm

Biodata

Work Address: Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche, Giuridiche e Studi Internazionali, via del Santo 77, Padova, 35123, Italy

Phone numbers: +39 049 8278369 (work), +39 329 4929570 (mobile)

Email: francesca.helm@unipd.it

Nationality: Italian and British

Place and Date of Birth: Verona, Italy. 29/11/1966.

Employment

Since 2006 Assistant professor of English Language at the Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies, University of Padova, Italy.

1992-2006 Language teacher (*lettore*), Department of Anglo-Germanic Languages, University of Padova, Italy.

2002-2005 Online Facilitator for Italian and European groups. *Online Education and Training Course*. Institute of Education, University of London, UK.

Research Interests

Computer-mediated communication and online education; telecollaboration (online intercultural exchange); new online literacies; intercultural dialogue and conflict transformation; the use of English as a lingua franca in international communication; internationalization policy and English Medium Instruction; migration and language.

Courses currently taught

Advanced English in the second-level degree courses: International Politics and Diplomacy; European Studies at the School of Economics and Political Science.

English for European Project Management in the Master in European Studies.

Roles and responsibilities

Since January 2016 vice chair of the Education Innovation Working Group of the Coimbra Group of Universities.

Since 2011 Member of the EUROCALL Executive Committee (European Association for Computer Assisted Language Learning)

From 2011 to 2015 Representative for Padova University in the Coimbra Group E-Learning Task Force.

From 2011 to 2014 Coordinator of Padova University in the EU project INTENT, which was funded by the Lifelong Learning Programme.

Since 2014 Member of editorial board of the journal [System](#).

Peer reviewer for various journals and member of organizing committee of international conferences such as EUROCALL, forthcoming IALIC.

Since 2009 co-ordinator for the [Soliya Connect Program](#) at the University of Padova

Member of the [Next Generation Global Studies](#) research group (University of Padova);

Education and Training

PhD in Education at Departament de Didàctica de la Llengua i de la Literatura, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Title: *"I'm not disagreeing, I'm just curious": Exploring identities through multimodal interaction in virtual exchange*. Supervisor: Melinda Dooly.

MA in TESOL through CMC

Institute of Education, University of London, Bedford Way, London, UK.

BA in History of Art and Italian

University of Sussex, School of European Studies.

Recent Publications

Helm, F. (forthcoming). Two models of Online Intercultural Exchange in Higher Education Contexts. In Ennis, M. (Ed). *Practices in Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Ackerley K., Guarda M., & Helm F. (Eds.) (2017). *Sharing Perspectives on English-Medium Instruction*. Linguistic Insights, vol. 222, Bern:Peter Lang

Helm, F. (2017). Introduction to this volume. In K. Ackerley, M. Guarda & F. Helm (Eds.), *Sharing Perspectives on English-Medium Instruction*. Linguistic Insights, vol. 222, pp. 13-31. Bern: Peter Lang.

Guarda, M. & Helm, F. (2017). A survey of lecturers' needs and feedback on EMI training. In K. Ackerley, M. Guarda & F. Helm (Eds.), *Sharing Perspectives on English-Medium Instruction*. Linguistic Insights, vol. 222, pp. 167-193. Bern: Peter Lang.

Helm F. (2017). Critical Approaches to Online Intercultural Language Education. In S. Thorne S. May (Eds), *Language and Technology, Encyclopedia of Language and Education*. Cham: Springer International Publishing,

Helm, F. & Dooly, M. (2017). Challenges in Transcribing Multimodal Data: A Case Study. *Language Learning & Technology*, 21(1): 166-185.

Guarda M. and Helm F. (2016). 'I have discovered new teaching pathways': the link between language shift and teaching practice. *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, p. 1-17

Helm F. (2016). Facilitated Dialogue in Online Intercultural Exchange. In T. Lewis & R. O'Dowd (Eds) *Online Intercultural Exchange: Policy, Pedagogy, Practice*. vol. 4, p. 150-172, New York: Routledge

Helm F. and Guth S. (2016). Telecollaboration and language learning. In F. Farr & L. Murray (eds), *The Routledge Handbook of Language Learning and Technology*. p. 241-254, Taylor and Francis Inc.

Helm F. (2015). The practices and challenges of telecollaboration in higher education in Europe. *Language Learning & Technology*, 19(2): 197-217.
<http://llt.msu.edu/issues/june2015/helm.pdf>

Helm, F. and Guarda M. (2015). "Improvisation is not allowed in a second language": A survey of Italian lecturers' concerns about teaching their subjects through English. *Language Learning in Higher Education*, 5: 353-373

Helm, F., Bradley, L., Guarda, M., & Thouèsny, S. (Eds.) (2015). *Critical CALL – Proceedings of the 2015 EUROCALL Conference, Padova, Italy*. Dublin:Research-publishing.net.
<https://research-publishing.net/content.php?doi=10.14705/rpnet.2015.9781908416292>

Guth, S., Helm, F., & O'Dowd, R. (2014). Telecollaborative foreign language networks in European Universities: A report on current attitudes and practices. *Bellaterra Journal of Teaching & Learning Language & Literature* Vol 7, No 4 (2014)
https://ddd.uab.cat/pub/jtl3/jtl3_a2014m11-12v7n4/jtl3_a2014m11-12v7n4p1.pdf

Helm, F. (2014). Developing digital literacies through virtual exchange. *E-Learning Papers*, 38: 1-10. <http://www.openeducationeuropa.eu/en/article/Developing-digital-literacies-through-virtual-exchange?paper=141493>

Helm, F. (2013). A dialogic model for telecollaboration. *Bellaterra Journal of Teaching & Learning Language & Literature*, 6: 28-48. <http://revistes.uab.cat/jtl3/issue/view/69>

Helm, F., Guth, S. and Farrah, M. (2012) Promoting dialogue or hegemonic practice: Power issues in telecollaboration. *Language Learning & Technology*.

Helm F, and Guth S (2012). Developing multiliteracies in ELT through telecollaboration. *ELT Journal*, vol. 66, p. 42-51.

Helm, F. and Guth, S. (2011). Teaching Culture through CALL. In: N. Arnold and L. Ducate (Eds.) *Present and Future Promises of CALL: From Theory and Research to New Directions in Language Teaching*. CALICO Monograph Series vol. 5 (2nd edition), pp. 211-256.

Helm F. and Guth S., (Eds.) 2010, *Telecollaboration 2.0: Language, Literacies and Intercultural Learning in the 21st Century*. Bern: Peter Lang.

Organization of conferences and summer schools

Member of local organizing committee: IALIC 2016: Bridging across Languages and Cultures in Everyday Lives: New Roles for Changing Scenarios. Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, 24-27 November 2016.

Spaces and Times of Globalization: Boundaries, borders and walls: What of universality? Winter school organized with the Next Generation Global Studies group 20-24th February 2017, University of Padova.

Spaces and Times of Globalization: Necessary translations for global understanding. Winter school organized with the Next Generation Global Studies group 22-26th February 2016, University of Padova.

Spaces and Times of Globalization: Illusions of democracy and the media. Winter school organized with the Next Generation Global Studies group and Annabelle Sreberny, SOAS. 18-22nd May 2015. SOAS, University of London.

Local organizer: EUROCALL 2015: Critical CALL, International conference with over 300 delegates. University of Padova. August 26-29th 2015.

Spaces and Times of Globalization: Europe in a Global Context. Winter school organized with the Next Generation Global Studies group. University of Padova. 24-28th February 2014.

Spaces and Times of Globalization: The Challenges of Global Communications. Winter school organized with the Next Generation Global Studies group. University of Padova. 11-15th February 2013.

Teaching through English. Summer school organized with the University Language Centre, aimed at lecturers teaching their subjects through English. Venice International University, 29 July-7th August 2013.

Recent conference presentations

- *A Cross-Country Comparison of Lecturers' Beliefs and Experiences of the International Classroom and English-medium Instruction.* IV Convegno Dell'associazione Didattica Delle Lingue E La Linguistica Educativa (Dille) L'università Ca' Foscari Venezia 02-03-04 Febbraio 2017
- *English Linguaging Workshops: An attempt to subvert power dynamics.* IALIC: 'Bridging across languages and cultures in everyday lives: New roles for changing scenarios'. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona November 25-27th, 2016.
- Participation in Round table session with Jon Rubin, Robert O'Dowd, Mirjam Hauck: *The future of Virtual Exchange.* The first European Conference on Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL), December 1st and 2nd 2016, The Hague University of Applied Sciences.
- "*The promises and challenges of EMI*". Invited keynote at Jornadas CRUE, Universitat Jaume I, Castellon, Spain. 24 October 2016
- *From prohibition to choice: Exploring language practices in an Italian university* (with Fiona Dalziel), The Multilingual University - Seminar 6: The linguistic landscape in higher education in English-dominant and EMI settings: Future directions Institute of Education, 8-9 July 2016.
- "*Ho dovuto portarmi dietro il vecchio corso in italiano e spogliarmi di lui*": Supporting lecturers in EMI. Invited speaker (with Katherine Ackerley) at English-Medium Instruction in Higher Education Syposium, May 6th 2016, Università Cattolica, Milan, Italy.
- *Space, time and mode in multimodal data: challenges for transcription and representation* (with Melinda Dooly) 2nd International Conference on Telecollaboration in Higher Education, 21-23 April 2016, Trinity College, Dublin.
- *'I have to type as you can't hear me': The challenges of transcribing multimodal data* (with Melinda Dooly). BAAL Language and New Media SIG Event. Multimodality in social media and digital environments. 15 April 2016, University of London.
- *Exploring identity and participation in online intercultural exchange.* Invited speaker and discussant at ViLS2 conference, 22-25 September, 2015. Orebro, Sweden. <http://www.oru.se/CCD/ViLS2/>
- *Interaction, collaboration and power issues in open communities and education networks.* Invited keynote panel discussion on 'open communities and networks' at the EM&M Italia conference, Genova, 9-11 September 2015. <http://www.ememitalia.org/>
- *The disruptive potential of EMI: A case study from Italy.* Invited presentation at EMI Oxford Centre for Research and Development in English Medium Instruction Research Seminars. 19th June, 2015.

Recent research projects

February 2017 – October 2019

Co-ordinator for University of Padova, partner in the EVALUATE policy experimentation project (Evaluating and Upscaling Telecollaborative Teacher Education). Erasmus+ KA3 (EACEA/34/2015)

Total funding: € 453.376,00 for whole project, c.50,000 for Padova.

This European Policy Experimentation will evaluate the impact of telecollaborative learning on student-teachers involved in Initial Teacher Education in the participating European countries and regions. Telecollaboration, also commonly known as Virtual Exchange, involves engaging trainee teachers involved in Initial Teacher Education in task-based interaction and collaborative exchange with fellow trainees in other locations through online communication technologies.

March 2013 - June 2014

Lead researcher: *LEAP (Learning English for Academic Purposes)*

Funding: 120,000 Euros, from the University of Padova and MIUR – Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research.

Co-ordinated with the University of Padova Language Centre, this strategic action research project aimed to support the University in understanding the needs of the university's lecturers as regards internationalizing their courses and teaching through English. The project entailed carrying out a survey to understand what lecturers at the University of Padova perceived to be their strengths and weaknesses as regards English Medium Instruction, piloting and evaluating 4 different courses to support the lecturers and developing a strategy for the university to support lecturers in internationalization of their courses. Supervision of post-doc researcher

October 2011 – March 2014

Co-ordinator for University of Padova, partner in the INTENT project

Funding: 254,000 for whole project, c.30,000 for Padova. LLP Multilateral Network.

The Erasmus Multilateral Project INTENT (Integrating Telecollaborative Networks into Foreign Language Higher Education) aims to understand the state of the art in Europe regarding online intercultural exchange, support educators and raise greater awareness among students, educators and decision makers of telecollaboration as a tool for virtual mobility at the Higher Education level. The project is headed by Rober O'Dowd at Universidad de Leon in Spain and also involves the following partners: Open University; Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona; Universidad de León, Spain; Université Stendhal Grenoble, France; Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg, Germany; Wyzsza Szkoła Lingwistyczna, Poland; Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Netherlands.