

Claudia Mazzuca

Email: mazzuca.claudia@gmail.com; Twitter: @ClaudiaMazzuca

Education

- 2020 PhD in Philosophy, Science, Cognition, and Semiotics (*cum laude*),
curriculum: Cognitive Science, University of Bologna
2015 MA in Linguistic Sciences (*cum laude*), University of Bologna

Academic Positions

- December 2021- *Post-Doc*, Department of Dynamic, Clinical and Health Psychology, Sapienza
University of Rome, Rome, Italy
2019-2020 *Research Associate*, Department of Psychology, University of York, York,
UK
2017-2018 *Visiting Fellow*, Radboud University, Meaning, Culture, and Cognition Lab,
Nijmegen, Netherlands
2016-2020 *PhD Student* in Philosophy, Science, Cognition, and Semiotics, curriculum
Cognitive Science, Department of Philosophy and Communication,
University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy
2016 *Research Assistant*, University of Bologna and Institute of Cognitive Science
and Technologies, Italian National Research Council (ISTC-CNR), Rome

Funding Acquired

- 2017 *Marco Polo Grant for international mobility*, University of Bologna
(~€3.500)
2016 *PhD Scholarship*, University of Bologna (€68.000)

Publications

Peer-reviewed international journal articles

- Bellagamba, F., Borghi, A. M., **Mazzuca, C.**, Pecora, G., Ferrara, F., Fogel, A. (2022).
Abstractness emerges progressively over the second year of life. *Scientific Reports*, 12(1),
1-15.
Borghi, A. M., Fini, C. & **Mazzuca, C.** (2022). Abstract Concepts, Social Interaction, and Beliefs.
Frontiers in Psychology, 13, 919808.
Marinucci, L., **Mazzuca, C.**, & Gangemi, A. (2022). Exposing implicit biases and stereotypes in
human and artificial intelligence: state of the art and challenges with a focus on gender. *AI
& Society*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-022-01474-3>.
Mazzuca, C. & Santarelli, M. (2022). Making it abstract, making it contestable: politicization at
the intersection of political and cognitive science. *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 1-
22.

- Mazzuca, C.**, Falcinelli, I., Michalland, A.H., Tummolini, L., & Borghi, A.M. (2022). Bodily, emotional, and public sphere at the time of COVID-19. An investigation on concrete and abstract concepts. *Psychological Research*, 1-12.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Fini, C., Michalland, A.H., Falcinelli, I., Da Rold, F., Tummolini, L. & Borghi, A.M. (2021). From affordances to abstract words: The flexibility of sensorimotor grounding. *Brain Sciences*, 11(10), 1304.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Falcinelli, I., Michalland, A.H., Tummolini, L., & Borghi, A.M. (2021). Differences and similarities in the conceptualization of COVID-19 and other diseases in the first Italian lockdown. *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), 1-12.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Benassi, M., Nicoletti, R., Sartori, G. & Lugli, L. (2021). Assessing the impact of previous experience on lie effects. Evidence from a transfer paradigm. *Scientific Reports*, 11 (1), 1-9.
- Borghi, A.M., **Mazzuca, C.**, Da Rold, F., Falcinelli, I., Fini, C., Michalland, A.H., & Tummolini, L. (2021). Abstract words as social tools: which necessary evidence? *Frontiers in Psychology*.
- van Putten, S., O'Meara, C., Wartmann, F., Yager, J., Villette, J., **Mazzuca, C.**, Bieling, C., Burenhult, N., Purves, R. & Majid, A. (2020). Conceptualisations of landscape differ across European languages. *PLoS ONE* 15(10): e0239858.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Majid, A., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R. & Borghi, A.M. (2020). Gender is a multifaceted concept: evidence that specific life experiences differentially shape the concept of gender. *Language and Cognition*.
- Barca, L., **Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A.M. (2020). Overusing the pacifier during infancy sets a footprint on abstract words processing. *Journal of Child Language*, 1, 16.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Lugli, L., Benassi, M., Nicoletti, R. & Borghi, A.M. (2018). Abstract, emotional and concrete concepts and the activation of mouth-hand effectors. *PeerJ*.
- Barca, L., **Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A.M. (2017). Pacifier overuse and conceptual relations of abstract and emotional concepts. *Frontiers in Psychology*.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Barca, L. & Borghi, A.M. (2017). The particularity of emotional words: A grounded approach. *Rivista Internazionale di Filosofia e Psicologia*, 8, 2.

Peer-reviewed papers in edited volumes

- Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A. M. (2019). Abstract concepts and the activation of mouth-hand effectors. In M. Bolognesi & G. Steen, (Eds.). *Perspectives on abstract concepts: From cognitive processing to semantic representations*. Amsterdam: Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A.M. (2017). An embodied and grounded view on concepts and its possible implications for education. In F. Gomez-Paloma, D. Ianes, & D. Tafuri, (Eds.). *Embodied cognition. Theories and applications in education science*. New York: Nova.

Submitted articles

- Mazzuca, C.**, & Majid, A. (in press in *Language and Cognition*). The semantic representation of food is shaped by culture. *Preprint at* <https://psyarxiv.com/89tyj/>
- Banks, B., Borghi, A.M., Fargier, R., Fini, C., Jonauskaitė, D., **Mazzuca, C.**, Montalti, M., Villani, C. & Woodin, G. (in press in *Journal of Cognition*). Consensus paper: current perspectives on abstract concepts and future research directions.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Borghi, A.M., van Putten, S., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R. & Majid, A. (under revision). Gender is conceptualized in different ways across cultures. *Preprint: psyarxiv.com/dpa8s*.

PhD thesis

Mazzuca, C. (2020). *Queering abstract concepts. A grounded perspective on Gender*. Department of Philosophy and Communication, University of Bologna.
<http://amsdottorato.unibo.it/9306/>

Teaching

- 2022 *Guest Lecturer*, MA course in Psycholinguistics, University of Bologna;
Topic: Individual and cross-cultural differences in conceptualization: a focus on gender.
- 2021 *Guest Lecturer*, MA course in Psycholinguistics, University of Bologna;
Topic: Gender, concepts, and cultural variation.
- 2020 *Guest Lecturer*, MA course in Psycholinguistics, University of Bologna;
Topic: Sex/Gender concepts: from embodiment to cultural variation.
Guest Lecturer, MA course in Psychology, Sapienza University of Rome;
Topic: Sex/Gender concepts: from embodiment to cultural variation.
Guest Lecturer, MA course in Psychology of Intercultural Communication,
University of Bologna;
Topic: Sex/Gender concepts: from embodiment to cultural variation
- 2019 *Guest Lecturer*, MA course in Psycholinguistics, University of Bologna;
Topic: Sex/Gender concepts: from embodiment to cultural variation.
Guest Lecturer, MA course in Psycholinguistics, University of Bologna;
Topic: Perceptual and sensorimotor grounding in conceptual representation.
Discussant, MA course in Gender Studies, University of Bologna;
Topic: Sex/Gender concepts in Psychological Sciences.

Conference presentations (presenting author only)

Talks

- Mazzuca, C.** (September, 2022). *The concept of gender. Moving beyond the abstract-concrete dichotomy*. Invited talk to the “Memory, Language, and Multisensoriality” Symposium of the 30th Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Psychology, Padova, Italy
- Mazzuca, C.**, Valentini, B., Fini, C., & Crepaldi, D. (May, 2022). *ReproducibiliTea and ReproCoffee: a national platform to discuss reproducibility*. “Provando e Riprovando”, 1st Italian Reproducibility Network meeting, Florence, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.** (April, 2022). *Is gender an abstract concept? Insights from semantic fluency tasks*. IMT-CNR Conjoint sessions, IMT, School for Advanced Studies, Lucca, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.** (September, 2021). *The concept of gender. Moving beyond the abstract-concrete dichotomy*. Embodied and Situated Language Processing Conference.
- Mazzuca, C.**, Falcinelli, I., Michalland, A.H., Tummolini, L., & Borghi, A.M. (September, 2021). *Bodily, emotional, and public sphere at the time of COVID-19. An investigation on concrete and abstract concepts*. 27th Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Psychology (AIP), Experimental Psychology, Lecce, Italy.

- Mazzuca, C.** (March, 2021). *Natural Language Processing and conceptual representations. A situated approach.* ALMA-AI, Seminari WednesdAIs, Humanities, Science and AI: a dialogue on knowledge and semantics. Università di Bologna, online.
- Mazzuca, C.** & Santarelli, M. (September, 2020). *Politicized concepts as abstract concepts. The case of gender.* MANCEPT Workshop *What is Gender and What do we Want it to be.* Manchester Centre for Political Theory, online.
- Mazzuca, C.,** Borghi, A.M., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., & Majid, A. (December, 2019). *Is gender a flexible concept? A comparison of Italian and Dutch.* 16th Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Cognitive Sciences (AISC), The complexity of Cognition: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Human Behavior, Rome, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.** (March, 2019). *Is gender an abstract concept? Insights from a free-listing task.* Workshop *Abstract Concepts differ: Numbers, Emotions and Dangerous things.* Università degli studi di Roma “La Sapienza”, Rome, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.,** Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., & Borghi A. M. (September, 2017). *The influence of effectors activation on the processing of abstract, emotional and concrete words.* 23rd Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Psychology (AIP), Experimental Psychology, Bari, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.,** Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., & Borghi, A. M. (September, 2017). *Abstract, Emotional and Concrete Concepts and the activation of mouth-hand effectors.* 10th Annual Embodied and Situated Language Processing Conference, Moscow, Russia.
- Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A. M. (September, 2016). *Sensorimotor influence in the processing of abstract words.* 22nd Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Psychology (AIP), Experimental Psychology, Rome, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A. M. (December, 2015). *Comprensione e ricordo di parole astratte: quando la “fantasia” passa per la bocca.* 12th Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Cognitive Sciences (AISC), Language, Cognition and Society, Genoa, Italy.

Poster sessions

- Mazzuca, C.,** Borghi, A. M., Lugli, L., Nicoletti, R., & Majid, A. (September, 2019). *Gender is a flexible concept. A comparison of Italian and Dutch.* European Conference for Cognitive Science, Bochum, Germany.
- Mazzuca, C.,** Lugli, L., Majid, A., Nicoletti, R., & Borghi, A. M. (May, 2018). *Grounding Abstract Concepts: The case of Gender.* Workshop *Concepts, Actions and Objects.* Center for Mind/Brain Sciences and University of Trento, Rovereto, Italy.
- Barca, L., **Mazzuca, C.,** & Borghi, A. M. (September, 2017). *Pacifier overuse and the processing of abstract, concrete and emotional concepts.* 10th Annual Embodied and Situated Language Processing Conference, Moscow, Russia.
- Barca, L., **Mazzuca, C.,** & Borghi, A. M. (September, 2017). *The influence of pacifier on conceptual acquisition: a multimodal approach.* Language as a form of Action Conference, Rome, Italy.
- Mazzuca, C.** & Borghi, A. M. (November, 2016). *Abstract Concepts and the activation of the hand-mouth effectors.* Abstract Concepts International Symposium, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Professional service

- 2022- Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, B*
Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Behavior Research Methods*
- 2020- Ad Hoc Reviewer, *PeerJ*

- 2019- Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Discourse Processes*
Review Editor, *Frontiers in Cognitive Science*
Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Cognitive Science*
Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Psychological Research*
- 2018- Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Psychological Science*

Conference organization

- 2023 Member of the organizing committee of the Annual Meeting of Italian Reproducibility Network (ITRN), Sapienza University of Rome.
- 2022 Member of the organizing committee of the Workshop ‘Interactive methods for the study of abstract concepts’, Sapienza University of Rome and TRAINCREASE
- 2021 Member of the organizing committee of the International Symposium ‘Fresh/New Perspectives on Abstract Concepts’, Sapienza University of Rome and TRAINCREASE, hosted online
- 2019 Member of the organizing committee of the conference ‘Truth and Facts in the Humanities and in the Sciences’, University of Bologna
- 2017 Chair of the organizing committee of the 14th Annual Conference of the Italian Association of Cognitive Sciences (AISC), University of Bologna

Membership

- 2023- Steering Committee Italian Reproducibility Network (ITRN)
- 2020- Cognitive Science Society, CSS
- 2019- Association for Psychological Science, APS
ReproducibiliTea Journal Club at the University of York
- 2018- Gender Diversities and Disparities Group (GdG, AIP)
- 2015- Associazione Italiana Psicologia (Sezione Sperimentale), AIP
Associazione Italiana Scienze Cognitive, AISC