

## Alejandro Cuadrado, Ph.D.

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2023- **Yale University**  
Lecturer, Department of Italian Studies  
Fellow, Branford College

### EDUCATION

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2023 **Columbia University**  
Ph.D. in Italian and Comparative Literature & Society  
Dissertation: *Dante, Historian of Religious Orders*  
Committee: Teodolinda Barolini, Pier Mattia Tommasino, Jo Ann Cavallo, Neslihan Şenocak, Alessandro Vettori

2019 **Columbia University**  
M.Phil. in Italian and Comparative Literature & Society

2017 **Columbia University**  
M.A. in Italian

2016 **Princeton University**  
A.B., *summa cum laude* in French & Italian, Phi Beta Kappa  
Certificates in Medieval Studies & Interdisciplinary Humanities  
Thesis: *The Poetics of Pilgrimage in Dante's Commedia*, winner of Joseph A. Strayer Prize (Medieval Studies) and Gruppo Esponenti Prize (French & Italian)  
Advisor: Simone Marchesi

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, History, Religion, Cervantes, Exemplarity, Mediterranean Studies

### FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

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2025 "The Structure of Dante's *Paradiso*: or How to Tell a Story Beyond Time, Space, and Individuality (*Paradiso* 1-2)," *Dante's Paradiso: A Reader's Guide*, ed. Ronald Herzman and Filippo Gianferrari, Routledge

2024 "Exemplifying Francis in Dante's *Paradiso*," *Essays in Honor of Liliana Cavani*, ed. Gaetana Marrone-Puglia and Maria DiBattista, Intellect Press

"Mentoring Early-Stage Dissertation Writers through Peer-Led Interdisciplinary Writing Groups," *Getting to the Finish Line: New Directions for the Dissertation Process*, ed. Kristina Reardon, Courtney Ferriter, and Gretchen Busl, Modern Language Association

2023 "Mapping the Tenzzone with Forese Donati," *Digital Dante*

### PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

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"Dante's Papal Periphrases," *Bibliotheca Dantesca* 6, 2023

“Historicizing Dante’s Similes: A Manifesto,” with Akash Kumar, *Speculum*, 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary special issue: *Speculations*, January 2026

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

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*The Corruption of the Church in the Divine Comedy: The Decline of Religious Institutions and Dante’s Philosophy of History*, to be submitted to The William and Katherine Devers Series in Dante and Medieval Italian Literature, Notre Dame University Press

*Just Like Dante: Historicizing the Similes of the Commedia*, co-edited with Akash Kumar, with original illustrations by Roberto Abbiati

“Dante’s Modern Popes,” to be submitted to *Dante Studies*

“Flemish and Paduan Water Defenses: Toward an Eco-Historical Reading of *Inferno* 15.4-12,” to be submitted to *Dante Notes*

“Urban Topography and Orsini Nepotism: *Inferno* 18-19 Reconsidered”

“Fantastic Flyers and the Bargain of Fiction from Dante to Cervantes,” to be submitted to *Renaissance Quarterly*

“Dante’s Poetic Universe in Shane McCrae’s ‘A Fire in Every World’”

#### BOOK REVIEWS

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2023 Jacques Dalarun, Sean L. Field, and Valerio Cappozzo, *A Female Apostle in Medieval Italy: The Life of Clare of Rimini*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2023, *g/s/i (gender/sexuality/Italy)*, forthcoming

Helena Phillips-Robins, *Liturgical Song in Dante’s Commedia*, The William and Katherine Devers Series in Dante and Medieval Italian Literature, 19, Notre Dame University Press, 2021, *Modern Language Review* 118.2

2022 Nicolò Crisafi, *Dante’s Masterplot and Alternative Narratives in the Commedia*, Oxford University Press, 2022, *Bibliotheca Dantesca* 5

2020 Roberta Morosini, *Il mare salato. Il Mediterraneo di Dante, Petrarca e Boccaccio*, Viella, 2020, *Bibliotheca Dantesca* 3

2019 Aleksandr Nicolaevic Veselovskij [Alexander Veselovsky], *Studi su Dante, La Parola del Testo* XXI, 1-2, 2017, ed. Roberta Di Giorgi & Renzo Rabboni, *Bibliotheca Dantesca* 2.

#### FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

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2023-2024 Branford College Fellowship, Yale University

2023 Campbell Award, Columbia University Alumni Association

2016-2023 Provost’s Diversity Fellowship, Columbia University

2021-2022 Brittan Family Fellowship, Columbia University

Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University

2021 Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life

2020 Summer Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University Institute for Comparative Literature & Society

2019-2020 Helen and Howard R. Marraro Prize, Columbia University

- 2016-2017 Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University  
 2016 Phi Beta Kappa, Princeton University  
 Joseph R. Strayer Prize in Medieval Studies, Princeton University  
 Gruppo Esponenti Thesis Prize in Italian, Princeton University  
 2015 Dante Prize, Dante Society of America  
 AATI College Essay Prize, American Association of Teachers of Italian  
 Greater New York Chamber of Commerce Junior Prize in Italian, Princeton University  
 2014-2016 Behrman Undergraduate Society of Fellows, Princeton University  
 2012-2016 Summit Foundation 4-Year Scholarship, The Summit Foundation of Colorado  
 2010-2011 Rotary Youth Exchange in Vicenza, Italy, Rotary International

#### GRANTS FOR RESEARCH & CONFERENCE TRAVEL

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- 2023 GSAS Conference Travel Matching Fund, Columbia University Department of Italian  
 ASGC Travel Grant, Columbia University Arts & Sciences Graduate Council  
 2022 Claudia Rattazzi Papka Memorial Fund Grant (awarded twice), Columbia University Medieval &  
 Renaissance Studies Program  
 Conference Travel Grant, Modern Language Association  
 2019 GSAS Conference Travel Matching Fund, Columbia University Department of Italian  
 2017 Travel Bursary, Oxford University Centre for Medieval Studies & TORCH  
 Living Latin in Rome Scholarship, Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study  
 2016 Notre Dame Rome Prize for Rome Jubilee Seminar, Notre Dame University  
 2015 Karl D. Uitti Memorial Thesis Fund in Medieval Studies, Princeton University  
 Fred Fox Fund, Princeton University  
 Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion  
 Independent Project Travel Grant, Princeton University Department of Italian (awarded twice)

#### INVITED TALKS

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- 2023 "Ulises a través la literatura occidental. Un manifiesto para el estudio humanístico," Instituto de  
 Humanidades, Universidad Panamericana, Guadalajara, Mexico, November 24  
  
 "The Structure of Dante's *Paradiso*: or How to Tell a Story Beyond Time, Space, and Individuality," *Project  
 Paradiso: A Gateway to Dante's Heaven* (online), November 10  
  
 "E temo che non sia già sì smarrito: La voce di Beatrice e la memoria del poeta," *Settimana di Studi Danteschi  
 Giuseppe Lo Manto*, XXVII Edizione: "Lucevan li occhi suoi più che la stella," Palermo, October 16-20  
 2020 "Dante's Damned Popes: Corruption and the Church in the *Commedia*," Italian Department & Honors  
 Program, St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, April 21  
 2019 "Los papas en el infierno de Dante. Crítica ala Iglesia en la *Divina Comedia*," Departamento de Letras,  
 Universidad de Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico, November 4

#### PAPERS AT CONFERENCES

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- 2024 "Colonial Triumphs from Padova to Puebla," *Global Petrarch(s) and Petrarchism*, 59<sup>th</sup> International Congress  
 on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 9-11 [pending paper acceptance]  
  
 "An Island in the Stream: Boccaccio's Cyprus and Mobility in the *Decameron's* Mediterranean," *Boccaccio at  
 the Crusades*, American Boccaccio Association, Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, March 21-23

- “Reframing Decameronian Cinema,” *Frame Narrative in Literature and Across Media*, 55<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston, March 7-10 [pending paper acceptance]
- 2023 “Dante’s Work Ethics, or, a Poet’s Guide to Career and Retirement,” Dante Society of America, 58<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 11-13
- 2022 “‘Due bestie van sott’ una pelle’: Horses and Humans in *Paradiso* 21,” *Animal Dante*, Dante Society of America, Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., January 6-9
- 2021 “Dante’s Poetic Universe in Shane McCrae’s ‘A Fire in Every World,’” *Dante’s Afterlives*, In Via Dante Network, University of Leeds, June 24-25
- 2019 “Intellectual vs. Higher Education: The University in Petrarch’s Universe,” *Anti-Intellectualism in Medieval Italy*, 54<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 9-12
- “E un che ’ntese la parola toska’: Dante in the Elementary Italian Classroom,” *Teaching Dante in America*, 50<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association, Washington, D.C., March 21-24
- 2018 “Boccaccio’s Parody of the Order of Saint Anthony: Historicizing Frate Cipolla as an Antonite Friar (*Decameron* VI.10),” *Passion, Procession, and the People: An Interdisciplinary Panel*, 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 10-13
- “Mapping Dante’s Tenzzone with Forese Donati,” *Digital Approaches to Italian Medieval and Early Modern Texts*, 49<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association, Pittsburgh, April 12-15
- 2017 “Imagined Pilgrimages in Petrarch’s *Itinerarium*,” *Mobility and Space in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe*, Centre for Medieval Studies, Oxford University, Oxford, June 23-24
- “Authorial Acrostics, The Vulnerability of Fra Niccolò’s Attempted Copyright,” *Vulnerability in the Middle Ages*, Medieval Studies Graduate Conference, Princeton University, Princeton, April 28
- “Petrarch’s Unfinished Pilgrimage to the Holy Land,” *Great Incompletes: Italy’s Unfinished Endeavors*, Italian Department Graduate Conference, Columbia University, New York, February 3-4
- 2015 “‘Angels in the Architecture’: The Case for a Dantean Framework in Paul Simon’s ‘You Can Call Me Al,’” *Dante and Music*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, November 5-6

#### CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

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- 2024 *Dante and the Digital Humanities: Celebrating Ten Years of Original Research and Ideas* (in honor of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Digital Dante*), co-organized with Laura DiNardo, Julie van Peteghem, and Teodolinda Barolini, Columbia University
- 2022 *The Undivine Comedy: Thirty Years Later* (in honor of Teodolinda Barolini), co-organized with Kristina Olson, Akash Kumar, Martin Eisner, and Laura DiNardo, Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in New York, Columbia University, October 21

#### CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED & CHAIRED

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- 2024 *Bad Examples: The Limits of Exemplarity in Medieval Literature*, 59<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 9-11

*Sidekicks and Side Quests from Boccaccio to Cervantes*, 55<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston, March 7-10

2023 *The Future of Dante Studies: A Roundtable with Junior Faculty and Early Career Scholars*, Modern Language Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, January 4-8

2019 *Anti-Intellectualism in Medieval Italy*, 54<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 9-12

*We Run This Town: Dynastic Literature in Medieval and Renaissance Italian Cities*, with Tylar Colleluori, 50<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association, Washington, D.C., March 21-24

#### CAMPUS TALKS & SEMINARS

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2023 “Dante in the Age of DEI: A Pedagogical Approach,” *Giornata di Studio su Dante*, Department of Italian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, April 14

“Why Read Great Books? Liberal Education in the Twenty-First Century,” faculty symposium, The Morningside Institute, New York, February 3-4

2021 “Dante’s *Purgatorio*,” four-part seminar series, The Morningside Institute, New York, September 14-October 6

2020 “Conversions, Successful and Otherwise: Augustine, Dante, Petrarch,” three-part seminar series, The Morningside Institute, February 4-19

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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##### **Yale University**

ITAL 310 Dante in Translation (Fall 2023)  
ITAL 552 Italian Lyric Poetry from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance (Fall 2023)  
ITAL 332 Travelers, Immigrants, Exiles from Italy (Spring 2024)  
DRST 002 Directed Studies: Literature (Spring 2024)

##### **Columbia University**

HUMA 1001 Literature Humanities I (Fall 2020, Fall 2022)  
HUMA 1002 Literature Humanities II (Spring 2021, Spring 2023)  
ITAL 1101 Elementary Italian I (Fall 2017, Spring 2019)  
ITAL 1102 Elementary Italian II (Spring 2018, Fall 2018)  
ITAL 2101 Intermediate Italian I (Fall 2019)  
ITAL 2102 Intermediate Italian II (Spring 2020, Summer 2020)  
GSAS SRP Graduate-Level Writing and Research (Summer 2022)

##### **Barnard College**

POLP 0001 Theories of Leadership from Antiquity to the Present (Summer 2023, 2 sessions)

##### **DePauw University**

ITAL 172 Elementary Italian II (Spring 2021)  
ITAL 171-172 DePauw Summer in Italy: Italian Culture Through Language (Summer 2019)  
ITAL 271-272 DePauw Summer in Italy: Intermediate Italian Culture & Society (Summer 2019)  
ITAL 371-372 DePauw Summer in Italy: Advanced Italian Culture & Society (Summer 2019)

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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2024- Organizer, Italian Studies at Kalamazoo (ICMS)  
2023 Reviewer, *Meliora*  
2020- Assistant Editor, *Digital Dante*

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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### Yale University

2023- First-Year Student Advising, Branford College

### Columbia University

2023- Recent Alumni & Students Committee, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences  
2022-2023 Student Advisory Committee to the Columbia University Presidential Search  
Search Committee for GSAS Writing Studio Assistant Director  
2021 Literature Humanities Syllabus Review Committee  
2019-2021 President, Arts & Sciences Graduate Council  
Executive Committee of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences  
Faculty of Arts & Sciences Educational Policy and Planning Committee  
PhD Council; Students of Arts & Sciences Consortium; Ivy+ Summits  
2017-2019 Italian Department Representative to Arts & Sciences Graduate Council  
2017-2021 Student Library Advisory Committee

### Princeton University

2014-2016 Peer Academic Advisor, Rockefeller College

## EMPLOYMENT WHILE IN GRADUATE SCHOOL

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2023 Summer Faculty, Young Women's Leadership Institute, Barnard College  
2020-2023 Core Preceptor, Center for the Core Curriculum, Columbia University  
2018-2023 Senior Writing Consultant (2021-2023) and Writing Consultant (2018-2021), Graduate  
School of Arts & Sciences Writing Studio, Columbia University  
2022 Writing Instructor, GSAS-Leadership Alliance Summer Research Program  
2021 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Italian Cultural Studies, DePauw University  
2019 Summer Study Abroad Faculty, DePauw University Summer in Grado, Italy  
2017-2020 Teaching Fellow, Department of Italian, Columbia University  
2016-2017 Consultant (Italian Electoral Predictive Analytics), Predata  
2015- Freelance Translator from/into English, Italian, and Spanish

## WORKSHOPS FACILITATED

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### Columbia University

2018-2023 Dissertation Writing Groups  
2023 Writing with Style and Authority (MA Thesis Workshop Series)  
Getting Things Written (MA Thesis Workshop Series)  
Planning Your Research and Writing (MA Thesis Workshop Series)  
2022 Choosing and Developing a Research Topic (MA Thesis Workshop Series)  
Soliciting Effective Feedback  
Professional Development for Writing Centers (Staff Development Workshop)  
2021 Ford Foundation Application Workshop, Office of Academic Diversity and Inclusion  
GSAS Writing Studio New Consultant Training  
2019-2021 The Prospectus Club  
2019 Jumpstart Your Dissertation Prospectus

## PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

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2023	Innovative Course Design Seminar, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning
2020-2021	Principles of Literary Study I-II, Columbia Center for the Core Curriculum
2020	Hybrid & Online Learning Faculty Institute, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning
	Literature Humanities Preceptor Orientation, Columbia Center for the Core Curriculum
	Essentials of Teaching and Learning Series, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning
2018	GSAS Writing Studio New Consultant Training, Columbia GSAS Writing Studio
2017	Practicum in French and Italian Language Pedagogy, Columbia French Department
	Workshop for Foreign Language Teaching Fellows, Columbia Language Resource Center

## OUTREACH

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2023	Guest Lecturer: Dante's <i>Paradiso</i> , Baruch College
2022	Pathways into Academia: Visits and Experiences, Bates College
	"What I Wish I'd Known About Graduate School" Roundtable, Bates College
2021	<a href="#">"Paradiso 22: Looking back at History and at Home."</a> with Louis J. Moffa, <i>Canto per Canto</i> video series, Dante Society of America
	"Professional Development for Graduate Students," roundtable at Creating Connections Consortium – Liberal Arts Diversity Officers Summit, Williams College
2020	Guest Teacher: Dante's <i>Inferno</i> , St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia
2019	"From Undergraduate to Graduate: Thinking about Graduate School in the Humanities?," The Morningside Institute, New York
2017	Guest Teacher: Dante's <i>Inferno</i> , Milton Academy, Boston
2011-2018	Leadership Facilitator, Rotary Youth Leadership Award, Colorado & Iowa

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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American Association for Italian Studies	Medieval Academy of America
American Boccaccio Association	Modern Language Association
Dante Society of America	Renaissance Society of America

## LANGUAGES

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English, Italian, Spanish, French, Latin

## REFERENCES

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**Teodolinda Barolini**, Lorenzo Da Ponte Professor of Italian, Columbia University | [tb27@columbia.edu](mailto:tb27@columbia.edu)

**Jane Tylus**, Chair and Andrew Downey Orrick Professor of Italian Studies, Yale University | [jane.tylus@yale.edu](mailto:jane.tylus@yale.edu)

**Pier Mattia Tommasino**, Associate Professor of Italian, Columbia University | [pmt2114@columbia.edu](mailto:pmt2114@columbia.edu)

**Alessandro Vettori**, Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature, Rutgers University | [vettori@rutgers.edu](mailto:vettori@rutgers.edu)

**Simone Marchesi**, Associate Professor of French & Italian, Princeton University | [simonem@princeton.edu](mailto:simonem@princeton.edu)

**Carlos J. Alonso**, Dean, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Columbia University | [calonso@columbia.edu](mailto:calonso@columbia.edu)

**Celina Chatman Nelson**, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Diversity and Professional Development, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Columbia University | [chatman.nelson@columbia.edu](mailto:chatman.nelson@columbia.edu)