

Letizia Osti

Ricercatore Confermato in Lingua e Letteratura Araba (L-OR/12)

Research interests

Most of my work focuses on ‘Abbāsīd literary and historical prose and story-telling techniques. I have mainly studied the 3rd/9th-4th/10th century, and in particular:

- ‘Abbāsīd court culture;
- organization of knowledge;
- narrative techniques and construction of classical Arabic prose;
- classical Arabic biography (*ṭabaqāt*, biographical dictionaries);
- topography of medieval Baghdad;
- prosopography of the medieval Middle East.

Education

- 2001: PhD in Arabic Studies – University of St Andrews (UK).
- 1997: Mlit in Islamic History – University of St Andrews (UK).
- 1995: Laurea in Lingue e Letterature Orientali (arabo) – Università degli Studi di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari”.

Research projects

- 2004 – 2007: Leverhulme Research Associate and Honorary Fellow, Centre for Computing in the Humanities and the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, King’s College London (UK): *Prosopography of Arabic sources for Byzantines and Crusaders, 1025-1204*, within the British Academy project *Prosopography of the Byzantine World*.
- 2006: *Baghdad: Mapping the Textual Evidence*, funded by the British Academy, University of St Andrews (UK).

Recognition and affiliations

- Invited member of the *School of Abbasid Studies*.
- Member of the Board of Directors (ex officio), *Middle East Medievalists*.
- 2005-: Editor of *H-Mideast-Medieval*, discussion group affiliated to the association *Middle East Medievalists*.
- Member of the *Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants*.
- Subeditor, *Lingue Culture Mediazioni – Languages Cultures Mediations*.
- 2010-2012: Review Editor, *The Medieval Review*.

Teaching

- 2007-: BA in *Mediazione Linguistica e Culturale*, Università degli Studi di Milano: Arabic Language II, Arabic Language III.

- 2010-: MA in *Lingue e Culture per la Comunicazione e la Cooperazione internazionale*, Università degli Studi di Milano: Translation; Arabic Language I-II.
- 2004-: *Master Traduzione Letteraria-Editoriale dall'Arabo*, Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici di Vicenza: Classical Arabic literature; Media Arabic.
- 2003 – 2004: Teaching Fellow in Arabic and Middle East Studies, *University of St Andrews* (UK): Arabic Language (II); Medieval Arabic Prose (III); Media Arabic (III); Religious Thought (IV).
- 2001-2003: Teaching fellow in Arabic Language and Literature, *Università degli Studi di Venezia "Ca' Foscari"*: Arabic Language I.