

PERSONAL INFORMATION **Michele Cometa**

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Laurea in Lingue e Letterature Straniere

University of Palermo, Palermo (Ita)

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2005–Present **Full Professor in Cultural History and Visual Culture**
University of Palermo, Palermo (Italy)
- 1998–2005 **Full Professor of German Cultural History**
University of Palermo, Palermo (Italia)
- 1995–1998 **Full Professor in German Studies**
Università degli Studi di Cagliari, Cagliari (Italy)
- 1992–1994 **Associated Professor in German Studies and Comparative Literature**
Università della Calabria, Cosenza (Italy)
- 1987–1992 **Assistant Professor in German Studies**
Università degli Studi di Catania, Catania (Italy)
- 1984–1987 **Teacher of German**
Scuola Media - Liceo Scientifico, Messina (Italy)
- 1982–1983 **Lecturer for Italian at the Philosophische Fakultät**
Henrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf (Germany)
Italienisch für Anfänger
Übersetzungskurs Deutsch-Italienisch I
Übersetzungskurs Deutsch- Italienisch II
- 1982–1983 **Lecturer for Italian**
Leibniz-Gymnasium, Düsseldorf (Germany)

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Italian

| Foreign language(s) | UNDERSTANDING | | SPEAKING | | WRITING |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| | Listening | Reading | Spoken interaction | Spoken production | |
| German | C2 | C2 | C2 | C2 | C2 |
| Kleines Deutsches Sprachdiplom | | | | | |
| English | C1 | C2 | C1 | C2 | C1 |
| Spanish | C1 | C1 | B1 | B1 | A2 |

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
 Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - Self-assessment grid

Communication skills Excellent contact skills gained through my experience as teacher, professor and academic manager.

Organisational / managerial skills **Leadership and organizational skill**

Currently responsible for a team of 13 people as Chair of the Department "Culture e Società" at the University of Palermo).

| Digital skills | SELF-ASSESSMENT | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Information processing | Communication | Content creation | Safety | Problem-solving |
| | Independent user | Proficient user | Proficient user | Independent user | Proficient user |

Digital skills - Self-assessment grid

good command of computer programs such as office, dreamweaver, adobe photoshop etc.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Academic Experience

I was visiting professor at the Gesamthochschule Essen (Germany) (1997) and at the Universidad de Murcia (Spain) (1991).
 I was guest fellow of Prof. Alain Montandon at the Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin (2007), fellow of the DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) (1980-1981; 1980; 2014) and of CNR (Consiglio nazionale delle ricerche) (1986).
 I held many conferences at the Freie Universität (Berlin), at the Heinrich-Heine-Universität (Düsseldorf), at the Dartmouth College (Hanover) at the Universities of Valencia, Barcelona and Murcia, at the Maison de Science de l'homme, at the Collège internationale de Philosophie (Paris), at the University of Zagreb, at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Belo Horizonte), at the Internationales Forschungszentrum für Kulturwissenschaften (Vienna), at the Circulo de Bellas Artes (Madrid), at the CRASSH (Cambridge), at the Fondazione Collegio San Carlo (Modena), at the Einstein Center for Neurosciences, Berlin, at the Villa Vigoni. Centro italo-tedesco per il dialogo europeo, Lovenno di Menaggio, at the IANUA-Issue. Scuola superiore dell'Università di Genova, SISSA. Scuola superiore di studi avanzati, Trieste, Scuola Superiore di Catania, etc.

Fellowships

2015-2016 Research Associate Professor at the Italian Academy (Columbia University, NY).
 Project: Emotion, Embodiment and the History of Art and Music: Aesthetics, History and Anthropology
2015 Beinecke-Fellow at the Clark Art Institute (Williamstown, MA)
2014 DAAD Wiedereinladung, Fellow at the Freie Universität, Berlin
2007 Visiting Scholar Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
1997 Visiting professor at the Gesamthochschule Essen
1991 Visiting professor at the Philosophische Fakultät der Universität Murcia (Spanien)
1986 Fellowship «Centro Nazionale delle Ricerche – CNR», Rome
1980-1981 DAAD-Fellowship (Visiting Student Germanistik and Philosophie at the Philosophische Fakultät der Universität zu Köln)
1980 DAAD-Fellowship at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M.

Projects

2012-2014 Principal investigator: «Literature and Visual Culture II» (PRIN) (MIUR, Ministry for

Education, University and Research) University of Palermo

2009-2013 Principal investigator: «Literature and Visual Culture I» (PRIN)(MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) University of Palermo with the University of L'Aquila

2011 Principal investigator: «Critique and Crisis» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)

2007 Principal investigator: «Rappresentanza e rappresentazione» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)

2006 Principal investigator: «Iconography and History of Concepts» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)

2005-2007 Principal investigator: «Optical Devices in Literature» (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) with the Universities of Bologna and L'Aquila

2005 Principal investigator: «Visual Culture, Cultura visual, Cultura visuale: European Tradition in Comparison» University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)

2002-2004 Principal investigator: «Kulturwissenschaften: New Methodologies and Researches for the Age of Goethe» (PRIN) (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) with the Universities of Pisa and Rom «La Sapienza»

Honours and awards

1999 Ervino-Pocar-Prize of the City Gorizia for literary translation (German-Italian).

2017 Prize Pozzale Luigi Russo (Empoli) for the book "Perché le storie ci aiutano a vivere" (Cortina, Milano, 2017).

Other academic responsibilities

2017 ss. Member of the Academic Senate at the University of Palermo

2015-2018 Vice President of the Istituto Italiano di Studi Germanici (Rom)

2007-2013 Dean of the Faculty of Educational and Communication Sciences at the University of Palermo

2007-2013 Member of the Academic Senate at the University of Palermo

2001-2007 Chair of the Department "Arti e Comunicazione" at the University of Palermo

1999 ss. Board of Trustees at the Teatro Biondo Stabile di Palermo

1998-2001 Director of the Degree Course „Foreign Languages and Literature“ at the University of Palermo

Other scientific responsibilities

2015 ss. Member of the Evaluation Committee (GEV 10: Scienze dell'Antichità, filologico-letterarie e storico-artistiche) of ANVUR (Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca) (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research)

2015-2017 Member of the Evaluation Committee for German Studies and Comparative Literature (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research)

2013-2016 Member of the Quality Control Committee of the University of Palermo

2009 ss. Referee for the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft im Rahmen des Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung für Villa Vigoni / Centro Italo-tedesco (Lovenjo di Menaggio)

2008-2018 PhD Coordinator «Europäische Kulturstudien» (University of Palermo, Heinrich-Heine Universität Düsseldorf, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Departamento de Historia de la Filosofía, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, The Division for the History of Croatian Music, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Departamento de Comunicación Audiovisual, Documentación e Historia del Arte)

2004 ss. Coordinator of the Master in Communication and Visual Culture at the University of Palermo
Chair of the Dipartimento di Arti e Comunicazioni at the University of Palermo

Scientific Boards and Book Series

1988 ss. Director of the journal "Arte Costruita", Palermo-Genève.

1988 ss. Director of the Collection "Hodoeporica", Palermo.

1997 ss. Editorial Board of the journal "Debats", Valencia.

2000 ss. Editorial Board of the journal "Nuove Effemeridi", Palermo.

2004 ss. Director of the Collection "Diagonali" and "Quadranti" (ETS, Pisa).

2008 ss. Director of the Collection "Argo", Palermo.

2010 ss. Scientific committee of "Images", Zagreb.

2012 ss. Scientific committee of the Collection "Teoria della Cultura" (Quodlibet, Roma)

2012 ss. Scientific committee of "Arabeschi", Catania.

2013 ss. Editorial Board of the journal "Studi Culturali", Bologna.

2014 ss. Scientific committee of the journal "Philosophy Kitchen. Rivista di filosofia contemporanea" (Università degli Studi di Torino)

2017 ss. Scientific committee of "Narrability Journal. Semestrale di divulgazione scientifica sulle Scienze della Narrazione dell'Osservatorio di Storytelling.
2017 ss. Scientific committee of "Quaderni di Visual and Media Studies" (Mimesis, Milano)
2017 ss. Scientific committee of "Alemanna" (Mimesis, Milano)
2017 ss. Scientific committee of "Festival delle letterature migranti" (Palermo)
2017 ss. Scientific committee of the journal "Trame di letteratura comparata" (Cassino)
2017 ss. Scientific committee of "Verso l'Italia. Itinerari prussiani tra Settecento e Ottocento"
2018 ss. Editorial Board of the journal "Segno", Palermo.
 2018 ss. Scientific committee of "Wunderkammer.Caleidoscopi" (Bonanno editore, Catania)
2019 ss. Scientific committee of the journal "#publifrum" (Università di Genova)
2019 ss. Director of the Collection "Studi culturali" (UnipaPress, Palermo)
2019 ss. Scientific committee of the journal "Vesper. rivista di architettura e arti" (Quodlibet, Roma-Macerata)
2020 ss. Scientific committee "Le muse di Ippocrate. Studi d'Intersezione tra letteratura, scienza e medicina" (Paolo Loffredo editore, Napoli)
2020 ss. Scientific committee of the journal "Immagine e parola" (Fabrizio Serra editore, Pisa)

Books *Come si studia la cultura. Pratiche, tattiche e forme di scrittura*, UnipaPress, Palermo, 2019
Letteratura e darwinismo. Introduzione alla biopoetica, Carocci, Roma, 2018.
Perchè le storie ci aiutano a vivere. La letteratura necessaria, Cortina, Milano, 2017.
Il trionfo della morte di Palermo. Un'allegoria della modernità, Macerata-Roma, Quodlibet, 2017.
 Cammarata, Cometa, Cogliore (eds.), *Archaeologies of Visual Culture. Gazes, Optical Devices and Images from 17th to 20th Century Literature*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016.
Archeologie del dispositivo. Regimi scopici della letteratura, Pelligrini, Cosenza, 2016.
Mistici senza dio. Teoria letteraria ed esperienza religiosa nel Novecento, Palermo, Edizioni di Passaggio, 2013.
La scrittura delle immagini. Letteratura e cultura visuale, Milano, Cortina, 2012.
Studi culturali, Guida, Napoli, 2010.
L'età di Goethe, Roma, Carocci, 2006.
Descrizione e desiderio. I quadri viventi di E. T. A. Hoffmann, Roma, Meltemi, 2005.
Visioni della fine. Apocalissi, catastrofi, estinzioni, Palermo, duepunti, 2004.
Il demone della redenzione. Tragedia, mistica e cultura da Hebbel a Lukács, Firenze, Aletheia, 1999.
Il romanzo dell'architettura. La Sicilia e il Grand Tour nell'età di Goethe, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1999.
Guida alla Germanistica, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1999.
Duplicità del Classico. Il mito del tempio di Giove Olimpico da Winckelmann a Leo von Klenze, Palermo, Medina, 1993.
Gli dei della lentezza. Metaforiche della "pazienza" nella letteratura tedesca, Milano, Guerini, 1990.
Il romanzo dell'infinito. Miti, metafore e simboli dell'età di Goethe, Palermo, Aesthetica, 1990.
Iduna. Mitologie della ragione. Il progetto di una "neue Mythologie" nella poetologia preromantica: Friedrich Schlegel e F. W. J. Schelling, Palermo, Novecento, 1984.
Il teatro di Pirandello in Germania, Palermo, Novecento, 1986.
The Literary Life of Pictures. A Theory of Description, Mimesis International, London (forthcoming, 2019)
Bilderschriften. ETA Hoffmanns visuelle Kultur, Mimesis Verlag, Frankfurt a. M. (forthcoming, 2019).
Fantasmagorie. La cultura visuale dell'età di Goethe, Quodlibet, Macerata-Roma, (forthcoming, 2019).

Research Interest My research interests include Biopoetics (cognitive bases of narrativity and picture-making, literature and evolution), aesthetics and visual culture (especially word-text relations, iconotexts and optical devices in literature), 18th, 19th and 20th Century literature and culture (German cultural history, the age of Goethe, Romanticism), narrative medicine.

I have edited the Italian translation of many classics of aesthetics and literary works by the following authors: J. J. Winckelmann, A. R. Mengs, F. Schlegel, M. Mendelssohn, G. E. Lessing, J. Koller, J. W. Goethe, F. Schiller, E. T. A. Hoffmann, F. Schinkel, J. I. Hittorff, Th. Fontane, G. Lukács, O. Weininger, K. Kraus, E. Jünger, H. Blumenberg, P. Hacks, V. Braun. For the stage he translated *Die Kunst des Fragens* by Peter Handke, *Urfaust* by J. W. Goethe, *Jossel Rakovers Wendung zu Gott* by Zvi Kolitz and *Joseph und Maria* by Peter Turrini.

Websites For further informations concerning the academic and scientific career and full list of publications, see:
<http://www.michelecometa.it>
<http://www.studiculturali.it>