

FRANCESCO IANI' CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information

Name: Francesco

Surname: Iani'

Date of birth: 10/10/1987

Nationality: Italian

Current/past positions

Since November 2019

Post-doctoral research fellowship, Department of Psychology, Turin University,
Supervisor: Prof. Monica Bucciarelli

July 2017 – January 2019

Post-doctoral research scholarship, Department of Psychology, Turin University,
Supervisor: Prof. Monica Bucciarelli

Education

2017 PhD in Neuroscience, from the University of Turin

Dissertation: "Mechanisms underlying the beneficial effect of a speaker's gestures on the listener" (Supervisor: Prof. Monica Bucciarelli)

2012 Qualified for Psychology profession

2011 Master's Degree in Psychology, from the University of Turin

Dissertation: "Embodied and disembodied cognition: Out of body experiences and perspective taking" (Summa cum laude with special mention; Supervisor: Prof. Cristina Becchio)

2009 Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, from the University of Turin

Dissertation: "Recursion in Psychology" (110/110; Supervisor: Prof. Cristina Becchio)

Teaching

- Since A.Y. 2019-2020, co-tutoring of a ph.d-student (Dr.ssa Teresa Limata), Neurosciences Ph.d. Course - XXXV cycle
- A.Y. 2020-2021, lecturer in the General Psychology course (First-level degree in Education – sede di Savigliano, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 54 hours

- A.Y. 2020-2021, lecturer in the Psychology of Learning and Memory course (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 36 hours
- A.Y. 2019-2020, lecturer in the General Psychology course (First-level degree in Education – sede di Savigliano, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 54 hours
- A.Y. 2019-2020, lecturer in the Psychology of Learning and Memory course (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 36 hours
- A.Y. 2018-2019, lecturer in the General Psychology course (Socio-Pedagogical Professional Educator course, Law 205/2017, art. 1 – 597) – 24 hours
- A.Y. 2018-2019, lecturer in the Psychology of Learning and Memory course (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 36 hours
- A.Y. 2018-2019, lecturer in the Complementary Education course of General Psychology (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 50 hours
- A.Y. 2017-2018, lecturer in the Psychology of Learning and Memory course (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 36 hours
- A.Y. 2017-2018, lecturer in the Complementary Education course of General Psychology (First-level degree in Education, Department of Philosophy and Sciences of Education, University of Turin) – 50 hours

Since A.Y. 2017-2018, Supervisor of 5 first-level degree thesis.

Research collaborations

- Collaboration with the Department of Psychology and the Center for Cognitive Science of Turin University since 2013.
- Collaboration with the School of Life Sciences (Faculty of Health Sciences) of University of Hull (Prof. Giuliana Mazzoni) since 2015. Within this collaboration, I've been Visiting Fellow from February 2016 until May 2016.
- Collaboration with the Department of Psychology of Università Sapienza Roma (to which Prof. Giuliana Mazzoni is now affiliated).
- Collaboration with Brain and Cognition of Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Prof. Walter Schaeken)

Member of Research Groups

- Since 2019 is member of the LRR research group (Learning, Reasoning, Remembering group) of the Department of Psychology of Università di Torino.
Link: https://dippsych.campusnet.unito.it/do/gruppi.pl/Show?_id=h354

Main Research activity

The role of body's movements in learning and memory

During my PhD course, my research activity has been focussed on the role of gestures in comprehension and learning from text and discourse.

- The study of gestures accompanying discourse. Main results: 1) Learning from text benefits from enactment in children (*Cutica, Iani & Bucciarelli, Memory & Cognition 2014*). 2) The temporality of the gesture respect to the speech is an index of the goodness of a speaker's mental model (*Iani, Cutica & Bucciarelli, Cognitive Science 2016*).

Starting from 2015, I initiated my own line of research, which is concerned with the relationship between memory and action, and with false memories for action.

- The role of the motor system of the observer in the beneficial effect of a speaker's gestures on the observer. Main results: 1) At encoding, the listener's motor system seem play a main role in the beneficial effect of the speaker's gesture on memory for what has been said (*Iani, Burin, Salatino, Pia, Ricci & Bucciarelli, Brain & Language 2018; Iani & Bucciarelli, Journal of Memory & Language 2017*), 2) Also at recall, the motor system of the listener plays a main role in this beneficial effect (*Iani & Bucciarelli, Memory 2018*).
- The nature of mental simulation. Main results: 1) Mental simulation in action observation is more direct than mental simulation in action phrases comprehension (*Iani, Foadelli & Bucciarelli, Acta Psychologica 2019*), 2) A review of the role of the body in memory processes (*Iani, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review 2019*).
- The role of kinematic mental simulation in memory of observed actions. Main results: false memories occur for actions that represent the unfolding over time of static actions initially observed (*Iani, Mazzoni & Bucciarelli, Journal of Cognitive Psychology, 2018; Iani, Limata, Bucciarelli, Mazzoni, Journal of Cognitive Psychology, 2020*).

Reviewer for Peer Reviewed Journals

Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, Journal of Cognitive Psychology, Attention Perception and Psychophysics, Experimental Psychology, Memory & Cognition, Journal of Memory & Language, Instructional Science, Acta Psychologica, Giornale Italiano di Psicologia.

Editorial Activities

Consulting Editor for Memory & Cognition.

International acknowledgments

Invited presentation: Iani, F. (2020). *Mental simulations in action observation, memory for action and language comprehension*. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, 14 January 2020 – Leuven (Belgium).

Publication support: partial fee waivers for editorial assistance (Bassi Scholarship - Summer 2020)

Organization of international conferences

- Jam VIII Conference – Joint Action Meeting, Genova, 10th – 13th July, Local Committee member.
- TiM Conference 2018 – Trends In Mindfulness, Turin, 9th-10th November, Local Committee member
- MeeTo Conference 2018 – From Moving Bodies to Interactive Minds, Turin, 25th-27th May, Local Committee member
- Mind and Brain Prize 2016, Turin, 19th October 2016, Antonio Damasio & Essi Viding
- EAP Cogsci 2015 (EuroAsianPacific Conference on Cognitive Science), Turin, 25th – 27th September, Local Committee member
- Mind and Brain Prize 2015, Turin, 25th September 2015, Nicholas Humphrey & Frédérique de Vignemont
- Mind and Brain Prize 2014, Turin, 19th November 2014, Stanislas Dehaene & Manos Tsakiris
- Mind and Brain Prize 2013, Turin, 13th November 2013, Tim Shallice & Sarah-Jayne Blakemore

Organization of national conferences

- Premio Aldo Fasolo 2015, Turin, 18th December 2015, Gionata Strigato
- Conference of Nicholas Humphrey and Frédérique de Vignemont: “The Placebo Effect”, Turin, 24th September 2015
- Lecture of Manos Tsakiris: “The plasticity of the self: from body ownership to social cognition”, Turin, 20th November 2013
- Lecture of Sarah-Jayne Blakemore: “The social brain in adolescence: is adolescence a sensitive period for social cognitive development?”, Turin, 14th November 2013
- Conference of Tim Shallice: “A Supervisory System approach to prefrontal function: merely an overseeing homunculus?”, Turin, 12th November 2013

Public Engagement

- “*Progetto Giovani per i Giovani*” - La mente e il cervello spiegati dai giovani ricercatori agli studenti delle scuole superiori della Regione Piemonte (Educational meeting seeking to divulge in high schools of Piedmont the latest scientific discoveries in neuroscience and psychology)
 - 2019 Edition – 5 seminars
 - 2014 Edition – 6 lectures and 2 seminars
 - 2013 Edition – 6 lectures
- Invited talk: Iani, F. (2019). “*L’importanza della didattica inclusiva e innovativa*” - Turin, 10 October, Museo del Risparmio - Global Thinking Foundation - “IL LIMITE È IL CIELO” Riflessioni e proposte sull’inclusione dei ragazzi e dei giovani adulti in condizioni di fragilità.

FRANCESCO IANI'
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed international journals

Iani, F., Limata, T., Bucciarelli, M., Mazzoni, G. (2020).

Children's kinematic false memories

Journal of Cognitive Psychology, <https://doi.org/10.1080/20445911.2020.1796686>

Iani, F. (2019).

Embodied memories: Reviewing the role of the body in memory processes

Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, 26, 1747-1766.

Iani, F., Foiadelli, A., & Bucciarelli, M. (2019).

Mnemonic effect of action simulation from pictures and phrases.

Acta Psychologica, 194, 37-50.

Cabalo, D. G., **Iani, F.**, Bilge, A. R., & Mazzoni, G. (2019).

Memory distortions: when suggestions cannot be easily ignored.

Applied Cognitive Psychology. <https://doi.org/10.1002/acp.3597>

Iani, F., Mazzoni, G., & Bucciarelli, M. (2018).

The role of kinematic mental simulation in creating false memories.

Journal of Cognitive Psychology, 30, 292-306.

Iani, F., Burin, D., Salatino, A., Pia, L., Ricci, R., & Bucciarelli, M. (2018).

The beneficial effect of a speaker's gestures on the listener's memory for action phrases: The pivotal role of the listener's premotor cortex.

Brain and Language, 180, 8-13.

Iani, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2018).

Relevance of the listener's motor system in recalling phrases enacted by the speaker.

Memory, 26, 1084-1092.

Iani, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2017).

Mechanisms underlying the beneficial effect of a speaker's gestures on the listener.

Journal of Memory and Language, 96, 110-121.

Iani, F., Cutica, I., & Bucciarelli, M. (2016).

Timing of gestures: Gestures anticipating or simultaneous with speech as indexes of text comprehension in children and adults.

Cognitive Science, 41, 1549-1566.

Manera, V., **Iani**, F., Bourgeois, J., Haman, M., Okruszek, Ł. P., Rivera, S. M., Robert, P., Schilbach, L., Sievers, E., Verfaillie, K., Vogeley, K., von der Lue, T., Willems, S., & Becchio, C. (2015).

The multilingual CID-5: A new tool to study the perception of communicative interactions in different languages.

Frontiers in Psychology, 6, DOI: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01724.

Cavallo, A., Catmur, C., Sowden, S., **Iani**, F., & Becchio, C. (2014).

Stopping movements: when others slow us down.

European Journal of Neuroscience, 40, 2842-2849.

Cutica, I., **Iani**, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2014).

Learning from text benefits from enactment.

Memory & Cognition, 42, 1026-1037.

Peer reviewed Italian journals

Limata, T., Bucciarelli, M., Schmidt, S., Tinti, C., **Iani**, F. (2020).

The role of body posture during retrieval of memory traces: When posture does not facilitate memory.

Sistemi Intelligenti, accepted manuscript.

Daniele, M., Colombo, L., **Iani**, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2020).

Work-related burnout affects reasoning in nurses.

Psicologia sociale, 2, 269-283.

Iani, F., Limata, T., & Bucciarelli, M. (2020).

I nudge come descrizione o come spiegazione: il caso del ruolo degli oggetti come pungolo al nostro agire.

Giornale Italiano di Psicologia, 47, 449-454.

Iani, F. (2020).

Intervista a Lawrence Barsalou.

Sistemi Intelligenti, 32, 203-215.

Iani, F. (2019).

Apprendere attraverso il corpo.

Giornale Italiano di Psicologia, 46, 831-836.

Iani, F., & Limata, T. (2019).

«Se gesticoli non dimentico ciò che dici»: quando i gesti ostacolano l'oblio motivato.

Giornale Italiano di Psicologia, 46, 279-288.

Iani, F., Formichella, M., Bucciarelli, M., & Mazzoni, G. (2018).
False memorie derivanti dalla costruzione di modelli mentali cinematografici.
Sistemi Intelligenti, 30, 373-394.

Iani, F., & Formichella, M. (2017).
Il ruolo cognitivo dei gesti.
Giornale Italiano di Psicologia, 4, 849-876.

Iani, F., Albezano, S., Pia, L., & Bucciarelli, M. (2016).
L'effetto enactment coinvolge il sistema motorio dell'osservatore? Uno studio pilota su persone tetraplegiche.
Sistemi Intelligenti, 18, 379-395.

Iani, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2015).
Quando i gesti accompagnano le parole: Un resoconto delle false memorie basato sui modelli mentali.
Sistemi Intelligenti, 27, 61-76.

Chapters in Italian books

Iani, F., & Enrici, I. (2017).
Concetti chiave in psicologia dell'apprendimento.
In Trincherò, R., Parola, A. (Eds): *Educare ai processi e ai linguaggi dell'apprendimento* (pp. 77-100), Milano: Franco Angeli, ISBN:9788891752727.

Abstract of international conferences

Iani, F., Lombardo, A., & Bucciarelli, M. (2019). Learning from a scientific discourse through video lessons: When gestures can't help.
Proceedings of PsychoBit2019 symposium. Naples, Italy, September 26-26, 2019 (**talk**)

Iani, F., & Limata, T. (2019)
"If you gesture I can't forget what you say": Co-speech gestures obstruct intentional forgetting.
EuroCogSci 2019 - The European Conference of Cognitive Science. Bochum, Germany, September 2-4, 2019 (**poster**)

Iani, F., Bucciarelli, M., Chiesa, S., & Tinti, C. (2018).
The nature of concepts: The enactment effect in blind people speaks in favor of the modality-invariant hypothesis.
EWIC Conference - The 16th European Workshop on Imagery and Cognition. Padua, Italy, June 7-9, 2018 (**poster**)

Iani, F., & Bucciarelli, M. (2018).
When body speaks louder than words.

Frontiers in Psychology Conference Abstract: XPRAG.it 2018 - Second Experimental Pragmatics in Italy Conference. doi: 10.3389/conf.fpsyg.2018.73.00021 (**poster**)

Iani, F., Burin, D., Salatino, A., Pia, L., Ricci, R., & Bucciarelli, M. (2016).

Exploring the neural basis of the enactment effect.

The Fresco Conference. 4th International Workshop on Synaptic Plasticity: From bench to bedside.

Lucca, Italy, September 12-14, 2016 (**poster**)

Abstract of Italian conferences

Iani, F. (2019).

The sensory-motor model of memory (SMM): strengths and limitations.

16th Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Cognitive Sciences (AISC), Roma, Italy, 11-13 dicembre 2019. (**talk**)

Iani, F., Bucciarelli, M. (2015).

Il ruolo del sistema motorio nell'effetto enactment.

12th Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Cognitive Sciences (AISC) "Language, Cognition and Society", Genova, Italy, 10-12 dicembre 2015. (**talk**)

Iani, F., Becchio, C. (2014).

I costi associati ai fenomeni di embodiment: verso una ridefinizione del concetto di 'embodied cognition'.

AISC-CODISCO, Roma, Italy, 2-5 dicembre 2014. (**talk**)

Iani, F., Bucciarelli, M. (2013).

I gesti per ricordare: I pro e i contro.

X convegno dell'Associazione Italiana di Scienze Cognitive (AISC). Napoli, Italy, 20-22 novembre 2013.

(**talk**)