

NICOLETTA DI BLAS – CV SUMMARY

July 2022

Current position

Associate professor with the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering at Politecnico di Milano, in “Special Pedagogy” (Italian Scientific Sector M-PED/03). Earned qualification for full professorship in 2022.

Research interests

Innovative education, educational technology, communication for cultural heritage.

Teaching activities

2021: her MOOC on “Communication Skills for the Engineering Scholar” was launched on Coursera.

1999 up to now: courses on communication skills at bachelor, graduate and PhD level at Politecnico di Milano.

2017-now: instructor of the “Communication skills” course at the “Alta Scuola Politecnica”, an honors program for talented students from Politecnico di Milano and Politecnico di Torino.

2004 to 2011: appointed professor in the master degree program in Technology-Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage at the “Università della Svizzera Italiana” of Lugano (Switzerland).

2010: visiting professor with a course on Digital Storytelling for Cultural Heritage in the master in New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management at the City University of Hong-Kong, (3CFU).

Projects

Participation to 12 international and 12 national projects; coordinator of a H2020 project with 16 partners (2015-2018).

Participation to a number of private-funded projects in the fields of innovative education that have involved more than 200,000 students and teachers from all over the world.

Participation to 13 projects with cultural institutions in Italy and Switzerland.

Appointments

2016-now. Scientific director of DOL, online master in technologies for education, aimed at teachers on the job¹.

2017-now. Co-director of MIDIS, master on Innovation at school², in cooperation with MIP (the managerial school of Politecnico).

2017-now. Responsible of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship courses within the EIT digital master programs at Politecnico di Milano³.

Awards & invitations

Invited at the “Vision Summit” (Toronto, Aug. 2013) on badges in education by Mozilla Foundation and McArthur Foundation; member of Mozilla’s visionary team in education up to 2015.

3 times “Conference highlight”: at SITE 2016, 25 highlights out of 556 papers; at Online Educa Berlin in 2012, 17 highlights out of 400 presentations; at SITE 2021, 25 highlights out of 288 papers.

Invited seminar: Fundación Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Museum Thyssen-Bornemisza of Madrid 2008, on digital storytelling for cultural heritage

6 best paper awards: 2010, eLearn conference, 4 awards out of 466 papers; 2008, eLearn conference, 8 awards out of 687 papers; 2006, EdMedia conference, 9 awards out of 503 papers; 2017, SITE (Society for Information and Teacher Education) conference, Ann Thompson award; 2020, DIDAMATiCA conference (national); 2021, Helmeto conference.

Publications

154 publications: 119 international and 35 national. H-index: 22 (data from Google Scholar, July 2022).

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¹ <http://www.dol.polimi.it/>

² <http://www.mip.polimi.it/it/offerta-formativa/istituzioni-e-pubblica-amministrazione/master/midis/>

³ <https://www.mastereit.polimi.it>

NICOLETTA DI BLAS

Curriculum Vitae – June 2022

EDUCATION

2001. PhD in Linguistic Sciences. Doctoral thesis on: “The deictic function of the definite article” (Catholic University, Milan, Italy).

1996. Degree in Classics: 110/110 cum laude. Degree thesis in general linguistics on: “Doubt and Certainty in the Greek and Latin lexicon” (Catholic University, Milan, Italy).

1989. (Scientific-oriented) high school diploma: 60/60 (Liceo Scientifico A. Gramsci, Ivrea [Torino], Italy).

LANGUAGES

Modern languages

Italian (mother tongue)

English (Proficiency diploma, Cambridge University, 1998 – fluent, excellent writing and speaking skills)

French (good reading, listening and speaking skills, fair writing skills)

German (Grundstufe III level, zweite hälfte, Goethe Institut - fair reading comprehension)

Arabic (basics)

Classical languages

Ancient Greek (good translation skills)

Latin (good translation skills)

Ancient Hebrew (basics)

CURRENT POSITION

2005 – present. Associate Professor (tenure track) at the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering of Politecnico di Milano

TEACHING

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS – ITALY – POLITECNICO DI MILANO

Master of science in Computer Science and Engineering			
<i>Title</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Scientific Communication	Graduate – Honors Program in Scientific Research	3	Since 2018
Communication skills embedded in the Technologies for Information Systems course	Graduate	1	Since 2018
Information and ICT: principles and applications	Graduate	5	2018-2020

Master of science in 11 Engineering tracks: Electrical Engineering, Nuclear Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Engineering Physics, Mathematical Engineering, Energy Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Space Engineering, Management Engineering, plus Interior and Spatial Design

<i>Title</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Communication and Argumentation	Graduate	5	Since 2018

Bachelor in Chemical Engineering

<i>Title</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Communication Skills for the final project	Bachelor	3	2018-2020

1999- 2018

Como Campus.

Bachelor and master of science in Computer Science and Engineering

<i>Title</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Information and ICT: principles and applications	Graduate	10	2014-2018
Communication and society	Graduate	5	2005-2013
Information and communication quality	Graduate	5	2005-2013
Foundations of communication sciences	Bachelor	5	2005-2013
Computer science project	Bachelor	2,5	2008-2010
Sociology of Communication	Graduate	10	2002-2005
Communication project	Graduate	2,5	2002-2005
Communication Theory (as TA)	Graduate	10	1999-2001

2017-present

Communication Lab, 1.5 CFU, Alta Scuola Politecnica (honors program by the 2 most relevant Italian technical universities: Politecnico di Milano and Politecnico di Torino, for high-performing students).

2017-present

Professional Communication, 3CFU, Politecnico doctoral school.

2016-2017

Professional Communication, 3CFU, Dept. of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering doctoral school.

2016-2018 Tutorship in two projects at Alta Scuola Politecnica, both in cooperation with IBM: on the gap between academia and industry in terms of soft-skills (2016-17) and on conversational chatbots for education (2017-18).

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS – ABROAD

2004-11 UNIVERSITÀ DELLA SVIZZERA ITALIANA (*University of Italian Switzerland*)
Master in Technology-Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage

<i>Title</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Communication for cultural heritage	Master	3	2004-2011
Multi-channel communication lab	Master	3	2007-2011

2010-11 HONG-KONG CITY UNIVERSITY
Master in New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management

<i>Title</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Years</i>
Digital Storytelling for cultural heritage	Master	3	2010

OTHER TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL COURSES

2021. Launch of the MOOC “Communication Skills for the Engineering Scholar” on Polimi Open Knowledge portal and on Coursera

2018-19. FORMATRICE nell’ambito del progetto FUTURA MIUR (iniziative didattiche e formative per diffondere a livello territoriale le azioni di innovazione didattica e digitale nella scuola italiana) CON 3 master class dal titolo “La didattica nel cloud”: Varese, 14 settembre 2018, Genova, 5 aprile 2019, Roma, 14 ottobre 2019

2012, April-May. Master in business innovation & ICT management. Teacher of the module: “Human Interaction Design” at MIP School of Management, Politecnico di Milano. 6 hours

2012, January. Accademia di belle arti (Academy of Fine Arts) Santa Giulia, Brescia (Italy). Teacher of the module “Multimedia design for cultural heritage”. 10 hours

2011. November. Lesson on Digital Storytelling for Cultural Heritage in the frame of Master in New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management at the Hong-Kong City University (Online)

2005-07. Doctoral School of IMT Lucca, Institute for Advanced Studies (Italy). Teacher assistant of the module “Communication for Cultural Heritage”. 12 hours

2003-08. Information and Communication Technology master at the CEFRIEL research institute⁴. Teacher of the module “Communication Techniques”. 6 hours (years 2003-06) and 12 hours (years 2007 and 2008).

2002-03. Master in Bioethics at the Faculty of Medicine of the Catholic University of Rome (Italy). Appointed professor in Communication Methods (1,2 credits).

⁴ www.cefriel.it

2001-03. Expert on the subject in Computational Linguistics and in Philosophy of Language, Catholic University, Milan.

2001, 2-4 October. Teacher Assistant of the module “Modelling of Multimedia products” within the course “Systems of Digital Publishing for Cultural Heritage. Processes and methodologies of perception and communication” (Cortona, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy)

APPOINTMENTS

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

2016-present	Co-director of MIDIS⁵, a blended master on Innovation at school, in cooperation with MIP (the managerial school of Politecnico).
2015-present	Director of DOL⁶, online master on technologies in education aimed at teachers on the job by Politecnico di Milano.
2017-present	Responsible of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship courses within the EIT digital master programs on Data Science and Human Computer Interaction at Politecnico di Milano.

SCIENTIFIC AND PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Nicoletta Di Blas has participated in the organization of the following conferences:

- 2015. Demo chair of eLEOT (International Conference on e-Learning e-Education and Online Training) – September 16-18, Novedrate (Como), Italy.
<http://eleot.org/2015/show/home>
- 2009. Short paper chair of IDC (Interaction Design and Children) – June, 3-5, 2009, Como, Italy.
- 2001. Demo chair of ICHIM (International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting)– Sept., 3-7, 2001 Milano, Italy.

She is/has been part of the scientific committees of the following conferences:

- AVI (international Working Conference on Advanced Visual Interfaces) 2014
- BH (Built Heritage) conference 2013
- CSCL (Computer Supported Collaborative Learning) conference from 2011 up to now
- eLEOT (e-Learning e-Education and Online Training) 2014, 2015
- ENTER (eTourism conference) 2012, 2013, 2014
- IADIS (Interfaces and Human Computer Interaction) conference 2009 and 2010
- ICLS (International Conference for the Learning Sciences) conference 2006, 2007, 2008
- IDC (Interaction Design and Children) 2013, 2014, 2015
- INTERACT (IFIP Conference on Human-Computer Interaction) 2013
- MCCSIS – IADIS multi-conference on computer science and information systems, 2010
- VSMM – Conference on Virtual Systems and Multimedia, 2008

Di Blas is/has been a reviewer for the following journals:

- ACM Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage (jocch.acm.org/)

⁵ <http://www.mip.polimi.it/it/offerta-formativa/istituzioni-e-pubblica-amministrazione/master/midis/>

⁶ <http://www.dol.polimi.it/masterdol/>

- Computer Assisted Language Learning (<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/ncal20>)
- Computers & Education (<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/computers-and-education/>)
- EAI Transactions on e-Learning. <http://eai.eu/transaction/e-learning> (from 2014)
- IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine System
- Journal of Museum Management and Curatorship (MMC; www.tandf.co.uk/journals/rmmc)
- REM, Research on Education and Media (www.sirem.org/rem/)

Di Blas is member of the editorial board of the following journals:

- IJEL International Journal on eLearning of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). ISSN 1537-2456
- JTATE Journal of technology and Teacher Education of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). JTATE ranks as the first journal in “Teacher Education and Technology” (H-Index). ISSN 1059-7069.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

2021-on. Member of the scientific committee of the project “4-years high-school on the net, a network A network between schools, universities and businesses to ‘mend’ the country” (“Liceo Quadriennale in Rete, una rete tra Scuole, Università e Imprese per ‘ricucire’ il Paese”) by ELIS, an Italian non-profit organization that works in synergy with public institutions and private entities in Italy and in developing countries training people for jobs with educational programs ranging from vocational schools to a University Degree Course in Computer Engineering in collaboration with Politecnico di Milano.

2020-on. Member of the scientific committee of “Collegio Einaudi” in Turin (Italy). a university residence “of merit” with competitive admission and additional training for higher education students.

2012-on. Member of SIREM (Società Italiana di Ricerca sull’Educazione Mediale), an Italian association devoted to research on Media Education.

2016-17. Co-chair of the SIG (Special Interest Group) on “Digital Storytelling/Video” of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (<https://site.aace.org/>). SITE is an international, academic association of teacher educators, researchers, practitioners and collaborating organizations across multiple disciplines; SITE (founded in 1990) is a society of AACE–Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education. AACE (founded in 1981) is an international, educational, and professional organization dedicated to the advancement of the knowledge, theory and quality of learning and teaching at all levels with information technology.

2016. Member of the “Cantiere Scuola Digitale” of Forum PA (www.forumpa.it/scuola-digitale). Forum PA is an Italian company that has been organizing for more than 25 years a national convention in Rome on the digital innovation of public administration. The “cantiere scuola digitale” is a workshop gathering experts in charge of facilitating innovation in the Italian school system.

VISITING EXPERIENCES

2013, August. Invited speaker at the “Vision Summit” in Toronto about badges in education by **Mozilla Foundation** and **McArthur Foundation**. Di Blas then served as member of the “Badges visionary team”, one of the only two members from Europe, from 2013 to 2015.

2010-2011. Visiting scholar at the **Hong Kong City University**, in the frame of the Intelligent Heritage series of the “New Technologies and Cultural Heritage Management” master course.

AWARDS & INVITATIONS

2021. Best paper award

Calchi, V., Di Blas, N., Torrebruno, A. (2021). Flipped Classroom and Educational Videos: Instant Students' Feedback. In M. Cimitile and R. Pecori (Eds.), *Book of Abstracts of HELMeTO*, 3rd International Workshop on Higher Education Learning Methodologies and Technologies Online, September 9-10, 2021, Pisa, Italy. ISBN 978-88-99978-36-5

2021. Research highlight

Di Blas, N. (2021). Instructor Social Presence in Remote Teaching: "Yes, we Can!". In E. Langran & L. Archambault (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 1196-1203). Online, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). 25 highlights out of 288 papers.

2020. Best paper award

Di Blas, N., Di Santo, B., & Torrebruno, A. (2020). Voci dalla scuola al tempo del Coronavirus: dal MOOC all'eBook. In G. Adorni, A. De Lorenzo, L. Manzoni, E. Medvet (Eds.), *Atti Convegno Nazionale DIDAMATiCA 2020* (pp. 199-208). Trieste, Italia: AICA. ISBN: 978-8-89-809161-4
5 best paper awards out of 43 accepted papers.

2017. Ann Thompson best paper award

Di Blas, N. Paolini, P. (2017). Distributed and Dynamic TPACK as an Educational Approach. *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference 2017*.

2016. Research highlight

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P. (2016). Distributed and Dynamic TPACK: Evidences from a Real-Life Case Study. In L. Liu, D. Gibson (Eds.), *Research Highlights in Technology and Teacher Education 2016* (pp. 29-36). Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education. ISBN 978-1-9397-9726-1
25 highlights out of 556 papers.

2012. Conference highlight

Di Blas, N. (2012) Interactive Digital Storytelling in Formal Education: PoliCultura and 20,000 Students Telling Multimedia Stories. Online Educa Berlin 2012, Berlin, 20-30 November 2012.
The presentation was selected as one of the conference's highlights, with 17 highlights out of more than 400 presentations.

2010. Outstanding paper award

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Torrebruno, A. (2010). Digital Storytelling at School. Does the TPACK Model Explain What's Going On?. In J. Sanchez & K. Zhang (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education 2010* (pp. 2239-2248). Chesapeake, VA: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). ISBN 978-1-880094-83-9.
4 awards out of 466 papers

2008. Outstanding paper award

Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Poggi, C. (2008). 3D Worlds to Learn and Play: 6 Years of Projects with an Engaging, Pedagogically Effective, and Versatile Educational Format. In G. Richards (Ed.), *Proceedings of World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education 2008* (738-745), Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
8 awards out of 687 papers

2008. Invited talk

Invited talk on "Instant Multimedia: a New Approach for Cultural Heritage Communication", in the Summer Course "Las Instituciones de la Memoria en la Red: Nuevas Dimensiones del Museo" by the Fundación Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Museum Thyssen-Bornmisza of Madrid.

2006. Outstanding paper award

Di Blas, N., Poggi, C., Torrebruno, A. (2006). Collaboration and Playful Competition in a 3D Educational Virtual World: The Learning@Europe Experience. In E. Pearson & P. Bohman (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications 2006* (1191-1198). Chesapeake, VA: AACE.

9 awards out of 503 papers

RESEARCH

RESEARCH FOCUS

Di Blas' research investigates how technology is changing education and how to evaluate the impact. Her research is based on data from large-scale, real-life projects by HOC-LAB, in which she is involved as instructional designer, editor and evaluator. Technologies and formats include/have included 3D collaborative environments, digital storytelling, Massive Online Open Courses, Augmented Reality, Video-annotation systems.

Her current focus is on the interpretation of the TPACK model (Technology, Pedagogy and Content Knowledge model) in a dynamic and distributed sense. The TPACK model identifies the 3 knowledge domains a teacher needs to be in command of in order to implement an ICT-based educational activity; the distributed and dynamic interpretation of the model underlines the fact that not all the 3 Ks need to reside in the teacher's heads, but can be distributed within the system (students, tools, colleagues, external helpers...) and also evolve in the course of the experience so that the final distribution differs from the initial one. The study of how cognition is distributed (which draws on distributed cognition theories) and how it "flows" among those involved in the experience has substantial consequences on the design and interpretation of educational experiences as well as on teachers' training, both at school and higher education level.

Previous research interests include various aspects of computer-mediated communication, such as usability, accessibility for visually-impaired users, linguistic interpretation in terms of a "dialogue" of human-computer interactions.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Since 2000, Di Blas has been member of HOC-LAB at the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering of Politecnico di Milano (www.hoc.polimi.it). HOC-LAB is specialized in (1) methodologies – for design, requirements analysis, usability and accessibility; (2) tools – e.g. engines for 3D collaborative virtual worlds, digital storytelling authoring tools – and (3) large scale, real-life applications and services, especially on technology for education and for cultural heritage.

She has taken part into 12 international (5 times Principal Investigator; 1 Coordinator) and 11 national research projects (2 times Coordinators). **She coordinated the H2020 project City4Age (2015-2018, 16 partners – 4,5M euros funding).**

She has cooperated (as experience designer, content editor and evaluator) to 4 different educational programs based on Multi-Users Virtual Environments that involved more than 9,000 students from 18 European countries, Israel and USA, as well as to a number of other ICT-based educational programs by HOC (see comprehensive list below).

She is the scientific coordinator of **PoliCultura** (www.policultura.it), a competition on digital storytelling for schools. This program has involved 42,000 students ca. this far, of all school grades. In 2015, she was responsible for the instructional design of PoliCulturaExpoMilano2015, the competition for schools by Expo Milano 2015 (the Universal Exposition that took place in Milan). She is also the scientific coordinator of **PoliCollege** (www.policollege.it), a program for high-school students with online courses about STEM subjects.

Furthermore, she has worked at 13 digital storytelling applications as designer, executive producer, content editor for various cultural institutions.

EIT (European Institute for Innovation and Technology). As responsible of the I&E (Innovation and Entrepreneurship) sector for the double degree programs of EIT digital (European Institute for Innovation and Technology) at the Politecnico di Milano, Di Blas has carried out several projects (participating in annual competitive calls) as scientific responsible for the improvement of the I&E courses, promoting various forms of innovative teaching methods, both face-to-face and online, in remote collaboration with the students of the European universities participating in the EIT network. Overall funding: over 150k euros; 01/01/2017 – 2021. Di Blas is scientific responsible

ELSE (Eco/logical Learning and Simulation Environments in Higher Education). Erasmus+ program (2018-1-IT02-KA203-048006); Call: 2018 KA2 - Cooperation for Innovation and the Exchange of Good Practices KA203 - Strategic Partnerships for higher education. The project investigated innovative tech-based educational approaches in higher education; in particular, virtual simulation environments and “video-annotation” systems to facilitate the flipped classroom. Amount granted: 35k euro. 09/03/2018-03/02/2021. Di Blas is principal investigator.

City4Age. Horizon 2020; Call: H2020-PHC-2015-single-stage; Topic: PHC-21-2015; Type of action: RIA; Grant Agreement #689731. The project investigated how technologies can help identify cognitive impairment in the elderly population and how, through multi-channel educational communication, it is possible to train healthy habits and lifestyles that help prevent and delay the decline itself. The project brought together 16 partners from all over Europe and was deployed in 6 pilot cities: Athens, Birmingham, Lecce, Madrid, Montpellier, Singapore. Overall amount granted: 4.5 M euro (450k euro to POLIMI). 12/01/2015-31/05/2018. Di Blas was coordinator

EIT (European Institute for technology), TASK 17221-A1703: Development of the Blended Master in Data Science. Development of a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) to be deployed in Coursera, on the POLIMI course “Recommender System” by prof. Cremonesi. The course is part of the Blended Master in Data Science. Amount granted: 100k euro; 01/01/2017-12/31/2017. Di Blas was scientific responsible.

DIS-CODE (Disconnected, discouraged, disabled? Let’s code!). Erasmus+ program with Fondazione Politecnico di Milano, call 2016, on introducing computational thinking at school. KA 201 Strategic Partnership for school education, agreement no. 2016-1-IT02-KA201-024525. The project focused on bringing some technology-based activities into the school, including teaching coding and digital storytelling, to increase the motivation of struggling students. Amount granted: 22k euros. 01 November 2016 - 31 December 2018 (26 months).

EBA. European Badge Alliance. Erasmus+ program (2015-1-IT03- KA205-005757). The EBA project investigated the use of digital badges to recognize the skills and abilities acquired by young people in international mobility programs. Amount granted: 27k euros. 09/01/2015-09/01/2017 (24 months). Di Blas was principal investigator.

TALES. European Union Comenius program (project number: 539033-LLP-1-2013-1-BE-COMENIUS-CMP). Amount granted: 50k euro. 11/01/2013 – 11/01/2015 (24 months). Di Blas was principal investigator.

COMFIT (Comunicazione Multimediale Integrata per la Filiera del Turismo – Integrated Multimedia Communication for Tourism). Interreg project. ID 13737544. Amount granted: 364,920 euros. Duration 11/01/2010 - 03/31/2013 (29 months).

MAPS (Marketing Activities for the Promotion of Syrian Cultural Heritage). European Union Cultural Tourism Development Program. Amount granted: 90,000 euro. 02/01/2006 – 07/30/2006 (6 months).

VNET5 – Advanced User-Centred Product Creation. European Union IST Programme – EU contract N. IST-2000-25465. Amount granted: 149,403 euros. 09/01/00-08/31/02 (24 months). <http://www.vnet5.org/>.

WED (Web as Dialogue). Swiss National Research Fund – FNSRS 105211-102061/1. Amount granted: 150,000 CHF. 09/01/2003-09/01/2005 (24 months).

HELP: Seeing a work of art by visually impaired people. Swiss National Fund (contract FNRS 105211-102061/1) and by Culture2000 (project HELP European Commission, Culture 2000. www.munchundberlin.org).

NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

ENI – Communication and education about nuclear fusion. Participation as researcher in the working group led by prof. Matteo Passoni (department of energy, Politecnico di Milano) as part of the work order between ENI and Politecnico entitled "Support to the identification of advanced models for plasma-wall interactions and didactic communication strategies for magnetic fusion". Di Blas was involved in "Work Package 2", in which methods of communication and training on nuclear energy topics aimed at various recipients, ranging from ENI employees to high schools, are investigated. 05/01/2021-10/31/2021

Digital divide and COVID-19: which effects on students' achievement? Investigation on the effects of digital divide on students' results, as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project investigated the impact of the pandemic on the performance of primary and lower secondary school students. FISR, 2020, D45F21001890005. 2.5k euros funding. 06/01/2021-11/30/2021

ACTION FOR 5G–EDU. How to use Augmented Reality in formal education and professional training not by representing virtual objects but by representing virtual concepts. In cooperation with VODAFONE and FifthIngenium. 2021-2022

POLISOCIAL–TWIN project. On territorial regeneration, slow tourism, recovery of disused buildings or areas and social inclusion. Project funded by Politecnico di Milano, under the Polisocial program. Amount granted: overall, 80k euros (split among the partners). 03/02/2020-12/10/2021 (21 months and 8 days).

BASE5G. "Broadband InterfAces and services for Smart Environments enabled by 5G technologies" – ID 1155850 di REGIONE LOMBARDIA On the use of virtual and augmented reality to enhance education. In cooperation with Vodafone, AKKA, LIFE, ANOTHEREALITY, YAPE. Amount granted: 35.829,83 euros. 01/13/2020-2022 (30 months). Di Blas was scientific responsible.

VODAFONE 5G PROGRAM, on the use of virtual and augmented reality to enhance tourism (use-case "Tourist 4.0") and higher education (use-case "Virtual class"). Financed by Vodafone plus a number of other Italian telco companies. Amount granted: 30k euros. 10/01/2018-09/30/2021.

POLISOCIAL – SCAR project. On the role of schools to enhance understanding and communication of peripheral urban areas. Project funded by Politecnico di Milano, under the Polisocial program. Amount granted: overall, 80k euros (split among the partners). 01/04/2018-01/04/2020 (24 months). Di Blas is coordinator.

SALA DELLE ASSE DI LEONARDO. Applied research collaboration to communicate the restoration activities of the "Sala delle Asse" at the Sforza Castle of Milan (Accordo di collaborazione per la realizzazione di una ricerca applicata avente come obiettivo la comunicazione delle attività di

restauro delle decorazioni pittoriche della Sala delle Asse del castello sforzesco, tra Comune di Milano e Politecnico di Milano). Overall amount granted: 172,000 euros. 10/30/2013-11/30/2015 (25 months) 10/30/2013 (12 months). Di Blas was coordinator.

EDOC@WORK3.0 (Education and Work on Cloud). Progetto PON04a2_B, PON Ricerca e Competitività 2007 – 2013. D.D. Prot. n.84/Ric. del 2 marzo 2012. Amount granted: 405k euros. 11/30/2013 - 11/30/2015 (24 months).

Voci, Parole e Testi della Campania (Voices, Words and Texts from the Campania Region); POR CAMPANIA FESR 2007-2013. Valorization through (1) multimedia digital stories, (2) interactive applications and (3) an archiving SW for three archives of the Campania region. Amount granted: 70,000 euros. 12/09/2012-12/09/2015 (36 months).

L4All (Learning for All: is everyone learning?). Furb, RBNE07RCPX. Investigation on how technology for education can enhance inclusion. Amount granted: 280,273. 06/10/2009 - 12/10/2012 (42 months).

Comunicare la qualità dei prodotti biologici: dal web all'iPhone (Communicating the quality of organic products, from the web to iPhone). Agreement between “Consiglio per la Ricerca e la sperimentazione in Agricoltura – Centro di ricerca per la Produzione delle Carni ed il Miglioramento genetico (CRA-PCM)” and the Dept. of Electronics and Information of Politecnico di Milano, protocol n. 200801544. Amount granted: 34,000 euros. 06/19/2008-06/19/2009 (12 months).

DICE (Distributed Infrastructure for Cultural Heritage). Programma Operativo Nazionale, progetto n° 13023. 11/2002-11/2005 (36 months).

PRIVATE FUNDING PROJECTS

FORMAL EDUCATION

2019-present. PoliCollege (www.policollege.polimi.it): a national program for high-school students with online courses on STEM subjects. Di Blas is coordinator

2006-present. PoliCultura (www.policultura.it): a national **competition on digital storytelling** at school. More than 40,000 students of all school grades (from pre-school to high school) have taken part so far. Self-financed through support by Politecnico and sponsorships. Di Blas is coordinator (since 2016).

2003-2012. Designer, editor, instructor and evaluator in the **PoliScuola program**, a set of coordinated actions to promote the use of technologies at school. PoliScuola was supported by a private foundation (Fondazione Cariplo), the Italian Ministry of Education and the final users. More specifically:

2007-2008. PoliLabKids: interactive animations about physics, math, science...for primary school children. Financing: 100,000 euros. www.polilabkids.it

2007, 2013. PoliCollege: a set of online modules for “excellent” high-school students.

2005-2011. Hi-Tec: on-line and in-presence (at Politecnico di Milano) courses for high-school students. Di Blas was the coordinator of the course “Communication and new technologies”.

Financing: 50k euros approx.

2002-09. Designer, editor and evaluator of **educational experiences** based on **Multi-Users Virtual Environments (3D)** for junior and high-school students.

2002-04. SEE (Shrine Educational Experience): in cooperation with the Israel Museum and with the support of the Dorot Foundation, on the “Dead Sea Scrolls” and related religious, historical, sociological issues. Over 1,400 middle and high school students from Italy, Israel and Belgium were involved. Amount granted: 50k euros approx.

2005-06. Stori@Lombardia: with the support of the Regional Government of Lombardy (Italy), on the medieval history of the Lombardy region. More than 1,100 students from Northern Italy, aged between 12 and 19, were involved. Amount granted: 50k euros approx.

2004-08. Learning@Europe: with the support of Accenture Foundation, as part of the Accenture Corporate Citizenship investment program, executed in cooperation with Fondazione Italiana Accenture. On European history. More than 6,000 high school students from 18 European countries and the USA (West Point cadets) involved. Amount granted: 876.400 euro.

2007-09. Learning@SocialSport: in cooperation with SBS Master Verde Sport (by the Italian fashion brand Benetton), Fondazione Italiana Accenture and the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) on ethical, social and psychological issues related to sport. More than 350 young athletes from Italian sport associations involved. Amount granted: 35k euro.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

2017-18. Il museo si racconta (**Museum’s tales**). Educational experience with an Italian high-school (Liceo Scientifico op. Scienze Applicate “A. Berenini” High School) in Fidenza, in collaboration with the local museum (Museum of the Diocese of Fidenza). Website and 3 multimedia narratives were created. <http://www.museocattedraledifidenza.it>

2012. Regine d’Italia (**Queens of Italy**). 4 multimedia narratives about relevant historical characters. In cooperation with Inner Wheel Club of Monza (Italy). Amount granted: 25,000 euros. 01/10/2008-01/10/2012 (48 months). www.regineditalia.it.

2007-10. **Roman Milan**. In cooperation with the Civic Archeological Museum of Milan (Italy), with the support of the Lombardy Region: three educational narratives to support school trips to the museum. Amount granted: 20,000 euros approx.

2010. A day in Roman Milan. A multimedia, multichannel narrative presenting the life of 5 “characters” in ancient Roman Milan

2007. The Roman Section and the Gandhara Art Section. Two multimedia, multichannel narratives about two sections of the museum

2007-11. **Art exhibitions and culture in Lugano**. In cooperation with TEC-LAB (faculty of communication sciences, Università della Svizzera Italiana), multimedia and multi-channel narratives to support school trips to museums and cultural institutions. Source of funding: the LAC (Lugano Art and Culture); amount granted (approximately): 5,000 CHF per project.

2010. Nippon, 4 exhibitions about Japanese culture. In cooperation with the Polo Culturale of Lugano.

2009. Look at me: faces and gazes in art. In cooperation with Museo Cantonale d’Arte and Museo d’Arte of Lugano (CH).

2008. Enigma Helvetia Tales. In cooperation with Museo Cantonale d'Arte and Museo d'Arte of Lugano (CH).

2007. Hermann Hesse: Seekers of Truth. In cooperation with Hermann Hesse Museum of Montagnola, Lugano (CH).

PUBLICATIONS

CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL BOOKS

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Heidelberg: Springer. ISBN 978-3-540-78138-7; DOI: 10.1007/978-3-540-78139-4_43 (acceptance rate: 30%)

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Best technical paper award
- [M.2] Di Blas, N., Di Santo, B., & Torrebruno, A. (2020). Voci dalla scuola al tempo del Coronavirus: dal MOOC all'eBook. In G. Adorni, A. De Lorenzo, L. Manzoni, E. Medvet (a cura di), *Atti Convegno Nazionale DIDAMATiCA 2020* (pp. 199-208). Trieste, Italia: AICA. ISBN: 978-8-89-809161-4
- [M.3] Di Blas, N. (2017). Digital Badges in Formal Education: Are Teachers Ready?. In M. Rui (Ed.), *Design the future! Proceedings of the conference EMEMITALIA2016*. Modena, 7-9 Sept. 2016. Genova University Press ISBN: 978-88-97752-89-9
- [M.4] Di Blas, N. (2015). ICT in education: teachers' competences in a distributed TPACK perspective. In M. Rui, L. Messina, T. Minerva (Eds.), *Teach Different! Proceedings della Multiconferenza EMEMITALIA2015*. Genova, 9-12 Sept. 2015. Genova University Press. ISBN: 978-88-97752-60-8; pp. 99-103
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- [M.6] Paolini, P., Di Blas, N. (2009). Il ruolo della comunicazione supportata da tecnologie per i beni culturali. In S. Alaura, A. L. D'Agata (a cura di), *Quale futuro per l'archeologia?*, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Gangemi Editore, pp. 201-215. ISBN 978-88-492-1805-3
- [M.7] Di Blas, Boretti, B., Di Santo, B., N., Paolini, P. (2009). The Theater of Posillipo: a communication paradigm for cultural heritage. In Atti del Congresso: *Un nuovo "made in Italy" per lo sviluppo del Paese, ICT per la valorizzazione dei beni e delle attività culturali*, Congresso nazionale AICA, Roma, 4-6 Novembre 2009, Sapienza Università di Roma

- [M.8] De Caro, S., Di Blas, N., Paolini, P., Spagnolo, L. (2009). Search-enhanced web information architecture for findability and discovery of archeological heritage: the MiBAC-DGA case study. In Atti del Congresso: *Un nuovo "made in Italy" per lo sviluppo del Paese, ICT per la valorizzazione dei beni e delle attività culturali*, Congresso nazionale AICA, Roma, 4-6 Novembre 2009, Sapienza Università di Roma
- [M.9] Di Blas, N., Marini, L., Boretti, B. (2009). Comunicare Cultura con le Nuove Tecnologie: 1001 storia per Policultura. In A. Andronico, L. Colazzo (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2009*. ISBN 978-88-8443-277-3
- [M.10] Paolini, P., Di Blas, N., Franzosi, P. (2008). POLICOLLEGE corsi on line per studenti "eccellenti" di scuole secondarie di secondo grado. In A. Andronico, T. Roselli, V. Rossano (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2008*, Laterza, Bari, 2008; 188-197. ISBN 978-88-902981-2-7
- [M.11] Di Blas, N., Fontana, C., Paolini, P., Parravicini, C., Poggi, C. (2008). Polilab-Kids: una tecnologia semplice e divertente per supportare la didattica e l'apprendimento. In A. Andronico, T. Roselli, V. Rossano (a cura di), *Atti del convegno Didamatica 2008*, Laterza, Bari, 2008; 178-187. ISBN 978-88-902981-2-7

NATIONAL REVIEWS

- [N.1] Di Blas, N. (2002). Francesca Piazza, Il corpo della persuasione – L'entimema nella retorica greca, Novecento, Palermo 2000, in "Rivista di filosofia neo-scolastica", 2

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- [O.1] 2000. N. Di Blas, *L'articolo definito in funzione deittica (The deictic function of the definite article)*. Doctoral dissertation. Catholic University of Milan, Italy, School of Foreign Languages and Literature.
- [O.2] 1996. N. Di Blas, *Dubbio e certezza nel lessico greco e latino (Doubt and Certainty in the Greek and Latin lexicons)*. Master thesis. Catholic University, Milan (Italy), School of Literature and Philosophy

SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS & DEMOS

2016, February 19. Opening seminar on "Communication skills: presentation and defense" at Alta Scuola Politecnica, Politecnico di Milano. 3 hours.

2012, June 5-6. Digital Storytelling a Scuola: PoliCultura, un progetto su larga scala. *Congresso nazionale SIREM, Società Italiana di Ricerca sull'Educazione Mediale, contenuti, significati e valori nella cultura transmediale*, Milano, 5-6 giugno 2012, Università Bicocca

2012, April 12. Demo "All devices, all formats, all contexts", Museums & the Web conference, San Diego, California, USA.

2012, April 14. Demo "PoliCultura Portal: 15,000 Students Tell their Stories about Cultural Heritage", Museums & the Web conference, San Diego, California, USA.

2008, July. Invited Seminar on "Instant Multimedia: a New Approach for Cultural Heritage Communication", in the Summer Course "Las Instituciones de la Memoria en la Red: Nuevas

Dimensiones del Museo” by the Fundación Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Museum Thyssen-Bornemisza of Madrid.

2006, March 22. Workshop “Semiotics and Museum Websites: Do users understand your interfaces?”, Museums & the Web conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

2005, April 13. Workshop “Evaluation of educational benefits in advanced 3D learning environments”, Museums & the Web conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA.

2005, April 13. Workshop “Introducing advanced learning paradigms for 3D environments”, Museums & the Web conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA.

2003, March 20-22. Workshop “From Requirements to Usability for Museum Web Sites”, Museums & the Web conference, Charlotte, South Carolina, USA.

2002, April 17-20. Workshop “Systematic Requirements Analysis”, Museums & the Web conference, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

2002, April 21-22. Position paper (MiLE: a Method for Evaluating the Quality of Hypermedia Applications) for the workshop “Automatically Evaluating the Usability of Web Sites”, CHI (Computer-Human Interaction) 2002, Minneapolis, USA.

2002, June 4. Workshop “MiLE: a methodology for Usability Evaluation of Web Sites”, European project VNET5 – Advancing User-Centred Product Creation in Interactive Electronic Publishing, Lugano, Switzerland.

2001, October 10-12. Workshop “Systematic Usability Evaluation”; European project VNET5 – Advancing User-Centred Product Creation in Interactive Electronic Publishing, Milan, Italy.

2001, 26 September. Discussant at a Round Table about “Human Computer interaction: towards a profession”, VII national Congress “Ergonomics in the Information Society”, Florence (Italy).

2001, September 4. Tutorial “Systematic Usability Evaluation” at the ICHIM01 conference (International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting), Politecnico di Milano, Italy.

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