

MARIA CHARLOTTE PONCE de LEON

Via Muggia 41, 00195 Rome, Italy
(+39) 338 9367106

Imm. Beji, Apt. D2, Chott Meriem (Sousse), Tunisia
(+216) 23 66 75 88

E-mail: poncedem@temple.edu

EDUCATION:

- PhD (Italian Language and Literature) 1998, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.
Dissertation: "Meccanismi di sopravvivenza: letteratura carceraria contemporanea in Italia: poesia, narrativa e teatro 1970-1997." (Mechanisms for survival: contemporary prison literature in Italy: poetry, narrative and theatre 1970-1997)
- MA (Italian Language and Literature) 1990, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.
Comprehensive study of Italian literature with emphasis on Medieval, Renaissance and 20th Century.
- BA (Political Science) 1973, Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
1971-1972 Loyola Rome Center.
Also extensive interest in theatre studies.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

- 2005-present TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ROME. Rome, Italy.
1994-2002 Adjunct Professor of Italian Language, Literature and Culture / Gen Ed.
Courses Taught include:
- Italian Culture through Film;
 - The City of Rome (History);
 - Intermediate Italian II (Innovative interactive use of text/technology);
 - The Vatican in the Modern World (Journalism course);
 - Italian for Business;
 - Language in Society (Gen Ed Human Behavior);
 - Modern Italian Fiction;
 - Advanced Italian Composition and Conversation;
 - Italian Contemporary Society through the Lens of "New Italian Cinema";
 - Italian Writing Styles etc.
 - Italian Culture and Civilization through Music
- 2011- 2017 UNIVERSITE' de MONASTIR, Tunisia.
- L'Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine,
 - L'Institut Supérieur des Etudes Appliquées en Humanités de Mahdia
- Maitre Assistant en Italien (Assistant Professor of Italian Studies).
Thesis advisor.
Courses taught include:
- Italian Civilization, Culture and Society;
 - Methodology of Research;
 - Economic Trade and Business in Italy;
 - History of the European Union;
 - Italian Applied to Tourism;
 - Advanced Writing;
 - Reading and Analysis of Document Texts;
 - Morphology;
 - Introduction to the Narrative;
 - Oral Expression; etc.

- 2014-2019 HUTCHINSON TUNISIE, Sousse, Tunisia.
Organizer and teacher of Italian training courses for personnel.
- 2002-2013 ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY. Rome, Italy.
Adjunct Professor of Italian Language and Literature.
- 1992-2012 THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME. Rome, Italy.
Adjunct Professor of Italian Language, Literature and Culture.
- 2005-2011 LINK CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, Rome, Italy.
Adjunct Professor of Italian Language and Contemporary Italian Society.
- 2008, 2009 UNIVERSITE' DE GAFSA, Tunisia.
l'Institut Supérieur des Etudes Appliquées en Humanités de Tozeur
Visiting Professor of Italian Language..
- 2002-present REBIBBIA PRISON. Rome, Italy.
La Casa Circondariale Femminile and il Nuovo Complesso.
Professor of Italian Language and Literature.
- 2000-2002 La Terza Casa Circondariale, Rebibbia Prison; Rome, Italy
Held seminars on film studies for inmates.
- 1996-2002 Intensive summer courses in Italian language and culture for:
 - American University of Rome;
 - Loyola University;
 - St. John's University;
 - Temple University;
 - New Trier High School.
- 1993-1994. LUISS (Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali). Rome, Italy.
Adjunct Professor of English Language in the Political Science department.
 - Thesis advisor
 - Member of examination commission.
- 1988-1992. NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. Evanston, Ill.
Senior Teaching Fellow in the Italian Dept.
 - Faculty advisor for the Italian Club
 - Italian coordinator for "Language Table Program."
- 1987-1989. T.L.I. INTERNATIONAL CORP. Chicago, Ill.
ESL and Italian Teacher. (Part Time)
- 1988 HARPER JUNIOR COLLEGE. Palatine, Ill.
Italian Teacher for Adult Continuing Education Courses.
- 1973-1986. LA BANCA NAZIONALE DEL LAVORO. Rome, Italy.
English Language Consultant.
Responsible for:

- Professional formation in English for bank managers;
- Preparing participants for international conferences and seminars;
- Translations of contracts and legal documents; Interpreting.

- 1973-1982. IsMEO (Istituto per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente). Rome, Italy.
English Teacher and coordinator of English program for students specializing in Oriental languages. Member of examination commission.
- 1974-1977. LO STATO MAGGIORE DELLA DIFESA. Rome, Italy.
English Teacher: all level language courses for military officers.
- 1973-1974. LOYOLA UNIVERSITY Rome Center School of English, Rome, Italy.
English Teacher: all course levels for Italian students.

ADMINISTRATIVE / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2013 June-December
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ROME, Rome Italy
Interim Dean

2005 - 2013
1995 to 2002

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ROME. Rome, Italy.

- Organizer and guide for academic and cultural group trips to Tunisia. (9 trips from 2007-2012 with more than 200 student participants).
- Italian Language Department Liaison (2008-2013) for:
 - Italian language Faculty;
 - All academic, didactic and cultural activities of Italian Department. (Including Italian film series, guest lectures etc.).
- Cultural Coordinator (1996-2001). Responsibilities included:
 - Organization of events for American students to facilitate acculturation into Italian society;
 - Orientation meetings and talks;
 - Accompanied students on field trips;
 - Acted as liaison between Italian and American students;
 - Organized lectures;
 - Accompanied students to local points of social and cultural interest.

September 2002 to 2005

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, Rome, Italy

Director of Study Abroad Program. Responsible for all aspects of Rome undergraduate program including:

- Academics;
- Faculty hiring;
- Student housing and meals;
- Visas and “permit to stay”;
- Student trips;
- Summer programs, etc.

June 2001 to 2002

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME. Rome, Italy
Core Faculty position in the Italian department.

June 2000 – June 2001

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME. Rome, Italy
Assistant Provost.

1992-1997.

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME. Rome, Italy.

Placement Officer: Responsibilities included:

- Placing students in internships;
- Assisting and coaching graduating students seeking employment;
- Maintaining professional ties with local and international companies;
- Student recruitment.

1996-1998

THE AMERICAN CLUB OF ROME. Rome, Italy
Elected member of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees.

1992-1997.

THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOL OF ROME. Rome, Italy

- Elected member of the Board of Trustees.
- 1995 - elected Secretary to the Executive Committee.
- Board Liaison/Acting Headmaster - summer of 1995
- Active member of the Personnel Committee, responsible for:
 - Performance criteria;
 - Evaluation of faculty and administrative personnel.
 - Member of the Headmaster Selection Committee.

1994.

BARUCH COLLEGE (New York) and THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME. Rome, Italy.
Coordinator and Organizer for Advanced Management Training Courses.

July 1994 .

ACCADEMIA CAERITE. Ceri (Cerveteri) Rome.
Coordinator and Organizer for the Fresco Workshop.

1992-1993.

ITALY ITALY, a bi-monthly cultural magazine. Rome, Italy.

- Advertising Agent. in conjunction with the Italian Trade Commission.
- Free-lance Journalist. Series of articles dedicated to "*Studying in Italy*".
- Organizer of regional conferences for the Italian American Multi-Media Corp, and distribution of the magazine Italy Italy.

May 1992.

ACCESS MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS. Chicago, Ill.
Headed up the Italian sector of marketing research project on the use of antibiotics, for Abbott Laboratories in Athens, Greece.

1987-1992.

"THE DAILY HERALD", Paddock Publications. Arlington Hts., Ill. Advertising Agent.

PUBLICATIONS and TRANSLATIONS:

- 2019 The Culture of Peace for the Security of Future Generations, A series of didactic manuals designed to further the culture of peace amongst students from kindergarten through university and sponsored by the Al Babtain Foundation, Kuwait. The manuals were officially presented at the Hague and approved by the United Nations. I coordinated the 10 volumes produced in Tunisia and personally compiled the “Secondary Level | Volume One”.
- 2019 “*Senza patria e senza terra: uno sguardo al mondo dei Rom Kañjarija in Italia*”. Atti del V Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, “Identità fluide transnazionali”. Tunis, Tunisia. (Submitted for publication)
- 2018 “*The Culture of Peace for the Security of Future Generations: The Model Manual*”. Co-author together with Prof. Wassim Daghrrir, Prof. Mahfoudh Elarem and Prof. Touhami Abdouli. Published by the Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation and presented to the General Assembly of the United Nations, as a proposal for a project entitled: The Culture of Peace for the Security of Future Generations.
- 2018 “*Princesa: l’odissea e la metamorfosis di una vita transessuale*”. Atti del IV Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, “Leggere il mare e leggere il mito nelle culture mediterranee”, Tunis, Tunisia. (Submitted for publication).
- 2017 “*‘Il canto di uno solo diventa canto di tutti’ (Pitré): da Giuseppe Pitré a Rosa Balestreri*”. Atti del III Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, “Sicilia, insularità e identità mediterranee”, Tunisi, Tunisia.
- 2016 “*Filofollesofia: la scrittura non è soltanto un meccanismo di sopravvivenza nelle istituzioni totali*”, Atti del convegno: “Des Folies et des Artes”. L’Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- 2015 “The Need for Dialogue in the Globalized World”, *Al-Hewar (The Dialogue)* non-periodical issue of Al-Jaéza Magazine, October 24, 2015, No. 85, Kuwait, p. 14 (in English) p. 16 (in Arabic)
- 2011 La Cendre et le Jasmine À la mémoire de Mohamed Bouazizi, messenger de l’aube, by Nadir Mohamed Aziza, Tunisian poet and Cancelliere dell’Accademia Mondiale di Poesia (Verona). Translation from French to English.
- 2011 Il Segretario Fiorentino, translation of screenplay for a film about Macchiavelli by Luca Verdone.
- 2007 Multicultural Literature in Contemporary Italy, (Farleigh Dickinson University Press) Translation from Italian to English of chapter entitled “Light beer and Peanuts” by Viola Chandra.
- 2000 Guide to the Main Provisions on Immigration (The Condition of Foreigners in Prison), by Raffaele Miele, edited by CIDSI, Sinnos Editrice. Translation from Italian to English.
- 1994-2000.
TRANSLATOR and RESEARCHER for Avv. ANDREA AMBROSI, Rome, Italy.
Translation from English to Italian of documents relating to cases for beatification and canonization for “La Congregazione delle Cause dei Santi”, Vatican City.

- 1999 Mediterranean Crossroads: Migration Literature in Italy (Associated University Presses, Inc.) Translation from Italian to English of chapter entitled “Princesa” by Fernanda Farias De Albuquerque and Maurizio Janelli.
- 1998 Meccanismi di sopravvivenza: letteratura carceraria contemporanea in Italia, poesia, narrative e teatro 1970-1997, (UMI, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA) 1998
- 1996 "Italy in Italy: Adapting Didactic Techniques to Cognitive Differences", (part 2) presented at the Annual Convention of the American Association of Teachers of Italian, Università di Perugia per Stranieri, Perugia, Italy, and appears in the Italian academic journal, Il Veltro. The article is a comparative study of teaching techniques.
1994. ANCIENT ROME AND INDIA: Commercial and cultural contacts between the Roman world and India, for the Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente and the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi. (260 page catalogue for the exhibition "L'Antica Roma e l'India" held at the Museo della Civiltà Romana in EUR, from December 14, 1994 to January 25, 1995).
- 1993 “Studying Studio Art in Italy”, Italy Italy, Roma, Year XI - No. 3, Maggio-giugno.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES:

- November 20, 2020 Panelist – “*You Don't Have to Fly Solo: Best Practices for Integrating Guest Speakers in Your Course*”. Temple University International Education Week workshop. Online.
- October 23, 2020 Panelist – “*Education for Culture of Peace*”. PI 2020 Online Education without Social Distance: Challenges for Internationalisation and Culture of Peace Online Conference 23–24 October, 2020. Online.
- February 24, 2020 Presented paper entitled: “*Inquietudini che germogliano nelle solitudini estremi, in luoghi senza tempo e senza forma*”. VI Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, "La Follia, tra creazione e distruzione". Tunis, Tunisia.
- November 7, 2019 Presented paper entitled: “*La letteratura odepórica del XXI secolo: i racconti sulle rotte dei migranti africani*”. International conference at the University of Dschang: “L’Africa nella letteratura italiana (post)coloniale: memoria, percezioni e rappresentazioni” University of Dschang, Cameroon.
- February 19, 2019 Presented paper entitled: “*Senza patria e senza terra: uno sguardo al mondo dei Rom Kañjarija in Italia*”. V Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, “Identità fluide transnazionali”. Tunis, Tunisia.
- April 5, 2018 Moderated session in Italian: “L’autobiographie dans le croisement des genres”. L’autobiographie dans le croisement des genres entre l’Orient et l’Occident.
- February 20, 2018 Presented paper entitled: “*Princesa: l’odissea e la metamorfosis di una vita transessuale*”. IV Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, “Leggere il mare e leggere il mito nelle culture mediterranee”, Tunis, Tunisia.

- January 24, 2018 Presented paper entitled: "*L'Imam catholique: le inizative di un prete romano tra il deserto di Douz e l'Italia*". La Giornata di studio di italianistica: "Italia-Tunisia: scambio culturale senza limiti". L'Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- November 29, 2017 Presented paper entitled: "*C'era una volta il terrorismo in Italia: il passaggio dal piombo alla penna dei protagonisti*". La Giornata di studio, "La diversità tra violenza e tolleranza", L'Institut Supérieur des Etudes Appliquées en Humanités de Mahdia, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- February 21, 2017 Presented paper entitled: "*'Il canto di uno solo diventa canto di tutti' (Pitré): da Giuseppe Pitré a Rosa Balestreri*". III Convegno Internazionale di Studi Mediterranei, "Sicilia, insularità e identità mediterranee", Tunis, Tunisia.
- December 8, 2016 Presented paper entitled: "*L'Orchestre de Piazza Vittorio - Transformer les racines et les différentes cultures dans une seule langue- La Musique*". Colloque: "Brassages artistiques à travers la Méditerranée, Le Commissariat Regional des Affaires Culturelles de Mahdia et L'Association pour la Culture et les Arts Méditerranéens, Mahdia, Tunisia.
- May 21, 2016 Presented paper entitled: "*Patrimoine culturel et développement local*". International Conference: "Le journées de la culture populaire pour le patrimoine: l'invention et le développement". The House of Culture, Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia.
- April 14, 2016 Presented paper entitled: "*Filofollesofia: la scrittura non è soltanto un meccanismo di sopravvivenza nelle istituzioni totali*", Colloque International: "Des Folies et des Artes". L'Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- January 26, 2016 Presented paper entitled: "*Colori contro il tempo: l'arte reclusa*", Giornata di studio: "I Colori". L'Institut Supérieur des Etudes Appliquées en Humanités de Mahdia, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- December 18, 2015 Presented paper entitled: "*Programmation culturelle et le développement durable: le tourisme culturel comme exemple*", Conference: "Les activités culturelles: nouvelles visions et approches". L'Association culturelle de Monastir, Monastir, Tunisia.
- May 10, 2015 Presented paper entitled: "*Tourisme culturel et développement regional: Opportunités et obstacles*". The International Conference for Cultural Heritage Development. The House of Culture, Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia.
- April 23, 2015 Presented paper entitled: "*La letteratura odepórica del ventunesimo secolo: i racconti sulle rotte dei "clandestini"*". Colloque: "L'image de l'autre, d'une rive à l'autre del la Mediterranée. L'Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- March 16, 2015 Chaired panel discussion: "*Tunisia: An Exception to the Arab Spring?*". Guarini Institute, John Cabot University. Rome, Italy.

- December 13, 2014 Presented paper entitled: “*From Cultural Tourism towards Regional Development: Opportunities and Obstacles*”, Colloque: “Le tourisme culturel et le développement regional”. L’Association pour la culture et les arts méditerranéens et l’Université de Monastir, Mahdia, Tunisia
- April 19, 2014 Presented paper entitled: “*Multa paucis: Say Much in Few Words. The Rhetoric of Advertising*”. Troisième séminaire des Etudes Brachylogiques: “Rhétorique et brachylogie”. L’Institut Supérieur des Langues Appliquées à Moknine, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- April 16, 2014 Presented paper entitled: “La voce *rom* in cerca di autore”. Giornata di studio “La Metamorfosi”. L’Institut Supérieur des Etudes Appliquées en Humanités de Mahdia, Université de Monastir, Tunisia.
- April 3, 2013 Presented paper entitled: “... tu Italia paradiso degli esuli” (Shelley). XXI AISLLI Conference. *Italicity* The Languages of Italy around the World Between Tradition and Innovation. The Center for Italian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, USA.
- March 2012 Organized and presented a poetry renga with distinguished international poets for the “World Poetry Day”, sponsored by l’Accademia Mondiale della Poesia in Verona, Italy.
- June 2011 Appointed member of the jury for the poetry competition, il “Premio Catullo”, organized by l’Accademia Mondiale della Poesia. Verona, Italia.
- June 2011 Presented paper on “Service Learning and Study Abroad” at the Fourth Annual Institute on Global Service Learning. Pace University, New York
- March 2011 Chaired session and presented paper on: “The Role of the Al-Babtain Foundation in Promoting Intercultural Dialogue”. 1st Conference for Managing Intercultural Dialogue. The Al-Babtain Foundation and EMUNI University, Malta.
- November 2004 Presented paper entitled: “Letteratura come liberazione e riconciliazione: la letteratura dal carcere” for the Seminar “Letteratura e Pace”, sponsored by the Studentato Internazionale di Rondine, Arezzo, Italy.
- October 2001 Organized and conducted session on prison for the annual “Meeting del Volontariato”, held at the Ponteficia Università Gregoriana, sponsored by the Caritas Diocesana.
- April 2000 Organized session: “Scrittura dall’emarginazione” (Writings of Outcasts) and presented paper entitled: “I nomadi: voci da un mondo apolide”. AAIS (American Association for Italian Studies) New York.
- December 1998 Presented paper entitled: “Letteratura nelle carceri: la poesia fra meccanismo di sopravvivenza e creatività”. Chair for session: “A viva voce: Lettura di poesia dialettale”. AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian) Crotone, Italia
- April 1998 Organized the session “Dialect Poetry in Southern Italy: una nuova antologia”. AAIS(American Association for Italian Studies) Loyola University, Chicago.

- February 1997. Organized the sessions "The Italian Poet Under Two Worlds 1 & 2" and "Letteratura carceraria al 'femminile'". Presented paper "Princesa: una storia dalla 'diversità' ovvero l'identità ritrovata". AAIS(American Association for Italian) Wake Forest College, North Carolina
- April 1996. Co-organized and chaired session entitled: "Ethnicity in the Third Person". AAIS(American Association for Italian Studies) Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri.
- December 1995. Presented paper entitled: "Italy in Italy: Adapting Didactic Techniques to Cognitive Differences", (part 2)". AATI(American Association of Teachers of Italian) Università di Perugia per Stranieri, Perugia, Italy,
- April 1995. Organized session "Dialects and Regionalism" and presented paper entitled: "Linguaggio e istituzioni totali: il gergo carcerario". AAIS(American Association for Italian Studies) Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
- April 1994. Presented paper entitled: "Italy in Italy: Adopting Didactic techniques to Cognitive Differences". AAIS(American Association for Italian Studies) University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.
- April 1992. Presented paper entitled: "Structure and Forms of the Folktale in 'Il Fu Mattia Pascal'". AAIS(American Association for Italian Studies) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Citizenship: USA and Italian — Married to Tunisian Citizen
- Languages: Bi-lingual English and Italian;
Good working knowledge of French, Spanish, Latin
Turkish – Level A2, online course
Arabic - 2004-2005 Centro Islamico Culturale d'Italia
2006 - Bourguiba Institute of Modern Languages (1st level ba).
2017 - Livello A2, online course
- Computer skills: Good working knowledge of most utilized programs.
- Technological skills: Good working knowledge of most recent educational technological tools: Blackboard; Canvas; Interactive teaching platforms; Banner administrative suite of applications; Presentation creation tools, etc.
- Memberships: The American Association for Italian Studies; The American Association of Teachers of Italian; Northwestern Alumni Association; TESOL; VIC (Volontari in carcere) Caritas.
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Maria.Charlotte.Ponce.de.Leon>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-ponce-de-leon-249a7b13/>

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- Conducted English language activities for Tunisian students (7-15yrs) for summer camp hosted by Sousse International School, located in Sousse, Tunisia. (July 2018)
- Organized academic tours in Tunisia for American and Italian university students. (2007-2013)
- Volunteer work for VIC/Caritas (Volunteers in Prison), was member of Board of Directors and was Coordinator for the volunteers in the Rebibbia Prison in Rome.
- Promoted the integration of hands-on “Service Learning” into academic course requirements at St. John’s University Rome Campus..
- Organized English courses for Japanese companies in the Chicago area; worked in the Italian film dubbing industry; taught courses in Communication Arts for corporate managers at the Language Exchange School in Rome, Italy.