



Joachim Hans Bernd Gerdes

Associate professor

✉ joachim.gerdes@unige.it

☎ +39 010 209 5949

Education and training

2000

PHD

Die Schuld-Thematik in Hans Henny Jahnns 'Fluß ohne Ufer' - cum laude
Universität Hamburg - Hamburg - DE

Academic experience

2004 - 2007

Ricercatore

Università degli Studi di Cassino - Cassino - IT

2007 - ONGOING

Ricercatore

Università degli Studi di Genova - Genova - IT

Language skills

Russian

Basic

German

Mother tongue

Italian

Proficient

English

Independent

Finnish

Independent

Latin

Independent

Hungarian

Basic

Teaching activity

Academic year 2007-2018: Università degli Studi di Genova, Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature straniere / Scuola di Scienze umanistiche

1st, 2nd and 3rd year lectures in German language and translation and in German specialized languages in the study course in 'Foreign languages and cultures for business and tourism' (bachelor); 1st, 2nd and 3rd year lectures in German linguistics and theory of translation in the study course in 'Theories and techniques of interlinguistic mediation' (bachelor); lectures in German legal language, German business language, technical and scientific language and terminology in the study course in 'Translation and Interpreting' (master)

Academic year 2012-2013 Scuola di Specializzazione all'Insegnamento Secondario (SSIS), Academic year 2014-2015: Università degli Studi di

Genova, Tirocinio Formativo Attivo (TFA)

Qualification classes 545-546: Lectures on communicative competences, linguistic abilities and language reflection, lectures on new language teaching technologies; qualification class 546: lectures on language didactics and history of language teaching methods, language teaching didactics and computer and communication technologies, didactics of specialized languages.

Academic year 2009-2010: Università degli Studi di Milano, Facoltà di Scienze Politiche

2nd year lectures in German language (pragmatics, translation studies) in the study course in 'Linguistics and cultural mediation' (bachelor); 2nd year lectures (specialized languages) in the study course in 'Languages and Cultures for international communication and cooperation' (master).

Academic year 2004-2007: Università degli Studi di Cassino, Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia,

1st, 2nd and 3rd year lectures in German language and translation in the study course in 'Foreign languages and literatures for multimedia-based communication' (bachelor); lectures in German linguistics (linguistic criticism, corpus linguistics) in the study course in 'Rhetoric and discourse' (master).

Postgraduate research and teaching activity

Supervision of PhD students, residents and post-doctoral fellows

Supervision of doctoral candidates specialized in topics that regard German language, German linguistic and translation: PHD program in 'Digital Humanities – Tecnologie digitali, arti, lingue, culture e comunicazione' (digital technologies, arts, languages, cultures and communication), in collaboration with the PHD program of Turin University in Digital Humanities.

Research interests

My research activities are concentrated in the following five areas as it can also be seen in the arguments of my publications and of the papers presented on various national and international conferences.

One of the principle arguments I'm dealing with are sociolinguistic studies about German substandard language, especially German youth languages in diachronic, synchronic and contrastive perspective.

As a further argument of research I'm interested in critical semantics and linguistic criticism in general and especially as it concerns contemporary journalistic language.

The third area of scientific research, as well concerning language varieties, are special languages, in particular legal language, languages of human sciences e the academic language of protestant theology.

My experiences in teaching German theoretical linguistics and German as a foreign language at Italian universities (Genova, Cassino, Bologna and

others) and abroad have initiated my scientific interest in theory of language teaching and didactics of German, especially in the context of university classes. Developing didactical online material in this field is therefore being another area of my scientific and practical activity, operated for example in designing and elaborating learning material for German as a foreign language in the ALTAIR project (Apprendimento linguistico tecnicamente avanzato in rete, University of Bologna) and in the CLIRE project (Centro linguistico in rete, University of Genova). Recently I've participated in research, publication and edition regarding analysis of didactic grammars of German as a foreign language.

As a consequence of translating activities in the past and until today as a further scientific field of activity I'm investigating linguistic aspects of the translation of scientific and specialized texts as well as of literary translations. In this area I've published a critical edition of the first German translation of N. Machiavelli's *Principe* and collaborated in the critical edition of the first German translation of G. Della Casa's *Galateo*.

Grants

2012 - 2013

Critical edition of the first German translation of Niccolò Machiavelli's Principe by C.A.v.Lenz

Università di Genova - IT

PRA - Pricipal investigator

Critical edition of the first German translation of Niccolò Machiavelli's *Principe* by C.A.v.Lenz (published by Renneritz / edition scriptum, Sandersdorf-Brehna, Germany, 2013).

Aim of the publication is to benefit from biographical, cultural and textual knowledge about Lenz' translation in order to redact the critical edition complemented by a philological commentary and by footnotes referring to sources the author has attended.

The edition of this text including the connections to the source text and to translations in other languages (French, Latin) makes it possible to researchers of other fields of study to identify the processes of interpretation, examination and anticipatory auto-censorship that influence and transform the reception of Machiavelli's thought that was potentially revolutionary and politically destructive and thus had to be adapted to satisfy each kind of transmission depending on different political objectives or varyious types of readers.

The research project is part of a vaster project about the most important translations of the *Principe* composed from the 16th to the 19th century.

2013 - 2016

Disputed urban spaces and sociocultural and sociolinguistic dynamics between 20th and 21st century

Università di Genova - IT

PRA - Pricipal investigator

Subject of the research project is the social geography of German urban

centers as far as they are represented in scientific publications in the sociological field of studies and in journalistic texts: Coming from the terms *Oberstadt / Unterstadt* (upper town / lower town, downtown) that are traditionally used for denominating urban areas with contrasting social profiles the linguistic and social classifications of the structures of German speaking cities will be investigated. The aim of the research is an outline of the linguistic and lexical changes regarding the description of German speaking urban areas in the 21st century in sociological and journalistic texts.

2014 - 2017

The first translation of the 'Galateo' by Monsignor Giovanni della Casa (coordinated by S. Spazzarini)

Università di Genova - IT

PRA - Pricipal investigator

The manuscript intituled *GALATHEUS oder Von Erbarkeit, undt Höffligkeit der Sitten that is conserved in the Saxon State and University Library* (Sächsische Landesbibliothek /Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek) at Dresden is a codex unicus of which don't exist any further copies as far as is known. It is the first German translation of Monsignor Giovanni Della Casa's book *Galateo overo de' costumi* (1558) from the Italian original text by Friedrich von Gelhorn, written in 1595 with a foreword addressed to Johann Georg e August from Saxony. I've contributed to the decryption of the manuscript and to the composition of the editorial report that is part of the edition issued by Serena Spazzarini.

2017 - 2018

Discourses with young people - Research conceptions methods and examples of applied science from the laboratory of empirical language research

Bergische Universität Wuppertal (Germania) - DE

Bergische Universität Wuppertal (Germany) DFG (Germany) - Pricipal investigator

Objective of this empirical research is the analysis of data regarding substandard varieties of German as a topic of teaching German as a foreign language. The results of empirical inquiries have shown an explicit desire of students to overcome the discrepancy between the exclusiveness of normative standard German as teaching purpose and the reality of language use in German speaking countries and areas that is considerably characterized by colloquial speech, youth language, urban slang and other substandard varieties. Although the normative approach is still prevalent in teaching German as a foreign language it is inevitable to cope with the actual changes that favor different kinds of grammatical forms and lexis that doesn't any more conform to the traditional standard norm; this happens mostly in oral communication but increasingly also in written texts.

2016 - 2018

Youth Languages - Current Perspectives of International Research

Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz - AT

Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz - Principal investigator

Objective of the research is to generate a representative contrastive overview about the most important dictionaries of youth language and youth slang in German, English, Russian, Italian and Finnish language. The comparison of documentation, evaluation and presentation methods used by the authors and the comparison of the recent and relevant databases in different linguistic and cultural areas allows to acquire some insight into various lexicological and lexicographic challenges and solutions beyond the German point of view. The analysis of the scientific approaches applied during the compilation of dictionaries of youth language in different cultural areas offers furthermore the possibility to reflect about deficits in the German lexicographic activities regarding youth languages and slangs, publications and databases that are generally considered insufficient from the scientific point of view.

2017 - 2018

Applied linguistics and didactics of German as a foreign language

Università di Genova - IT

FRA - Principal investigator

The research project is collocated in the field of didactics of German as a foreign language in the field of academic teaching, argument that is of particular relevance inside the international scientific community as a consequence of the university reform process initiated in 2001/02 that has brought to a new distribution of teaching and studying contents especially in the field of language teaching in the so called 3+2 curricula. The decision to deepen the research on the argument is therefore based on its relevance, but also on the successful realization of a conference about the examination of learner's grammars organized in 2015 in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures and the subsequent publication of a volume entitled *Grammatik im fremdsprachlichen Deutschunterricht* by Frank & Timme (Berlin). The main aim of the research project is to stimulate a critical debate on appropriate means and methods of foreign language teaching involving several specialized researchers of the linguistic and other interdisciplinary fields of study. Some renowned Italian researchers are taking part in this project, as for example Prof. Claudio Di Meola (Università di Roma "La Sapienza"), Prof. Livio Gaeta (Università di Torino), Prof. Dorothee Heller (Università di Bergamo), Prof. Federica Missaglia (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore), as well as several representatives of the international scientific community: Prof.ssa Ursula Hirschfeld (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg), Prof. Baldur Neuber (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg), Prof. Eva Neuland (Bergische Universität Wuppertal) and others.

2018 - ONGOING

Translation and Interpretation - Theory and Practice

Università di Genova DAAD Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria - IT

Università di Genova DAAD Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria - Principal investigator

Subsequent to the fruitful results of the organization of two conferences at the Department of foreign Languages and Cultures at Genoa University (*Grammatik im fremdsprachlichen Deutschunterricht*, 2015, *Angewandte Linguistik und Deutsch-Didaktik*, 2017) and considering various requests by colleagues and students in this occasion a continuation of the conferential activity is intended as in October 2018 an international symposium with subsequent publication of a miscellanea is planned. The symposium will be entitled *Übersetzen und Dolmetschen - Theorie und Praxis (Translating and Interpreting - theory and practice)* and will deal with Translation Studies in the field of German language. The aim of the project is to analyze and dispute various problems and aspects of translation studies such as literary translation, interpreting, translation of specialized languages, the role of the text in translation, the significance of lexicology in translation, translation didactics.

Editorial activity

Monographies

Die Schuld-Thematik in Hans Henny Jahnns «Fluß ohne Ufer». (Hamburger Beiträge zur Germanistik, Volume 32), Frankfurt am Main, Peter Lang 2000.
Ein «Lebenselixier». E.T.A. Hoffmanns «Elixiere des Teufels» und der Bildungsroman der Goethezeit, Hamburg (Universitätspublikationen), Hamburg University Press 2001.

Arbeitsfelder der Jugendsprachforschung. Studienbuch für Lehre und Forschung. (Sprache – Kommunikation – Kultur. Soziolinguistische Beiträge, a cura di Eva Neuland – 12), Frankfurt am Main, Peter Lang 2013.

Editions

Christian Albrecht von Lenz: *Der Fürst des Nicola Machiavell* (erste deutsche Übersetzung, 1692). Kritisch herausgegeben von Joachim Gerdes. Mit einem Vorwort von Roberto De Pol und einem Nachwort von Serena Spazzarini, Sandersdorf-Brehna, Renneritz 2013.

(with Dagmar Mißfeldt and Jörg Ridderbusch): *Eiswasser – Zeitschrift für Literatur: Finnland spezial.* Heft III/IV – Jahrgang 5, Vechta, Eiswasser-Verlag 1998.

(with Thomas Bleitner and Nicole Selmer): *Praxisorientierte Literaturtheorie. Annäherungen an Texte der Moderne,* Bielefeld, Aisthesis 1999.

Lingua e Diritto. La Lingua della Legge, la Legge nella Lingua, Publifarum, n. 18, pubblicato il 13/03/2013, <http://publifarum.farum.it>.

(with Marina Brambilla and Chiara Messina): *Diatopische Variation in der deutschen Rechtssprache,* Berlin, Frank & Timme 2013.

(with Livia Tonelli and Claudio Di Meola): *Grammatik im fremdsprachlichen Deutschunterricht. Linguistische und didaktische Überlegungen zu Übungsgrammatiken,* Berlin, Frank & Timme 2017.

(with Livia Tonelli and Claudio Di Meola): *Angewandte Linguistik und*

Deutsch-Didaktik, Berlin, Frank & Timme 2018, will be published in 2019.

Assignments abroad

- 1993 - Lecturer of German as a foreign language at Turku Economy University (Turun Kauppakorkeakoulu) and at Turku University (Finland)
- 1993 - Assistant professor of German as a foreign language at Polytechnic Academy Turku (Finland)
- 1994 - Lecturer of German as a foreign language at Department of German Studies at Helsinki University (Finland)
- 1995 - Assistant professor of German as a foreign language (German repatriates from Russia) at Otto-Benecke-Foundation, Association Inter-DaF, Herder-Institute, University of Leipzig (Germany)
- 1995-1996 - Assistant professor of German as a foreign language at Christian-Albrecht-University of Kiel (Germany)
- 1995-1999 - Assistant professor for German culture, literature and linguistics at University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC - University of Reno, Nevada), University of Lüneburg (Germany), academic study program for US students
- 1997-1999 - Assistant professor for German as a foreign language and German literature at Lüneburg University (Germany)
- 1999 - Coordinator of international university exchange programs at International Office, Lüneburg University (Germany)
- 20.01.2010 - Berlin, visiting professor at Freie Universität Berlin - Department of Philosophy and Human Sciences, Section of Film Sciences, lecture within a seminar cycle organized by Prof. Bernhard Groß: 'Film - Historicity - Film Historiography': 'Language transformation in German postwar prose?'
- 26.-30.06.2012 - Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena (Germany), Department of German Studies Abroad, Erasmus Teaching Mobility: lectures on the following arguments: *Situation der deutschen Sprache in Italien, Präsentation CLIRE-Online-Kurs der Universität Genua, Linguistik-Vermittlung an Germanistikstudenten.*
- 20.06.-10.07.2015 - Leuphana University Lüneburg (Germany), Faculty of Cultural Sciences: Visiting professor at *Leuphana International Seminars program: Seminar on intercultural philosophy and theories of foreignness constructions: 'Kanakisch', Türkendeutsch, Kiezdeutsch, Ethnolekt – linguistische und kulturpragmatische Analyse von aktuellen Sprachkontaktphänomenen im deutschsprachigen Raum; Feridun Zaimoglu – Alterität und Assimilation im literarischen Diskurs Von Kanak Sprak bis Leyla und Isabel; Reziproke interkulturelle Wahrnehmung aktuell: Deutschlandbilder in Italien und Italienbilder in Deutschland*
- 19.12.2017 - Leuphana University Lüneburg (Germany), Faculty of Cultural Sciences: Visiting professor, lecture within the Masterforum 'text cultures - philosophy, literature, history' (prof. Steffi Hobuß, prof. Sven Kramer): *Neuere Sprachgeschichte und aktueller Sprachwandel: Sprachverfall oder Sprachbereicherung?*
- 23.-30.06.2019 - Universität Rostock (Germany), Department of Romanistic Philology / Department of German Language and Literature, Erasmus

Teaching Mobility: lectures on the following arguments: *Politisch korrekte Sprache im interlingualen Vergleich (Deutsch-Italienisch); Deutsche Jugendsprache und Jugendsprachforschung; Kanak Sprak, Kiezdeutsch und andere - Kontaktsprachen im Gegenwartsdeutsch*