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Swiss Residence Permit C
Year of birth: 1994

Professional Experience

7.2025 –	Postdoc Research and Teaching Assistant for Italian Linguistics at the University of Zurich (80%).
21.7.2025 – 21.10.2025	Research Consultant - Statistical Analysis University of Catania - Department of Humanities PRIN 2022 PNRR Project *Contact-induced change and sociolinguistics: an experimental study on the Gallo-Italic dialects of Sicily*.
2024 – 7.2025	Postdoc Research and Teaching Assistant for Italian Linguistics at the University of Zurich (100%).
2018 – 2023	Doctoral Research and teaching assistant for Italian linguistics at the University of Zurich (50%).
2017	Scientific collaborator in the team working on *The Zurich Database of Agreement in Italo-Romance* (50%).
2017	Auxiliary assistant to the Chair for Italian Historical Linguistics (10%).

Education

2.2018 – 12.2024[1]	University of Zurich. Doctor of Philosophy (Linguistics). *Production and perception data on the ongoing demise of the neuter vs. masculine contrast from two Italo-Romance varieties*. Supervised by Prof. Michele Loporcaro, Prof. Valentina Bambini, and Prof. Sendy Caffarra. Discussed in December 2023 (Summa cum laude).
2.2016 – 1.2018	University of Zurich. MA in Italian and English linguistics (*An EEG study on the neuter gender in the dialect of Agnone (Isernia)*). Supervised by Prof. Michele Loporcaro. 5.8/6.
2.2016 – 8.2016	Visiting student at the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa.
2.2013 – 1.2016	University of Zurich. BA in Italian studies and English linguistics. Supervised by Prof. Michele Loporcaro. 5.4/6.

[1] According to Zurich doctoral school regulations, PhD titles are conferred upon thesis publication (external publisher or University portal) rather than immediately following defense. Candidates may pursue post-doctoral positions after successful thesis defense, prior to official title conferment.

Post-graduate curses

2020	*Introduction to the Eye-tracking Methodology* (University of Zurich).
2018	*Quantitative Method* (University of Zurich).
	Introduction to Programming with MATLAB: I. MatLab basics (University of Zurich).

Summer schools

2019 DgfsXPRAG Summer School (Berlin); 2018 DRV Summer School: *Romanistische Linguistik im Zeitalter der Digital Humanities: generative und kognitive Theorien* (München); 2018 *The Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind* (Oslo); 2018 *Mallorca Lectures on Neurolinguistics*; 2017 *The Utrecht Summer School*.

Teaching

FS 2025	*The Role of Prediction in Language Processing: Theory and Empirical Data*. Elective BA seminar at the University of Zurich.
FS 2025	*Direct Object Marking across (Italo-)Romance Varieties*. Elective linguistic lecture at the University of Zurich.
2019 – 2025	*Introduction to Diachronic Linguistics and Dialectology*. Compulsory BA course at the University of Zurich every Fall Semester.
FS 2024	*Statistics for Linguists: Introduction and Application with R.* Elective BA seminar at the University of Zurich.
FS 2019	*Advanced Methods and Research Tools in Linguistics* (together with Dr. Alice Idone). Compulsory BA course at the University of Zurich.
FS 2018	*Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics*. Compulsory BA curse at the University of Zurich.
2015 – 2016	Tutor for *Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics*. University of Zurich.

Experiences abroad

8.7.2024 – 14.7.2024	Invited research stay at the IUSS (Scuola Universitaria Superiore) of Pavia: Laboratory for Neurolinguistics, Computational Linguistics and Theoretical Syntax - NeTS
2.2016 – 8.2016	Research stay at the Scuola Normale di Pisa (Italy)

Grants and Awards

2025	Awarded LiRI (Linguistic Research Infrastructure) grant (1,089 CHF) for *An eye-tracking study on semantic and formal predictive cues* (project with Prof. Sendy Caffarra, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia).
2024	Awarded *Premio Innovazione italiana in Svizzera, IV edizione* by COMITES of Zurich ("Italian Innovation Award in Switzerland").
2019	Awarded UZH *Foschungskredit Candoc* (109,917 CHF) for a 24-month project on prediction based on definite articles.
2018	Awarded *Rousseau Preise 2017 des Romanischen Seminars der Universität Zürich* for my MA thesis "An EEG study on the neuter gender in the dialect of Agnone (Isernia)".

2016	Awarded *Swiss European Mobility Program* scholarship for a 6-month research stay at the Scuola Normale di Pisa (Italy) to conduct an EEG experiment for my MA thesis.

Academic Event Organizing

FS2025	Research colloquium *Prospettive di ricerca in linguistica (storica) italiana* (4-month series with invited speakers). University of Zurich.
	Winter School *DIAlpi: Dialettologia Italo-romanza sulle ALPI*
2023	Conference *17th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM 17)*. University of Zurich.
2022	Workshop *The dialects of Apulia and Salento: two different ways of being Southern (Italo-) Romance*. University of Zurich.

Invited Talks

2024	*Production and perception in linguistics: A false dichotomy?* Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) Université Côte d'Azur.
2022	*When the field moves online: a three-step approach to collect and analyze crowdsourced dialect data.* Romance Linguistics Circle. Cambridge and Newcastle University.

Conferences

2025	Breimaier, F. *Building a picture corpus for dialect research: A case study*. 19th Comparative Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Pescara-Chieti, 8-10 September 2025.
	Bianchi, C., Breimaier, F., Delfino, E., *Su una nuova tendenza dell'italiano contemporaneo: la sovraestensione della preposizione su davanti ai nomi di città in sostituzione di* in *o* a. XXXI CILFR – Congresso internazionale di linguistica e di filologia romanza. Lecce, 30 June – 5 July 2025
2024	Breimaier, F., *A picture naming study on the neuter vs masculine contrast in Macerata.* Systems of Nominal Determination in Europe and beyond (SyNoDe). Zurich, 6-7 June 2024
	Breimaier, F., Bambini, V., Loporcaro, M. *Seeing through change: An eye-tracking study of the ongoing demise of the Molfettese neuter*. 18th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Manchester, 25-27 June 2024.
	Breimaier, F., Zanini, C. *The perception of the neuter vs masculine opposition in Maceratese*. 21st International Morphology Meeting (IMM). Vienna 28-30 August 2024.
2022	Breimaier, F. *Il genere neutro in movimento:due varietà a confronto.* Italianistentag XIII. Munich, 10.-12. Mãrz 2022.
	Breimaier, F., Loporcaro, M., Faraoni, V. *Uno studio crowdsourced sulle condizioni dell'apocope allocutiva in romanesco*. 16th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Naples, 14-16 September 2022

2020 (online)	Breimaier, F. *Crowdsourcing, random forest e regressione logistica: nuovi metodi per la raccolta e l'analisi di dati dialettali.* Linguisti in contatto 3. Ricerche di linguistica italiana in Svizzera e sulla Svizzera - Bellinzona, 19-21 November 2020
	Breimaier, F. *Maceratese and Molfettese: different ways to simplify the neuter-masculine distinction*. 15th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Helsinki, 8-10 September 2022
2019	Breimaier, F. *The Zurich Database of Agreement in Italo-romance: una risposta all'estinzione delle varietà dialettali italiane.* Romanistentag XXXVI. Kassel, 29.09 - 2.10.2019
	Breimaier, F. *A study on the interaction between comprehension and production in a scenario of linguistic change: evidence from three Italian varieties*. VII. Romanistisch-Linguistisches Netzwerktreffen. Germersheim, June 2019
	(POSTER) Breimaier, F. *Is the neuter gender class stable in Macerata?* XXXIII Going Romance. Leiden, 28-29 November 2019
	Breimaier, F. *Crowdsourced dialect data for the study of morphosyntactic change.* 14th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Prague, 27-29 May 2019.
	Breimaier, F., Loporcaro, M., Manzari, G. *Il genere in movimento: mutamento in corso nel dialetto di Molfetta (Bari)*. 14th Cambridge Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting (CIDSM). Prague, 27-29 May 2019.

Other talks

2025	Breimaier, F., Salvi, A. *Dialettologia: la ricerca sul campo. Studiare linguistica italiana all'Università di Zurigo*. Infotag für Mittelschüler*innen am Romanischen Seminar (16th June 2025).
	Breimaier, F., Salvi, A. *Le interrogative nel dialetto di Berbenno (BG).* Winter School "DIAlpi: Dialettologia Italo-romanza sulle ALPI" (10th February 2025).

Reviewing activities

2025	Scientific committee member of the *19th Comparative Italian Dialect Syntax-Morphology Meeting* (CIDSM). Pescara-Chieti, 8–10 September 2025.
2024 – 2025	Scientific committee member of the workshop *Metodi di analisi statistica della variazione linguistica nel dominio italo-romanzo*. LVIII Congresso Internazionale della Società di Linguistica Italiana. L'Aquila, 11-13 September 2025
2024	Reviewer for *The Emmy Noether Programme* (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft).

Membership in Linguistic Societies

2025 –	SIG (Società italiana di glottologia)

2020 –	DRV (Deutschen Romanistikverband)
2018 –	SSG (Schweizerische Sprachwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft)

Outreach activities

2024	*Il dialetto molfettese: peculiarità e caratteristiche di una lingua viva*. Talk organized by the Association "Molfettesi nel mondo"
2023	*Un primo studio psicolinguistico sul dialetto molfettese* Talk organized by the ANEB (Associazione Nazionale Educatori Benemeriti).
2016	*L'agnonese in laboratorio* Talk organized to close a series of ERP experiments with Prof. Loporcaro and Prof. Bambini.
Local Newspapers	*Molfetta viva*, 2023 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zf-vSdvFQGo); *Il fatto di Molfetta*, 2023 (https://ilfattodimolfetta.it/2023/06/05/come-cambia-il-dialetto-molfettese-secondo-federica-breimaier/); *Molfetta Live*, 2018 (https://molfettalive.it/2018/11/27/insegnare-il-dialetto-ai-propri-figli-fa-bene/)

Fieldwork

2025	Bari. Joint fieldwork together with Prof. Dr. Gigi Andriani (University of Hamburg) for the *AISn* project.
	Macomer (Province of Nuoro, Italy). Joint fieldwork as part of the Linguistic MA Seminar *La lingua sarda*.
2024	Curcio (Province of Lecco, Italy). Joint fieldwork for the *AISdt* project.
2023	Premia (Province of Domodossola, Italy). Joint fieldwork for the *AISdt* project.
	Molfetta. 3-week research stay to collect Eye-tracking data.
2022	Molfetta. Experimental Material for an Eye-tracking experiment on prediction with definite articles.
	Altamura (Province of Bari). Joint fieldwork with seminar students.
2019	Molfetta (Province of Bari, Italy). Collection of production and perception data.
2017	Agnone. Collection of Perception data to complement EEG results.
2016	Agnone (Province of Isernia, Italy). Recruitment and experimental material for an EEG experiment (MA thesis).
Languages:	Italian (native), English (C1), German (B2), Spanish (B1).
Informatics skills:	Office, Apple Macintosh, Praat, R, Experiment Builder, SpeechRecorder, Canva.

Publications

Articles in scientific journals and/or in peer-reviewed volumes

Wild, M., Negrinelli, S., **Breimaier, F.**, Cristelli, S., Loporcaro, M., & Paciaroni, T. (2025). Italian dialects and language contact: Theory, typology, data. An introduction. *Isogloss. Open Journal of Romance Linguistics*, *11*(6), 1–11. https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/isogloss.563

Breimaier, F., Faraoni, V., & Loporcaro, M. (2025). Truncated vocatives in Romanesco: A crowdsourced study. *Linguistic Variation*. https://doi.org/10.1075/lv.24073.fed

Cristelli, S., Loporcaro, M., **Breimaier, F.**, & Wild, M. (2025). Presentazione [Introduction]. In F. Breimaier, S. Cristelli, M. Loporcaro, & M. Wild (Eds.), *Studi diacronici di morfologia verbale e nominale dei dialetti italiani*. *RID*, *48*.

Breimaier, F., Zanini, C. (2025). On the perception of the masculine-neuter contrast in Maceratese. *Morphology* 35, 51–80. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11525-025-09435-4

Breimaier, F. (2023). Accordo neutro e maschile a Macerata: Uno studio esplorativo *crowdsourced*. In V. Faraoni, L. Filipponio, T. Paciaroni, & S. Schmid (Eds.), *Prospettive di ricerca in linguistica italiana e romanza. Studi offerti a Michele Loporcaro dagli allievi e dai collaboratori zurighesi* (pp. 351–371). Edizioni ETS.

Breimaier, F. (2022). Il neutro a Molfetta: dialettologia e crowdsourcing. In L. Baranzini, M. Casoni, & S. Christopher (Eds.), *Linguisti in contatto 3. Ricerche di linguistica italiana in Svizzera e sulla Svizzera* (pp. 393–353). Osservatorio linguistico della Svizzera italiana.

Loporcaro, M., **Breimaier, F.**, & Manzari, G. (2021). Il genere in movimento: mutamento in corso nel dialetto di Molfetta (Bari). *Vox Romanica, 80*, 55–104. https://doi.org/10.5167/uzh-221089

Bambini, V., Canal, P., **Breimaier, F.,** Meo, D., Pescarini, D., & Loporcaro, M. (2021). Capturing language change through EEG: Weaker P600 for a fading gender value in a southern Italo-Romance dialect. *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, *59*, 101004. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneuroling.2021.101004

Books

Breimaier, F. *Production and Perception Data on the Ongoing Demise of the Neuter Versus Masculine Contrast from Two Italo-Romance Varieties.* 2024, University of Zurich, Faculty of Arts. https://doi.org/10.5167/uzh-267548

Edited volumes and monographic journal issues

Wild, M., Negrinelli, S., **Breimaier, F.**, Cristelli, S., Loporcaro, M., & Paciaroni, T. (2025). Italian dialects and language contact: Theory, typology, data. *Isogloss. Open Journal of Romance Linguistics*, *11*(6), 1–11. https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/isogloss.563

Breimaier, F., Cristelli, S., Loporcaro, M., Wild, M. (Eds.). (2025). Studi diacronici di morfologia e morfosintassi verbale e nominale dei dialetti italiani. *Rivista italiana di dialettologia*, *48.*

Merlo, C. (2024). *Scritti linguistici, Vol.3: Scritti su altre varietà romanze e sulle lingue classiche. Saggi sul sostrato e altri scritti teorici. Saggi divulgativi e miscellanei* (M. Loporcaro, S. Covino, F. Fanciullo, **F. Breimaier**, & S. Negrinelli, Eds.). Viella.

Loporcaro, M., **Breimaier, F**., Negrinelli, S. (Eds.). (2024). Atti del Convegno I dialetti di Puglia e Salento: due diverse facce del Meridione (Zurigo, 30-31 maggio 2022) [special issue]. *Italia Dialettale*, 85.

Merlo, C. (2023). *Scritti linguistici, Vol. 2.1: Saggi comparativi romanzi e note miscellanee su varietà diverse* (M. Loporcaro, S. Covino, F. Fanciullo, **F. Breimaier**, & S. Negrinelli, Eds.). Viella.

Merlo, C. (2023). *Scritti linguistici, Vol. 2.2: Saggi di lessico ed etimologia su singole varietà fuori dell'Italo-Romània. Dialetti settentrionali e della Svizzera italiana. Italiano, dialetti toscani e còrso. Dialetti centro-meridionali* (M. Loporcaro, S. Covino, F. Fanciullo, **F. Breimaier**, & S. Negrinelli, Eds.). Viella.

Merlo, C. (2022). *Scritti linguistici, Vol.1.2: Dialetti centro-meridionali* (M. Loporcaro, S. Covino, F. Fanciullo, **F. Breimaier**, & S. Negrinelli, Eds.). Viella.

Merlo, C. (2022). *Scritti linguistici, Vol. 1.1: Dialetti del Settentrione e della Svizzera italiana. Italiano, toscano, còrso* (M. Loporcaro, S. Covino, F. Fanciullo, **F. Breimaier**, & S. Negrinelli, Eds.). Viella.

To appear

Cristelli, S., **Breimaier, F**., Loporcaro, M., Negrinelli, S., Paciaroni, T., Wild, M. (Eds.). (accepted). Formal Approaches to the Morphology and (Morpho)Syntax of Italo-Romance Dialects. *Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie*. De Gruyter.