

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name and surname: Laura Menin
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Nationality: Italian
Date of Birth: 17th November 1980

CURRENT POSITION

Since January 2012, Research fellow at Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin (Germany).

Current project: “Wounded memories: an ethnographic approach to contemporary Moroccan films and (auto)biographies” within the broader comparative project “Transforming Memories: Cultural Production and Personal/Public Memory in Lebanon and Morocco” directed by Dr. Sonja Hegasy.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

January 2013: PhD in Cultural and Social Anthropology, University of Milan Bicocca, Department of Human Science “Riccardo Massa”. (4 years programme)

Title: *Crafting Lives, Negotiating Ambivalence: Love, friendship and intimacy amongst young Moroccan women*. Supervisor: Prof. Alice Bellagamba

2008–2011: Visiting Dphil Student, University of Sussex, Brighton (UK) (Autumn term: October - December 2008; spring term: January- March 2010; summer term: April-June 2011). Supervisor: Dr. Filippo Osella

2011: Diploma in Oriental and Comparative Philosophy Scuola Superiore di Filosofia Orientale e Comparativa (2 years programme), Istituto di Scienze dell’Uomo di Rimini, University of Urbino ‘Carlo Bo’.

2006 M.A. Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology, University of Milan – Bicocca
Dissertation: “Che genere di modernità? Nuove generazioni di musulmane a Milano”. [What is the gender of Modernity? New generation of young Muslim women in Milan] Supervisors: Prof. Alice Bellagamba, Dr. Mauro Van Aken. Final mark: 110/110 cum laude.

2003 B.A. Epistemology of Educational, University of Milan-Bicocca.
Dissertation: “Verso un’etica della parzialità: fra donne del ‘Nord’ e donne del ‘Sud’ del mondo”. [Toward an ethics of partiality: “Northern” and “Southern” women] Supervisor: Prof. Barbara Mapelli. Final mark: 110/110 cum laude.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

a) Areas and focuses:

- Italy, Morocco
- Migration, gender, religion, young women, bodily practices, political participation, migrants’ associations
- Cultural and social anthropology, migration studies, gender studies, anthropology of media; political anthropology

b) Fieldwork

April- May 2013 (2 months): Fieldwork in the Rabat/Casablanca and Tadla-Azilal region (Moroccan Middle-Atlas) on violence, memory and the cultural production on the “Years of Lead”.

October-November 2012 (2 months): Fieldwork in the Rabat/Casablanca and Tadla-Azilal region (Moroccan Middle-Atlas) on violence, memory and the cultural production on the “Years of Lead”.

May-October 2010 (5 months): Fieldwork in the Tadla-Azilal region (Moroccan Middle-Atlas) under the supervision of Prof. Abdelmajid Zmou, Chef du Département de la géographie Université Sultan Moulay Slimane, Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Beni Mellal (Maroc).

April-October 2009 (6 months): Fieldwork in the Tadla-Azilal region (Moroccan Middle-Atlas) under the supervision of Prof. Abdelmajid Zmou, Chef du Département de la géographie Université Sultan Moulay Slimane, Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Beni Mellal (Maroc).

April-July 2008 (3 months): Preliminary fieldwork in Meknes and in the region of Tadla-Azilal, Morocco.

October 2005-February 2006 (5 months): Fieldwork carried out in Milan for my M.A. dissertation.

c) Research projects and participation in research groups – university level

2007-currently: part of the research group on migration coordinated by Prof. Alice Bellagamba: LAMiT (Laboratory of Anthropology of Migration and Transnationalism), University of Milano-Bicocca.

2007-2010: part of the informal research group on gender and anthropology coordinated by Prof. Claudia Mattalucci, University of Milano-Bicocca. 1) Research results: Special Issue on Gender and Anthropology *Achab. Rivista di Antropologia* XIII Settembre; 2) Mattalucci, C. ed., 2012, *Etnografie di genere. Immaginari, relazioni e mutamenti sociali*, Edizioni Altravista, Lungavilla (PV).

2007: (6 months fieldwork) Researcher for the project “Migrants’ Participation”, Province of Milan – CREAM-Centro di Ricerche Etno-Antropologiche Milano – University of Milano-Bicocca. Scientific coordinator: Prof. Alice Bellagamba November 2005-April 2006: Junior Researcher for the project: Gender and Vocational Training, Province of Milan – University of Milano-Bicocca. Scientific coordinator: Prof. Duccio Demetrio.

d) Applied research and Consultancies

November 2002- February 2003: Junior Researcher for the project “Intercultural libraries in primary school in Milan” - NGO CeLIM di Milano - Comune di Milano.

WORK EXPERIENCE

February 2008: IRRE Lombardia, Istituto Regionale Ricerca Educativa

Workshop: “Parole in movimento. La scrittura di sé nei contesti interculturali”,
Conference: *Interculturalità e teatri possibili. Creatività e innovazione nella scuola che cambia.*

2003 - 2006: NGO CeLIM - Educational Area (CeliMondo)

Activities: Educator and trainer on the topics sustainable development, migrations, intercultural education with primary and secondary school.

October 2005: Augesco - Centre of human resources and skills

Teaching: “The Education and Integration processes: family, school and social assistance” in the Training course: “Autonomy and communication assistant for disable children”.

November 2002 - June 2003: NGO CeLIM - Educational Area (CeliMondo)

200 hours internship plus 50 hours of pedagogical tutoring at the University of Milan-Bicocca.

ACADEMIC RECORDS

a) Teaching experience

2012-2013: **Invited Lecturer** Master M.I.M. (Mater Inter-Mediterranean Mediation), Università Ca’ Foscari, Venezia, Teaching: “Violence, Memory and Cultural Production in Morocco”.

2011-2012: **Invited Lecturer** Master M.I.M. (Mater Inter-Mediterranean Mediation), Università Ca’ Foscari, Venezia, Teaching: “Marriage, mobility and female networks. Moroccan women in Italy”.

2011-2012: **Lecturer** *Corso di Perfezionamento in Antropologia delle migrazioni*, (Postgraduate course: Anthropology of Migration) Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca. Teachings: 1) Migrants’ political participation, 2) Gender, religion and discrimination.

2010–2011: **Lecturer** *Corso di Perfezionamento in Antropologia delle migrazioni*, (Postgraduate course: Anthropology of Migration), Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca. Teaching: 1) Gender, religion and discrimination

2009-2010: **Lecturer** *Corso di Perfezionamento in Antropologia delle migrazioni*, (Postgraduate course: Anthropology of Migration), Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca. Teachings: 1) Migrants’ political participation

From 2007 to 2010 **Scientific collaborator and teaching assistant** for various anthropological teaching courses, University of Milano Bicocca, holding various seminars on my research fields and assessing students.

2009-2010: **Tutor and teaching assistant** (Cultrice della materia), Anthropology of the migratory processes, MA Cultural Anthropology, University of Milan Bicocca, Prof. Alice Bellagamba.

2008-2009: **Tutor and teaching assistant** (Cultrice della materia), Cultural Anthropology, B.A. Epistemology of Education, University of Milan-Bicocca, Prof. Mauro Van Aken.

2008-2009: **Tutor and teaching assistant** (Cultrice della materia), Pedagogy of Gendered Differences, B.A. Epistemology of Education, University of Milan-Bicocca, Prof. Barbara Mapelli.

2007-2008: **Tutor and teaching assistant** (Cultrice della materia), Cultural Anthropology, B.A. Epistemology of Education, University of Milan-Bicocca, Prof. Mauro Van Aken.

2007-2008: **Tutor and teaching assistant** (Cultrice della materia), Pedagogy of Gendered Differences, B.A. Epistemology of Education, University of Milan-Bicocca, Prof. Barbara Mapelli.

b) Organization of seminars, designing of research projects and activities

18-21.04.2013 (co-organizer with Dr. Sonja Hegazy and Prof. Jillai al-Adnani) International Workshop “Trauma, Memory and History: A comparative reflection between Morocco and Lebanon”, University of Rabat Mohammed V, Morocco.

25.11.2010 (organizer with Arianna Cecconi): Cosa sta succedendo sulla torre di Via Imbonati? Clandestinità, precariato, diritti (What is going on in Via Imbonati tower? Illegality, precariousness and rights), Department of Human Sciences, University of Milan Bicocca.

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

14.12.2012 University of Lausanne, International Workshop “The Trouble of Love in the Arab World Romance, Marriage, and the Shaping of Intimate Lives”, organized by C. Fortier, A. Kreil, I. Maffi and S. Schielke.

Paper presented: “The impasse of Love: Conflicting gendered ideologies and social change in Morocco”

15-17.12.2011 ABORNE Workshop: Fence, networks, people. Exploring the UE/Africa borderland, University of Pavia.

Paper: “*Facing borders*”: *illegal mobility, religious imagination and gendered subjectivities in Morocco*.

1-4.12.2011 MESA 2011 Annual Meeting. Panel: The Ambiguity of Great Expectations: Ethnographic Approaches to Living a Life in the Middle East (S. Schielke, P. Abenante). Paper: *Crafting lives, negotiating ambivalence: young women’s romantic imaginaries and social change in Morocco*.

30.06.2011 Nuove forme di partecipazione dei migranti: dall’integrazione all’empowerment (New forms of migrants’ participation: from integration to empowerment), FarSICura Centro di ricerca sull’insicurezza urbana, Dipartimento di sociologia e Ricerca sociale, Università di Milano-Bicocca.

Paper: *Intorno alla torre di Via Imbonati: Clandestinità, partecipazione ed esclusione sociale a Milano* (Around the Tower of Via Imbonati: illegal aliens, participation and social exclusion in Milan)

- 15-18.06.2011: 4th European Conference for African Studies, The Nordic African Institute, Uppsala (Sweden). Panel 151: Intimate engagement: Decolonizing kinship, gender and sexualities (E. Oinas, S. Anfred).
Paper: *Desiring 'love', crafting intimacy: conflicting gender ideologies and social transformation in Morocco*
- 09-11.06.2011: X Convegno SESAMO (Società per gli Studi del Medio Oriente), University of Milano Bicocca. Panel: Mondi di vita e appartenenza religiosa: Prospettive etnografiche su soggettività e Islam (P. Abenanate, D. Cantini)
Paper: *Corpi, confini e desideri. Soggettività di genere e micro-politiche della modernità.*
- 08.03.09: *Antropologia e Migrazioni. Prospettive teoriche ed esperienze etnografiche*, (Anthropology and Migration: Theoretical perspectives and ethnographical experiences), jointly organised by LAMiT (Laboratory of Anthropology of Migration e Transnationalism), University of Milano-Bicocca.
Paper: *Partecipazione Migrante. Percorsi istituzionali e forme associative nella provincia di Milano* (Migrants' Participation: Institutional paths and associations in the province of Milan).
- 15-19.12.2008: École Doctorale de Meknes, *Nouvelles Dynamiques migratoires en méditerranée.*
Paper: *Desires and strategies of mobility. Social and gender transformations in the Tadla-Azilal region (Moroccan Middle-Atlas)*
- 6-8.09.2007 *Gender in Trans-it: Transcultural and Transnational Perspectives* 12th Swiss Gender History Conference - Department of History, University of Basel.
Paper: *Appropriating Modernity, Contesting Gender: young Muslim women in Milan*
- 13.10.2006 V Ciclo di Incontri del Mediterraneo: *Musulmani in Italia: permanenza e cambiamento*, Istituto di Scienze dell'Uomo di Rimini, Università di Urbino "Carlo Bo":
Paper: *Corpi, confini e desideri: nuove generazioni di donne musulmane a Milano.* (Bodies, Boundaries and Desires. New generation of Muslim women in Milan)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- (Under final review) "Rewriting the world: Gendered violence, the political imagination and the memoirs from the Years of Lead in Morocco" *Journal of International Conflict and Violence*, Special Issue on "Violence, Justice and the Work of Memory", edited by Klaus Neumann and Dan Anderson.
- (Under final review) "Invisible bodies, vulnerable lives: A trajectory of "irregular" migration from Morocco to Italy", Bellagamba, A., Dünwald, S., Gaibazzi, P. *EurAfrican Borders: places, actors, lives* Palgrave Series in African borderlands Studies
- (Under final review) "Searching for my voice: Intimacy, longing and fragmentation in the self-narrative of a young Muslim woman in Italy", in P. Abenante and D. Cantini Eds. *Life-worlds and religious commitment: ethnographic perspectives on subjectivity and Islam*, Special Issue of 'La ricerca Folklorica'.

(Forthcoming) “Love, power and ambivalence: Romantic imaginaries and social change in Morocco” (original in Italian “Amore, potere e ambivalenza. Immaginari amorosi e mutamento sociale in Marocco”) in Mapelli, B. (a cura di), titolo, Ediesse edizioni.

2012

Co-authored with Saadi Nirko, Workshop Report “Transforming memories: Cultural Production and Personal/Public Memory in Lebanon and Morocco” in H-Sazu- kult, October 2012.

“Feminist Desires, Multi-culturalist Dilemmas: Migrant women’s self-organizing in Milan” in Glenda Bonifacio (ed.) *Feminism and Migration: Cross-cultural Engagements*, Springer, US: 243-262.

“Promesse e tradimenti del sogno d’amore. Soggettività di genere e trasformazioni sociali in Marocco” in Mattalucci, C. ed., 2012, *Etnografie di genere. Immaginari, relazioni e mutamenti sociali*, Edizioni Altravista, Lungavilla (PV): 63-79.

2011

“Bodies, Boundaries and Desires. Multiple subject positions and micro-politics of modernity among young Muslim women in Milan”, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, Special issue “Children of migrants in Italy”, 16(4): 502-513.

2010

“Immaginando la ‘casa’. Luoghi di dislocamento e di desiderio negli scritti di tre giovani donne arabo-musulmane”(Imagining ‘home’. Places of displacement and desire in three Arab-Muslim young women’s writings), *Scritture Migranti. Rivista di studi interculturali*, n. 3: 67-92. (peer-reviewed journal)

2009

“Appropriating Modernity, Contesting Gender. Young Muslim Women in Milan (Italy)” in Simon Wenger et al. (eds.), *Gender in Trans-it. Transnational and Transcultural Perspectives*, Zurich: Chronos Verlag: 171-182.

“La parola in movimento. Identità e narrazione nei contesti interculturali” (Words on the move: Identity and narrative in intercultural contexts), D’Angelo, Di Rago (a cura di), *Teatro, didattica attiva, intercultura. Teatri visibili e teatri invisibili*, Milano: Franco Angeli: 115-130.

2008

“Leadership femminili, desideri e strategie d’inclusione. I percorsi associativi di due gruppi di donne migranti a Milano” (Feminine leadership, desires, and inclusive strategies: Two migrant women’s self-organizing pathways in Milan), *Achab. Rivista di Antropologia*, V Settembre: 51-56.

“Memoria e resistenze. Quattro donne nere in America” (Memory and Resistance: Four Black Women in America), Mapelli, B. (ed), *Soggetti di storie. Donne, uomini e scritture di sé* (Subjects of Stories: Women, men, and self-writing), Milano: Guerini Scientifica: 135-178.

“In cerca di *altre* storie. Vite e scritture di donne e uomini” (Searching for *other* stories: women’s and men’s lives and writings), in Mapelli, B. cit.: 203-255.

“Che *genere* di Modernità? Nuove generazioni di donne musulmane a Milano” (The *gender* of modernity. New generations of Muslim women in Milan) in Aa. Vv, *Volti d un’Italia multi-etnica. Spazi abitativi, stili di abbigliamento e giovani di origine immigrata*, Torino: Harmattan:118-163, *Luciana Sassatelli Prize* on immigration in Italy 2007/2008.

Research report:

2007

“Partecipazione Migrante. *Report finale del Progetto di ricerca*” (Migrants’ Participation. Final report), pp. 185 (Unpublished)

2006

Co-authored S. Taddeo, B. Mapelli, “La formazione professionale nella provincia di Milano: estetisti e parrucchieri. Un’analisi di genere” (Unpublished).

AFFILIATIONS

Member of the Scientific Committee of postgraduate program in *Anthropology of migration*, University of Milano Bicocca

Member of Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

Member of The Nordic Africa Institute

GRANTS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

2011: Paper selected for publication, PrecART CondividIDEE 2011 Prize, Interdepartmental Center for Research on Politics and Gender Studies, University of Padova on the topic of “Love, sexuality and changing gender models), Scriptaweb.

2008-2011: Ph.D. Grant at University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy.

2008: ‘Luciana Sassatelli’ prize for doctoral and post-grad. Dissertation on the topic of immigration in Italy (2007/2008) Province of Bologna, Italy

2008: Erasmus Program Grant to support my study at the University of Sussex (UK)

LANGUAGES

Italian: native speaker

English: fluent

French: intermediate

Moroccan Arabic: good (April - July 2008: intensive course, Université Moulay Ismail, Meknes - Morocco).

Arabic (MSA): basic (A-y. 2004-2004 Modern Standard Arabic (annual) course, University of Milano-Bicocca; April - July 2008: intensive course, Université Moulay Ismail, Meknes - Morocco)