

PERSONAL INFORMATION

ERICA ORDALI



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Sex Female | Date of birth 11/03/1993 | Nationality Italian

PhD Student in Cognitive, Computational and Social Neurosciences (CCSN) at IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca

**POSITION
PREFERRED JOB
STUDIES APPLIED FOR
PERSONAL STATEMENT**

My major research interest is Psychopathy and how this particular construct affects, not only the people who have it, but the entire society, widening the field of interest of my M.S. thesis. I'm also interested in how Psychopathy affects the legal and social system, and how the neurosciences can modify or adjust the way in which this pathological behavior is viewed in court, also using the state of art of the Forensic Psychology field.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2017-2018

Intern – Forensic Neuropsychology

Giuseppe Sartori, General Psychology Department, University of Padua.

- During this internship of the length of a year with Prof. Sartori, I learned how to write expert reports on various field of Forensic Psychology, like biological-psychological damage, competence to will or intend, assessment of legal capacity, but mostly on eligibility to testify and minor testimony; also I did administration and scoring of neuropsychological tests and basic research in the field of forensic neuroscience.
For example, I worked in many cases of reported rape, in which we had to proof that there was a doubt on the accusations, by examining the eligibility of the witness, specially, cognitive abilities, in order to proof that the report on the rape was not completely reliable, at least not enough to make accusations.
Also, in a complex case in which several themes intersected each other in the judgment (accusations of murder and circumscription of incapable in order to draw up a will), Prof. Sartori and I evaluated the statements of major witness, and noticed that there was a phenomenon, called memory conformity effect, by which a statement can be corrupted by information that the witness acquires later, by talking with another witness. This phenomenon will put a great doubt about the reliability of the statements.
- Toward research instead, we conduct several studies (so called “forensic experiments”), to test our hypothesis during cases, in order to proof our point of view and support it with objective evidences.
- Regarding other topics, more clinical and neuropsychological, I learned how to write reports on neuropsychological evaluations due to assessing the cognitive function that are necessary to drive, also, I learn how to do the administration of those tests, which I did myself during the evaluation of the clients (ENB-2, MMSE, FAB, ROTF).

Business or sector Forensic Neuropsychology and Neuropsychological Assessment

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-2017

Intern – Psychophysiology’s Laboratory

Alessandro Angrilli, General Psychology Department, University of Padua.

- During this internship with Prof. Angrilli, we worked on an experimental design for my thesis, due to study emotional reactions of people with psychopathy traits. To do that, we created a population of 250 male students who were more likely to show psychopathy traits, on a basis of the results of a series of specialized tests: LSRP (Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale); NPI (Narcissistic Personality Inventory); IRI (Interpersonal Reactivity Index); MPQ-BF (Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire – Brief Form). Then, we measured them their blood pressure and selected the 45 who had the highest and lower blood pressure parameters. To this 45 males were given a task of emotional value: they had to watch a series of films created to elicit specific emotions (like fear, commotion, sexual excitement, or neutral state) while their psychophysiological parameters were measured (heart rate, EEG, corrugator muscle, eye blink and startle reflex). The hypothesis was that, like in the Psychopathy construct, people with the higher psychopathic traits, paired with lower blood pressure parameters, would show a decreased reaction to emotional stimuli. Instead, we found that our sample with the highest psychopathy traits presented a set of traits more associated with antisocial behavior (and so, with Secondary Psychopathy) and, for this reason, they were more physiologically activated, confirming the hypothesis that Psychopathy is a complex construct, composed by two different sub-types, Primary or Affective Psychopathy and Secondary or Antisocial Psychopathy, that affect the individuals in various and different ways.

Business or sector Psychophysiology

EDUCATION

2015-2017 **M. S., Clinical Psychology**

University of Padua, Italy.

This course gave the possibility to do lessons and exams in English (which I did: *Affective Neuroscience and Psychopathology* and *Psychobiology of Psychotic Disorders*)

Thesis Title: *Differences in blood pressure reactivity: Emotional reactions and psychopathy traits.*

Thesis Advisors: Prof. Alessandro Angrilli

2012-2015 **B. S., Psychological Sciences**

University of Pavia, Italy.

Thesis Title: *Modeling psychiatric and cultural possession phenomena with suggestion and fMRI.*

Thesis Advisors: Prof. Piergiorgio Argentero

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Italian

Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2 Proficient user

[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

Communication skills

- Excellent communication skills, gained through my experience during the academic studies (group projects, presentations) and internship experience.

Organisational/managerial skills

- Leadership competences (currently working with a team of people, whereas I usually organize the job)
- Capacity to work in groups
- Organization skills (punctual with assignments, precise and very scrupulous with deadlines)

Digital skills

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

Levels: Basic user - Independent user - Proficient user

Digital competences - Self-assessment grid

- very good with command of office suite (word processor, spread sheets, presentation software)
- good with data analysis software (Statistica, SPSS)
- good with physiological analysis software (LabView, PSAAL)

Other skills

- Ability to put on and use psychophysiological tools (EEG, startle reflex, eye blink, heart rate).
- Knowledge and ability to administrate and score neuropsychological tests (MMSE, FAB, ENB-2, ROTF).

REFERENCES

- **Prof. Giuseppe Sartori**, Department of General Psychology, Forensic Neuropsychology, University of Padua, 0498276608, giuseppe.sartori@unipd.it (post-graduate supervisor);
- **Prof. Alessandro Angrilli**, Department of General Psychology, Psychophysiology, University of Padua 0498276692, alessandro.angrilli@unipd.it (master thesis supervisor).

Lucca, November 7, 2018

Erica Ordali

