

Curriculum Vitae

Simona Floare Bora

Free University of Bozen
Faculty of Education
Regensburger Allee 16 – viale Ratisbona
16 39042 Brixen-Bressanone (IT)

University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park
Colchester, CO4 3SQ
United Kingdom

Research Interests

Foreign/Second Language Learning and Teaching, Drama and Theatre in Language Teaching and Learning, Second Language Acquisition, TEFL/TESOL, Literature in Language Teaching, EAP/ESP, Academic Skills

Education

University of Essex, UK

PhD in English Language Teaching (ELT), Awarded 12 February 2018

Thesis: *Beyond the Mere Word: Exploring the Language of Drama through Text-based and Performance-based Approaches for Developing L2 Oral Skills*

Supervisor: Dr Julian Good

Research advisers: Prof Florence Myles, Prof Monika Schmid, and Dr. Phil Schofield

University of Trento, Italy

2003 - 2010

MA in Euro-American Languages and Literature (with Teaching Practice), Awarded *cum laude*

Dissertation: *"Fair land! Thee all men greet with joy!" Italy through English romantic eyes*

Supervisors: Prof Serena Cenni and Dr Francesca di Blasio

BA (Hons) in Modern Languages and Literature - First Class Honours

Dissertation: *La figura del moro sentimental desde "El Abbenceraje" a "El remedio en la desdicha" de Lope de Vega*

Supervisor: Prof Pietro Taravacci

Pedagogical College for Primary School Teachers, Romania

1990 – 1995

- **A-level Qualification in Primary Education** (Fully Qualified Primary School Teacher)

Key Modules: Teaching Practice, Pedagogy, Child Psychology, and General Didactics

Teaching and Research Experience

Lecturer, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen - Bolzano, Italy

Courses taught:

19012 · L-LIN/12 · Writing Skills for University

2023 - present

19013 · L-LIN/12 · How to Write a Thesis

19000 · L-LIN/12 - Introduction to Academic Writing

2022-2024

19006 · L-LIN/12 - Advanced Academic Writing

English Language Teacher, Trentino-Alto Adige Province, Italy

2010 - present

Teaching areas:

General English

English for Specific Purposes

English Literature and History

Preparation courses for Cambridge B2 and C1 examinations

2024 - present

Module Leader: EAP and Academic Skills Lecturer, Essex Pathways Department, University of Essex, UK

IA 197 Research and Academic Skills for Law (In-sessional programme)

2019 - 2020

EAP and Academic Skills Lecturer, Essex Pathways Department, University of Essex, UK

PAALS Research and Academic skills (Pre-sessional programme)

2017 - 2019

IA 195 Academic Skills for Social Sciences (In-sessional programme)

2018 - 2019

TEFL Lecturer , Department of Language and Linguistics, University of Essex, UK	
LG 636 Teaching and Learning Grammar	Spring 2018
LG 478 Foundations of CALL	Spring 2018
LG 490 Teaching English through Literature and Drama, (Invited Sessional Lecturer)	2015 - 2018

Assistant Lecturer , Language and Linguistics, University of Essex, UK	2015 - 2017
LG112 Foundations of TEFL I	
LG118 Foundations of TEFL II	
LG102 Language in Use	

Italian assistant lecturer , Department of Language and Linguistics, University of Essex, UK	2018 - 2022
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Italian lecturer , Department of Language and Linguistics, University of Essex, UK	2018 - 2019
LA042 Language expert	
LA621 Intensive Italian Initial 1	
LA622 Intensive Italian Initial 2	
LA630 Higher Intermediate Italian	
LA640 Advanced Italian	
LA650 Proficiency Level Italian	

Research assistant , Language and Linguistics, University of Essex, UK	2016 - 2018
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Primary School Teacher , Romania	1995 - 2000
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Other professional experience

Invigilator, Senior Invigilator , Academic Section, University of Essex, UK	2014 - present
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Course Developer (Online Module: <i>Research and Academic Skills</i>) , Essaify Academy, Colchester, UK	2021 - 2023
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Linguistic Mediator and Translator , AMIC and Città Aperta, Province of Trento, Italy	2004 - 2011
Provided interpreting and translation services for the National Health Service (NHS), Ad Personam offices, Police Headquarters (<i>Questura</i>), schools, social services, and the Juvenile Court.	

Conference presentations

Invited Talks:

Using drama in the language classroom: quantitative and qualitative evidence from an experimental study.
Teachers' conference, University of Essex, UK (July, 2022)

Speaker:

Examining CAF in an Oral Monologic Narrative Task Through Drama and Theatre-Based Pedagogy.

1st International Conference on English Studies, Salalah, Oman (2026)

Daring to set the stage in the high-school compulsory curriculum: the highs and lows of implementing a theatre project in a L2 classroom. *DiE Days, Drama in Education Days Conference, Uppsala, Sweden (2023)*

Interactive didactics: enhancing L2 speaking complexity and accuracy through a blended drama approach. *EuroSLA, Anglia Ruskin University, Birmingham, UK (2023)*

Capturing fluency and lexical diversity in L2 learners' oral performance through drama pedagogy. *EuroSLA, Fribourg, Switzerland (2022)*

Exploring L2 spontaneous and authentic speaking opportunities through play scripts and drama-based approaches. *DiE Days. Drama in Education conference, University of Zug, Switzerland (2019)*.

The Drama Method: Developing L2 Learners' Speaking Complexity, Pronunciation and Fluency through Authentic plays. *2nd International conference on Language Education and Culture, Istanbul Medipol University, Turkey (2019)*

Collaborative reflective writing: Experience of native and non-native speakers on an academic skills module in the UK. *EAP/ESP Symposium, Free University of Bozen, Italy (2018)*.

From learners' interviews: Investigating attitudes towards dramatic approaches within L2 compulsory curriculum. Drama in Education conference, *University Applied Sciences Konstanz, Germany* (2017)

The play way: Exploring learners' attitudes towards drama-based approaches. *The 49th BAAL Conference at Anglian Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK* (2016).

Drama as Interaction: effects on the complexity, accuracy and fluency of oral L2 productions. *LaDeLi Workshop, University of Essex, UK* (2016).

Towards Drama as a Method for Enhancing L2 Learners' Complexity, Accuracy and Fluency. *The 48th BAAL Conference at Aston University, Birmingham, UK* (2015).

Set the stage! Looking at the effect of drama-based approaches on L2 oral accuracy, complexity and fluency. *EuroSLA conference, Aix-en-Provence, France* (2015)

Drama pedagogy: speaking accuracy, complexity and fluency through play-texts and/or performance in second language learning. *The 1st Drama and Theatre in Foreign and Second Language Teaching Conference, Reutlingen, Germany* (2015)

The development of L2 oral accuracy and complexity through drama-based approaches. *LALA workshop, University of Cambridge, UK* (2015)

Curtain up! Do theatre texts and full-scale performance enhance L2 learners' fluency?. *LangUE, University of Essex, Colchester, UK* (2014)

Beyond the mere word. A contemporary approach to Drama for developing students' L2 oral skills. *The 1st International Conference on Drama: Performative Teaching, Learning and Research, University of Cork, Ireland* (2014)

Authentic contemporary drama: Texts or/and Performance in English Language Classroom? *LangUE, University of Essex, Colchester, UK* (2013)

Publications

Bora, S. F. and Alhassan, A. (in prep.). Exploring the Pedagogical Value of Collaborative Reflective Writing in English for Academic Purposes

Bora, S. F. (in prep.) Using Drama in English Language Learning: Insights from a Summer School Programme in the Province of Bozen.

Bora, S. F. (in prep.) Stand up for theatre! Unravelling the effects of literature and drama on L2 learners' oral fluency.

Bora, S. F. (2026). Daring to set the stage in the compulsory curriculum: the highs and lows of implementing a theatre project in a L2 language classroom. *Conference Proceedings DiE Days, Drama in Education Days, Uppsala, Sweden, 2023*, DOI: 10.25656/01:34761

Bora, S. F. (2024). Taking literature off the page: The effectiveness of a blended dramatic approach for Enhancing L2 Oral Accuracy, Pronunciation and Complexity. *Language Teaching Research*, 28 (5), 1869 -1892, DOI 10.1177/13621688211043490

Bora, S. F (2022). Drama Pedagogy: Speaking Accuracy and Complexity through Contemporary Theatrical Texts and Performance in Foreign Language Learning. *Research in drama Education: The Journal of Applied Theatre and Performance* 27 (4), 507-523, DOI 10.1080/13569783.2021.2019578

Alhassan, A., Bora, S. F., Abdalla, Y.A. (2021). Collaboration with EAP teachers in English-medium instruction contexts in higher education. *TESOL Journal*, 13 (1), DOI 10.1002/tesj.610

Bora, S. F. (2020). Curtain up! Enhancing L2 spontaneous and authentic speaking opportunities through play scripts and drama-based approaches. *RELC Journal*, 52(3), 458-473, DOI 10.1177/0033688219887536

Bora, S. F. (2020). Performative didactics: Tapping into learners' attitudes towards text- and performance-based approaches in foreign language learning. *Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching*, 14 (2), 150-163, DOI 10.1080/17501229.2018.1538225

Bora, S. F. (2019). Exploring learners' perceptions towards collaborative work through drama in foreign language learning: A view from a mandatory Italian high school curriculum. *Scenario: A Journal for Performative Teaching, learning, Research*, 13 (2), 171-186, DOI: 10.33178/scenario.13.2.11

Bora, S. F. (2019) *"Thee All men greet with joy". Italy through English Romantic Eyes*. Lambert Academic Publication. ISBN: 978-613-9-98708-5

Bora, S. F. and Alhassan, A., (2018). Collaborative academic writing: Experience of native and non-native speakers on an academic skills module in the UK. In: E. Bonetto, MJ Ennis, D Unterkofler, *Teaching Languages for Specific and Academic Purposes in Higher Education*, Bozen University Press, 77-92. ISBN 978-88-6046-154-4

Bora, S. F. (2018). Beyond the mere word. Exploring the language of Drama through text- and performance-based approaches for developing L2 oral skills. Unpublished PhD thesis, University of Essex ,UK

Memberships

IATEFL; BAAL (British Association for Applied Linguistics); EuroSLA (European Second Language Association); Scenario (Drama in Language Teaching); TESOL Italy – Val d’Adige; AMIC and CITTA’ APERTA (Associations for Linguistic Mediation and Intercultural Communication))

Grants and Funding Awards

- 2016 Conference Presentation Grant, BAAL (British Association for Applied Linguistics), UK
- 2012 -2016 PhD Scholarship, *Province of Trento, Italy*
- 2010 Merit Grant from *Cassa Rurale di Aldeno e Cadine* (Italy) for outstanding academic achievement (*cum laude*, MA programme), University of Trento
- 2009 Departmental Research Abroad Grant, University of Trento, Italy (research visit in the UK)
- 2007 -2010 Postgraduate award scholarship for MA degree, *Province of Trento, Italy*
- 2003 - 2007 Undergraduate scholarship for BA (Hons) degree, *Province of Trento, Italy*

Personal Development (Skills)

Research and Data Analysis Software: Praat, SPSS, Audacity, ELAN, CHILDES, NVivo
European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL): Completed 100-hour certified training course, *Trento, Italy*

Professional Development

- 2016 Awarded **Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy** (AFHEA), UK
- 2014 Introduction to Statistics for Survey Data Analysis, 35-hour Summer School, *University of Essex, UK*
- 2003 Professional Training Course for Linguistic Mediators, *Trento, Italy*

Other academic responsibilities

Journal reviewer

Reviewer for the following peer-reviewed journals:

- *Language Teaching Research*
- *Studies in Second Language Learning and Teaching*
- *RELC journal*
- *Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching*
- *Cogent Arts & Humanities*
- *Research in Drama Education: The Journal of Applied Theatre and Performance*
- *Open Education Studies*
- *Cogent Education*
- *The Language Learning Journal*
- *Applied Theatre Research*

Book proposal reviewer

Reviewer for the following academic publishing house:

- *Multilingual Matters*

Language Knowledge

- Romanian (native); Italian (C2); English (C2); Spanish (C1); Russian (B1)

