

CURRICULUM VITAE

SILVIA GIAGNONI

silvia.giagnoni@johncabot.edu
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/silvia-giagnoni-9bb1059/>

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Comparative Studies (concentration: Media Studies)
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL.
Graduation Date: May 4th, 2007
Dissertation Title: *Christian Rock Goes Mainstream: Youth Culture, Politics and Popular Music in the U.S.*
Committee Chair: Chris Scodari
Committee: Larry Grossberg, PhD, Noemi Marin, PhD, Anthony J. Tamburri, PhD

M.A. (Italian "Laurea") in Mass Communications
(Scienze della Comunicazione)
"La Sapienza" University - Rome, Italy, May 2002
Graduating Marks: 110/110 cum laude

B.A. Communication "La Sapienza" University - Rome, Italy
(Scienze della Comunicazione),
"La Sapienza" University - Rome, Italy, May 2002
Master Thesis Title: *"Iron Maidens." Rappresentazioni di Genere e Consumo Femminile nell'Heavy Metal. ("Iron Maidens." Gender Representations and Female Consumption in Heavy Metal Music).*
Supervisor: Prof. Alberto Abruzzese, PhD, Anna Camaiti Hostert, PhD
Grade: 110/110 cum laude

SCHOLARSHIP

BOOKS

In English:

- *Here we May Rest. Alabama Immigrants in the Age of HB 56.* Montgomery: NewSouth Books, 2017.
- *Fields of Resistance. The Struggle of Florida's Farmworkers for Justice.* Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2011.

In Italian:

- *Alabama Hunt.* Alter Ego, Viterbo, 2024. (novel)-
- *Gkn. Cronistoria Personale di un innamoramento collettivo.* Pinerolo (TO), Panerose Editore, 2024. (narrative non fiction)
- *Fioca.* Iacobelli Editore, Roma. (Trans. *Feeble*) (Fall 2021) -novel-

- *Oltre la Siepe. Alla Ricerca di Harper Lee* (Trans. *Beyond the Hedge. In Search of Harper Lee*). Le Muse Furiose. Edizioni dell'Asino, Roma. September 2013. -narrative non fiction-

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (MOST RECENT)

Academic/Essays

- (in English)
"Teaching Immigration in a Writing-Intensive Honors Course," coauthored with John Havard, Tim Henderson, Brennan Herring, and Rachel Pate. In *Teaching Writing through the Immigrant Story*, (collection) Utah State University Press, Fall 2021.
(essay)
- (in English)
"Fear and Hate in Alabama and Beyond: Narratives of Immigration in the Trump Campaign." *The Journal of Hate Studies* (Special Issue - Interrogating the Place of Hate in the 2016 Presidential Campaign). Vol. 14. 2017/2018, 1.
(essay)
- (In Italian) "Post Trump America: Note personali e pubbliche." (Trans. "Post Trump America" Personal and Public Notes") *Nuovi Argomenti*, Rome, Italy (March 2017).
(essay)
- (In English) "The Coalition of Immokalee Workers: Grassroots Politics in the Age of Corporate Media" in Atkins, Joseph B. ed., *The Strangers Among Us: Tales from a Global Migrant Worker Movement*. LabourStart, London, 2016.
(book chapter)
- (In Italian) "Il Complicato Mondo di Nelle Harper Lee." (Trans. The Complicated World of Nelle Harper Lee) *Nuovi Argomenti*, 72 (October-December 2015) Rome, Italy.
(essay)
- (In Italian) "La Marcia che cambiò il mondo: da Selma a Montgomery, 50 anni dopo—Riflettori ancora sull'Alabama" (Trans. The March that Changed the World: from Selma to Montgomery, 50 Years Later – Spotlight Once Again on Alabama) *Lo Straniero*, 179 (May 2015) Rome, Italy.
(essay)
- (In Italian) "Charleston e la questione razziale negli Stati Uniti" (Trans. Charleston and The Issue of Race in the United States") *Lo Straniero*, 182-183 (August/September 2015) Roma. (essay)
- (in Italian) "Il Mistero oltre la Siepe. Monroeville, Harper Lee e il 50esimo anniversario dell'uscita di To Kill a Mockingbird." *Nuovi Argomenti*. Rome, Italy. (Trans. "The Mystery Beyond the Hedge. Monroeville, Harper Lee, and the 50th Anniversary of To Kill a Mockingbird." (Two-part essay) 52, October-December 2010; 55 July-September 2011)
(essay)

Collective works

- TOCCAUNOTOCCATUTTI. Arte e lotte operaie. Mostra diffusa (contributor) Prato, 8 October 2023.
- "Mettere il piede nel posto sbagliato: errore ed erranza." (a collective work by the Pedagogy & Education Group of Priorità alla Scuola). Clionet, [Vol. 7](#), 2023.

Industry Articles (selected list)

(in Italian)

- "[La lotta contro 'la politica della rabbia e della paura'](#)". Il Manifesto. 30 August 2025.
- "[Usa, Strategia della paura](#)". Il Manifesto, 15 July 2025.

- [“Alligator Alcatraz. Trump inaugura la prigione per immigrati in Florida.”](#) Il Manifesto. 2 July 2025
- [“Gkn, ‘Fame di un mondo nuovo’: il suono della lotta e del cambiamento”.](#) Il Manifesto. 14 July 2024.
- [“Caso Gkn. È vero, va cambiata l’ideologia, ma quella liberista.”](#) Volere la Luna (blog). 18 September 2024.
- [“‘Spiccare il volo o cadere?’ A che punto è la lotta dei lavoratori ex Gkn dopo due anni di assemblea permanente.”](#) Valigia Blu. 8 July 8 2023.
- [“Gli operai GKN in piazza per ‘rompere l’assedio’.](#) Valigia Blu. 24 March 2023.
- [“La classe operaia si prende la scena. La nuova fase della lotta GKN per la fabbrica pubblica.”](#) Valigia Blu. October 24, 2022.
- [“Venice Climate Camp: Time’s up, Join the fight now.”](#) La Svolta. 13 September 2022.
- [“Dalle grandi dimissioni al ritorno dei sindacati negli USA.”](#) 1 August 2022. Valigia Blu.
- [“Strage in Texas: La guerra di cui nessuno parla.”](#) La Svolta. 25 May 2022.
- [“Salvare Taranto per salvare l’Italia.”](#) La Svolta. 19 April 2022.
- [“L’urgenza di farsi classe dirigente.”](#) *Gli Asini* (online). 1 April 2022.
- [“La Torre dei Pomodori, simbolo di un sogno industriale fallita.”](#) La Svolta. 4 March 2022.
- [“Piombino, la città-fabbrica che aspetta un nuovo futuro.”](#) La Svolta. 14 February 2022.
- [“A Firenze, la lotta operaia della Gkn.”](#) *Gli Asini*, 91, October 2021.
- [“Sindacato e socialità ai tempi della pandemia. Incontro con Alessandro Checchi alias Biba DJ.”](#) *Gli Asini*, 87, May 2021.
- [“‘Stati Popolari:’ Cosa imparare dai braccianti della Florida in lotta.”](#) *Gli Asini*, 78-79, Agosto-Settembre 2020.
- [Soccorso Storico](#)
(weekly articles on the multiethnic neighborhood of Soccorso, Prato – September/October 2020)
- [“‘Stati Popolari:’ Cosa imparare dai braccianti della Florida in lotta.”](#) (Trans. “‘Stati Popolari:’ What to learn from Florida’s farmworkers”). *Gli Asini*, 78-79, August-September 2020.
- [“Con la scuola-parcheggio Il Paese resta fermo.”](#) (Trans. “If schools are a parking spots, the Country is not going forward”). *Il Tirreno*. 15 June 2020.
- [“Spike rifà la cosa giusta.”](#) (Trans. “Spike Lee does the right thing it again”). *La Rivista del Cinematografo*. 1 June 2020.
- [“La fine della socialità?”](#) *La Rivista Intelligente*. March 20, 2020.
- [“La Visita.”](#) *La Rivista Intelligente*. 2 February 2020 (Trans. “The Visit”)
-short story
- [“Il Salvataggio.”](#) *Il Tirreno*. 11 August 2019. (Trans. “The Rescue”)
-feature story
(In English)
- [“Free at Last. When You are Among the Few Granted Asylum.”](#) Augusta Free Press. May 19, 2018.
(accessed May 31, 2018)
-editorial
- [“The Right to Dissent, the Right to be Informed.”](#) Montgomery Advertiser. October 7, 2016.
-letter to the editor
- [“Use the Power of Ballot Wisely.”](#) Montgomery Advertiser, 23 October 2014.
- [“When Republicans Try to Co-opt Cesar Chavez.”](#) National Journal, 18 April 2014. -editorial
- [“Militarization of War on Drugs has to Stop.”](#) 7 September 2012. -editorial
- [“A Lesson Not Quite Learned.”](#) Socialist Worker, 11 October 2011. -op-ed
- [“Color Blind or Just Plain Blind?”](#) Socialist Worker, 27 January 2011.

- [“Bringing Slavery into the Open.”](#) Socialist Worker, 1 December 2010.

VIDEOS

Documentaries

A Tale of two DREAMers (2013), a short film by Silvia Giagnoni Morghan Prude (AUM student) in collaboration with the Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice.

Take it back? Evangelical Christianity and Popular Music (English version); *Jesus Rock* (Italian version) 2006 by Giagnoni Silvia and Orlandi Eleonora.
(Co-writer, co-director, and co-producer)

REVIEWS

- (In Italian)
Giulia Marchetti, Francesco di Trapani, *The Movers. A Journey into Adulthood* (2022) *Sociologie*, Vol. V, n. 1, 2024, pp. 213-215 ISSN 2724-6078 (online) DOI: 10.53119/se.2024.1.13 (review)
- (In Italian) “Go Set a Watchman.” *Lo Straniero*, 184 (October 2015) Rome, Italy.
- (In English) *Fair Trade from the Ground Up. New Markets for Social Justice* by April Linton. *Societies Without Borders* 8:3 (2014).

CONFERENCES, CONSULTING & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (SELECTED LIST)

- “Dai campi alle fabbriche e ritorno” (Trans. From the fields to the factories and back) with Francesco Baccanelli (FLAI CGIL Firenze); Sarah Caudiero (Sudd Cobas); Marco Omizzolo (Eurispes), 20 September 2025. (roundtable at [Firenze RiVista](#))
- “GKN: Chronicle of a Resistance,” John Cabot University (Roma), 1 April, 2025, with Sandro Portelli (roundtable organized with [STAND](#))
- “Il Caso Gkn: Cosa c’è da imparare,” 14 November 2025, Casa della Memoria e della Storia (Roma) with Claudio Tosi (Circolo Bosio) and Roberto Ciccarelli (Il Manifesto) (roundtable)
- ***GKN. Cronistoria personale di un innamoramento collettivo***-book presentations (seleted list)
 - Salone Internazionale del Libro, Torino, 15 May 2025, with Ibtissam Ababboussayr, Luca Bertolotto, Francesca Ferrante, Emilio Gardiol, Claudio Villot (Panerose editore)
 - Ponte alla Ghisolfi (Milano), 27 October 2025, with Roberta Covelli (book presentation)
 - Casa Caciolle (Firenze), 11 September 2024, with Simona Baldanzi (writer and activist) e Riccardo Chiari (Il Manifesto),
 - Centro Pecci (Prato), with Andrea Marotta (Rai Toscana), 25 July, 2024.
 - Noi Libreria (Milano), with Francesca Coin (Internazionale) and Emilo Gardiol (Panerose Editore), 23 July 2024.
- ***Alabama Hunt*** –book presentations
 - Sala Soci Coop (Pisa), 7 March 2025, with Igor Vazzaz (critic and songwriter).
 - Bookstorie Libreria (Roma), 30 January 2025, with Luigi Sardiello (writer and director).
 - Pecci Books Festival (Prato), 9 November 2024, with Roberto Venturini (book editor and writer).
 - Biblioteca Lazzerini (Prato), 7 November 2024, with Giorgio Van Straten (writer and director of Fondazione Alinari).

- “Writing Fact/Writing Fiction”. A Talk with Matthew Kneale, moderated by Moira Egan, organized by Institute for Creative Writing and Translation at John Cabot University, 28 May 2024.
- ***Fioca*** –book presentations
 - Biblioteca Italiana delle Donne (Bologna), 16 June 2022, with Giancarla Melis and Claudia Marulo.
 - Biblioteca delle Oblate (Firenze), 23 March 2022, with Giorgio Van Straten – Rassegna “Si scrive Marzo si legge Donna.”
 - Biblioteca Lazzerini, 8 April 2022, with Simona Baldanzi.
 - “Insorgiamo Tour” – conversation on *Fioca & It’s just a Game* by Livia Gionfrida, 2 March 2022) Circolo Arci Coiano (Prato).
- “Immigration, Divisiveness, and The War on Facts. An Analysis of the United States,” with Alia Nardini, Convegno della Società Italiana di Scienza Politica (Sisp), (Università degli Studi del Salento, Lecce).12-14 September 2019
- Guest of the Day on WVAS 90.7 with Dr. Jacqueline Trimble (interview on my book *Here we May Rest*) (April 30, 2018)
- Alabama Book Festival – “Personal Narratives and Public Policy” 21 April 2018 (panel).
- Journalism Workshop & One-on-One Sessions – Coaching “Hate Watch” Writers at the Southern Poverty Law Center (May-December 2016)
- “Teaching Immigration in Montgomery, Alabama” - paper presented at the 6th Conference on Immigration to the US South – “Immigrants Making an Impact: Challenges and Opportunities in the South” (Columbia, University of South Carolina, 13-15 October 2016)
- Invited to speak on Harper Lee, Atticus Finch, racial tension, and the U.S. South on Italian national radio station Radio 3 – *Pantagruel* – “Sconfinamenti d’estate” hosted by Luigi Spinola), 17 July 2016)
- Invited to speak about Harper Lee on Radio 3 -radio series called *Passioni* – “Preferirei di No” (Trans. *Passions* – “I Would Rather Not”) hosted by writer and public intellectual Giorgio Van Straten, aired on 21 February 2015)
- Invited to speak about President Obama's executive action on immigration on Alabama Public Television's *Capitol Journal* program (Montgomery, November 2014)
- “Walk-ins Welcome. Restaurants and Direct Contact in Alabama in the Age of HB 56.” - *Latin American Studies Association* – 5th Conference on Immigration in the U.S. South – “Immigration Reform and Beyond?” - University of Florida, 23-25 October 2014
- “Strong Mexican Women: Stories of Immigration in Alabama” & chair of the panel “The Struggles of Japanese Americans, Mexican Americans, and Native Americans in the South.” Southern Studies Conference, 6-8 February 2014.
- "The Coalition of Immokalee Workers: Grassroots Politics in the Age of Corporate Media.", 22 March 2013, (keynote speaker to the Annual Fundraiser “Springboard” of the Gainesville’s Civic Media Center)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

cultural and media studies; U.S. immigration; ethnic studies; social movements & social change; creative & feature writing; documentary film; cultural theory; journalistic writing & editing; ethnographic research; rock culture; Christianity & popular music; feminist studies; gender & popular music; Italian/American culture; visual studies.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Fall 2021-present
Communications and Media Studies
John Cabot University (Roma)

Adjunct Instructor Fall 2023
Fashion Institute of Technology at Polimoda (Firenze)

Adjunct Instructor Spring 2019-Spring 2022
Spring Hill College Italy Center (Bologna)

Adjunct Instructor (online) Fall 2019-Spring 2021
Auburn University Montgomery
Department of Communication and Theatre

Lorenzo de' Medici -Florence Center Fall 2019
Department of Communications

Associate Professor Fall 2013- August 2018
Auburn University Montgomery
Department of Communication and Theatre

Honors Faculty and Honors Advisor Fall 2017 – August 2018
Auburn University Montgomery
Department of Communication and Theatre

Assistant Professor Fall 2008 to Spring 2013
Auburn University Montgomery
Department of Communication and Theatre

GRADUATE COURSES, HONORS THESIS & INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Fall 2017/Spring 2018

HONR 3957 Representations of Religion in Visual Media and their Impact on Perception (Honors Thesis) - adviser

Fall 2015-Fall 2016

- “Overcoming Disrupted Fairytales and Wasted Whiteness: Media Guidelines for Diverse Victims of Violent Crime” by Buffy Lockette (Master of Liberal Arts “MLA” thesis, chair) – Thesis defense (December 2, 2016).

Fall 2014

COMM 6720. Critical Issues in Mass Media: Media and Cultural Studies (COMM 6720 cross listed with COMM 4720)

COMM 6900. Independent Study: Advertising in the Digital Age: A Critical Approach – Case Study on Pandora.com

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Advanced Communication Theory (COM 470) @JCU
 Senior Capstone Project (COM 480) @JCU
 Creative Writing Workshop: Creative Nonfiction (CW 352) @JCU
 Special Topics in Communication Studies: Representing the Immigrant (WI COMM 3300) @AUM
 The Immigrant Experience in the United States (HONR 3757; co-taught) @AUM
 Critical Issues in Mass Media: Media and Cultural Studies (COMM 4720) @AUM
 Advanced Media Writing: Multimedia Storytelling (COMM 3743) @AUM
 Advanced Media Writing: Immigration @AUM
 Advanced Media Writing: Feature Writing (also online) @AUM
 Intercultural Communication JCU, @LdM Florence & FIT @Polimoda
 Introduction to Digital Video Production and Human Rights (CMM 253) @ SHC Italy Center
 Documentary Film (COMM 3900) (now WI* COMM 3900) @AUM
 Fundamentals of Journalism (now Media Writing I) (COMM 2703) @AUM
 Journalism Practicum (COMM 2914) @AUM
 WI* Media Writing II (COMM 2743) @AUM
 Film Appreciation (COMM 3300; now WI* COMM 2120) @AUM
 Italian Cinema (COMM 3300, Special Topics) (online) @AUM
 Cultural Resistance (CMS 320) @JCU
 Mass Media and Society (now Media and Culture) (COMM 2100) (also online) @AUM
 Media, Culture and Society COM 220 @JCU
 Communication and Gender (COMM 3350) @AUM
 Introduction to Human Communication (COMM 1010 & COMM 1010 online) @AUM
 Public Speaking: Oral Rhetoric and Persuasion (COM 101) @JCU

*WI: Writing Intensive course

University

- AUM College of Arts and Sciences, Senator (June 2016 to May 2018)
- AUM Board of Publication (August 2012 to August 2018)
- AUMnibus (student-led paper), academic adviser (August 2012 to August 2017)
- Faculty Advisory Committee (January 2014 to August 2018)
- Durr Lecture Series Committee (March 2015 to August 2018)
- AUM Post-WAC Committee (September 2017 to March 2018)
- Coordinator of *NEH's Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle* (April 2014)

College

- College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Committee (August 2015 to March 2017)
- Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Committee (August 2015- May 2017)
- Scholars Without Walls Speakers' Bureau (Spring 2011 to Spring 2014)

Department

- Students' Advising (20+ per semester) (November 2010 to May 2018)

Community

- Journalistic Workshop Series at the Southern Poverty Law Center –Hate Watch (writing coach) (May-December 2016)

- Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice (October 2012 to May 2018)
(Montgomery chapter leader/volunteer)
- Shut Down Etowah! activist group (group aimed to close the Etowah detention center), member
(January 2016-August 2018)
- Coordinator of *NEH's Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle*
(April 2014)
- ["Before We Were Us, We Were Them. Immigration and Alabama."](#)
(Exhibition co-organizer) (currently loaned to the Hispanic Coalition of Alabama in
Birmingham)
(April 2013 to August 2018)

Professional

- *The Journal of Hate Studies* (reviewer) (2018-2022)
- *Beyond Border* (2016) by Micah Fink, Common Good Productions (footage contribution to PBS documentary project)
- Southeastern Immigrant Rights Network Conference Auburn University Montgomery (August 15-17, 2014) (volunteer - photography work)

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Freelance writer (January 2001 to present)
Artist-in-Residence at Il Soccorso for the Circuito Urbano Temporaneo "La Città Continua"
(September-October 2020)

HONORS AND AWARDS

AUM Students Advisor of the Year, 2014
FAU Lifelong Learning Fellowship, Spring 2006
FAU Graduate Fellowship for Academic Excellence, 2006/2007

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Native speaker (Italian); Near-native fluency in English (written and spoken); Proficient in Spanish (written and spoken); Proficient in German (written and spoken)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

-"Consiglio di Istituto" at ICN Prato Nord (2024-current);
-Suddcobas scuola di italiano – volunteer teacher (July 2025-current);
-Vice president of "Consiglio di Istituto" (school governing body) at ICN Prato Nord (2021-2024);
-local representative of *Priorità alla Scuola* (June 2020-May 2022);