Curriculum Vitae Helen Victoria Forsyth

Language competence
English C2 (native language)
German C2
Italian C2
French B1
Dutch A2

Education and qualifications

- ***PhD in General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy, General Didactics and Disciplinary Didactics****,* Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, awarded 13th December 2022

  Thesis title: *Developmental Stages of Third Language Acquisition: a focus on early-stage receptive processing in multilingual learners* (supervisor: Prof. Martina Irsara)

- ***Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL)*****,** University of Sunderland, United Kingdom, awarded March 2012

- ***Postgraduate Diploma in Translation (German, Italian, Dutch)*****,** University of Kent, United Kingdom, awarded March 1998

- ***Bachelor of Arts in German Language and Literature with subsidiary Italian***, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, awarded June 1995

Present appointment

Research Assistant at Centre for Academic Writing and **Lecturer** at Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Teaching and research experience

From / to	Job title	Name of academic Institution	Academic level	Responsibilities
Sept. 2024-	Research Assistant (postdoc)	Centre for Academic Writing, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	tertiary education	developing academic writing materials for Bachelor's and Master's students, collecting academic writing data, organising workshops and seminars for students, promotion of courses
Oct. 2024-	Lecturer for English Language Teaching-L3: Approaches, syllabuses, lesson plans, assessment and materials in TEYL module	Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	tertiary education	holding didactic laboratories in Teaching English to Young Learners for students of Master's in Primary Education (Bildungswissenschaften Primarbereich), member of exam commission

Oct. 2008-June 2024	Lecturer for Scientific English	'Claudiana' Universitäres Ausbildungszentrum für Gesundheitsberufe Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	tertiary education	preparing students of Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Dental Hygiene, Obstetrics in specialist English, academic writing, member of exam commission
Sept. 2023-June 2024	English teacher	Wissenschaftliches Gymnasium 'Evangelista Torricelli', Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	secondary education	teaching Cambridge International GCSE programme for 'English as a Second Language' and 'Global Perspectives'
Sept. 2022-June 2023	English teacher	Sprachengymnasium 'Giosuè Carducci', Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	secondary education	co-teacher for English with focus on oral competence and inclusion
Jan.-March 2022	Research assistant	‚Anglistisches Seminar', University of Mannheim, Germany	tertiary education	collecting data for study on linguistic priming in young multilinguals
years 2015-2018	English teacher	Sprachengymnasium 'Giosuè Carducci', Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	secondary education	co-teacher for English with focus on oral competence and inclusion
years 2001-2012	English teacher	Language Centre, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	tertiary education	teaching general (CEFR A2-C1) and academic English, Cambridge Assessment exam preparation, exam commission member
years 1998-2001	English teacher	Alpha Beta Piccadilly School of Languages, Bozen-Bolzano, Italy	private language school	teaching English courses at CEFR levels A2-C2
years 1993-1994	English language assistant	Abendgymnasium Wiesbaden, Hessen, Germany	secondary education	assistant for English language teaching

Experience in academic teaching

Fakultät für Bildungswissenschaften, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (current): laboratory in Teaching English to Young Learners for students of Master's in Primary Education

Universitäres Ausbildungszentrum für Gesundheitsberufe Bozen-Bolzano: lecturer in English for academic and scientific purposes in the following Bachelor's degree programmes: Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Dental Hygiene, Obstetrics

Publications

Journal article to appear September 2026:
Development of receptive aural morphosyntactic competence in multilingual early-stage L3 English learners: practitioner' perceptions versus Processability Theory-derived perspectives. *Journal of the European Second Language Association (JESLA)*

Journal article:
Forsyth, H. (2022) A processability approach to instructed language learning in multilingual contexts. *EL.LE Educazione Linguistica.Linguistic Education.* Venice University Press: Edizioni Cà Foscari. Volume 11/2, pp.179-212. http://doi.org/10.30687/ELLE/2280-6792/2022/02/003

Published Conference Proceedings:
Forsyth, H. Processability Approaches to Third Language Acquisition – Implications for Multilingual Classrooms. In: *Proceedings of the International Conference on Education and New Developments 2021. Online:* World Institute for Advanced Research and Science (WIARS), Portugal, 2021 pp. 544-549. https://doi.org/10.36315/END-2021_Book-of-Proceedings

Journal Article:
Forsyth, H. (2014). The Influence of L2 Transfer on L3 English Written Production in a Bilingual German/Italian Population. *Open Journal of Modern Linguistics*. Published online in SciRes: volume 4, pp. 429-456 http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/ojml.2014.43036

Conference presentations

Forsyth, H. & Gatti, M.C. *Pedagogies of academic writing in English as a non-foreign language at a trilingual university*. BICLCE 11 (11th Biennial International Conference on the Linguistics of Contemporary English), University of Klagenfurt, Austria, 3rd-5th July 2026

Forsyth, H. & Gatti, M.C. *Investigating the factors involved in effective research proposal writing at a trilingual university with implications for didactic choices*. EATAW 2025 (European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing), University of Minho, Braga, Portugal, 2nd-4th July 2025

Forsyth, H. *Receptive grammar acquisition from a processability perspective: application to the L3 English context,* EUROSLA (European Second Language Association) 32, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, 31st August-2nd September 2023

Forsyth, H. *Developmental stages in multilingual early-stage third language learners from a processing perspective with focus on receptive competence*, 13th International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB): Bilingualism in Flux, University of Warsaw, Poland, 10th-14th July 2021

Forsyth, H. *Processability approaches to receptive third language acquisition: Implications for multilingual classrooms*, International Conference on Education and New Developments, World Institute for Advanced Research and Science (WIARS), Portugal 2021, 26th-28th June 2021

Forsyth, H. *Processability approaches to instructed language learning in multilingual contexts: Developmental stages from a receptive competence perspective*, 7th Young Linguists' Meeting in Poznan, Poland (YLMP 2021), 23rd-25th April 2021

Forsyth, H. *Third or Additional Language Acquisition: Which approach to take for a better understanding of the psycholinguistic factors involved?* 27th Annual Graduate Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, and TESOL Symposium, Arizona State University, USA, 20th February 2021

Forsyth, H. *Morphosyntax development in 3rd language learners,* TESOL Italy 44th National Convention, Polo Didattico, Rome, Italy, 15th-16th November 2019

Additional recent conference and workshop participation

Discourse Analysis across Domains: From Public Framings of Migration to AI-Mediated Academic Stance seminar, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 16th December 2025

Chat GPT and AI writing tools: how can we respond in Higher Education? workshop, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 3rd November 2023

'Esperienze di comunicazione efficace scuola-famiglia secondo la metodologia pedagogia dei genitori' (Experiences of efficient school-family communication according to the Pedagogy of Parents), Intendenza scolastica italiana di Bolzano (Bolzano Italian-language school authority) workshop, Italy, 16th-17th October 2023

EMLAR (Experimental Methods in Language Acquisition Research) workshop, Utrecht University, Netherlands, 18th-20th April 2023

Summer School in Corpus Linguistics, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, 4th-7th July 2022, including sessions on corpus linguistics for media analysis, critical issues in keyness analysis, corpus-based discourse analysis

'Tagung zu Mehrsprachigkeit, CLIL und sprachaufmerksamem Unterricht', European Academy (EURAC), Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 11th November 2021

PALA 20th International Conference on Processability Approaches to Language Acquisition, University of Trento, Italy, 24th-25th September 2021

Introductory online course to Stata for data management and analysis, GESIS Leibnitz Institute for the Social Sciences Summer School, 27th-29th June 2020

EMLAR (Experimental Methods in Language Acquisition Research) workshop, Utrecht University, Netherlands, 13th-15th April 2021

PhD Winter School, Institut für Bildungswissenschaften, Universität Wien, Austria, 6th-8th February 2020

International Symposium on Intensive Language Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Language Centre, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 25th October 2019

DYME (Dynamics of Multilingualism with English) Conference on Metacognition in Multilingual Development: from multilingual children to polyglots, Innsbruck University Centre in Obergurgl, Austria, 18th -21st 2019

PhD Winter School, Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 14th-16th January 2019

Celebrating Diversity – 6th Biennial Conference for English Teachers and Principals, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 27th April 2018

Bozen-Bolzano, 18/08/2026