

# Curriculum Vitae

Donna Jo Napoli

Prof. of Linguistics and Social Justice

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## Education

- 1973-74 Visiting Scientist in Linguistics (postdoctoral year), MIT.  
1973 Ph.D. General and Romance Linguistics (Dept. Romance Lgs & Lits Program A),  
Harvard University  
1971 M.A Italian Literature, Harvard University  
1970 A.B. Mathematics. Harvard University

## Teaching areas

syntax, structure of American Sign Language, making bilingual-bimodal ebooks to aid in deaf literacy, language matters with respect to Deaf people, slang and taboo language, oral and written language, field linguistics, morphology, mathematical and linguistic analysis of folk dance, fiction writing workshops (USA and abroad)

## Employment and Professional Experience since coming to Swarthmore (in fall 1987)

- 1987–present Swarthmore College, Professor of Linguistics (chair 1987–2002), Professor of  
Linguistics and Social Justice as of fall 2018  
2019 spring CNPQ Visiting Prof. at the University of Santa Caterina in Brazil.  
2018 summer Served as Fulbright Specialist at the Universiteit Göttingen in Germany.  
2015-16 summers Faculty at New York- St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture  
(collaboration of Stony Brook University and St. Petersburg State University in St.  
Petersburg, Russia)  
2015 spr-sum Visiting Professor, Ca'Foscari, University of Venice, Italy; Fulbright Scholar, teaching at  
Siena School for Liberal Arts, Siena, Italy  
2014 October Visiting Scholar to Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil (funded by CNPQ)  
2013 fall Creative Writing Program, U. of Pennsylvania  
2009–2013 Center for Bioethics, U. of Pennsylvania, Associate (Visiting Scholar 2008-2009)  
2012 May-July Visiting Research Fellow at the Trinity Long Room Hub, Trinity College, Dublin,  
Ireland (under awards)  
2011 May-July Visiting researcher at the Fondation Brocher, Hermance, Switzerland (informal research  
in residence – not a formal fellow)  
2011summer Directed 3 interns in meta study on Cochlear Implants, UPenn Center for Bioethics  
2010 summer Directed 3 interns in Sign for Families project at UPenn Center for Bioethics  
2010 spring Leverhulme Visiting Professor, University of Newcastle, UK (under awards)  
1997 summer Taught at Capital Normal U., Beijing, China  
1995 summer Taught at U. of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg; U. of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch,  
South Africa  
1994 summer Taught at San Francisco State U.  
1993summer Taught at U. of Geneva, Switzerland

1992 summer U. of Queensland, Australia, S.W. Brooks Visiting Lecturer; also U. of Sydney, Australia, First Australian Linguistic Institute (under awards)

### **Teaching and Professional Experience (prior to coming to Swarthmore in 1987)**

1980–87 U. of Michigan, Professor of Linguistics (promoted to associate in 1981; promoted to full professor in 1984)  
1975–80 Georgetown U., Assistant Professor of Linguistics  
1974–75 U. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Lecturer in Mathematics and in Romance Lgs & Lits  
1973–74 Smith College, Lecturer in Philosophy and in Romance Lgs & Lits  
1973–74 Harvard U., Committee on Extension Courses, Lecturer in Italian  
1971–72 ETS, Princeton, NJ, Linguistics Consultant  
1970–73 Harvard U., Teaching Fellow in Linguistics, Mathematics, and Romance Lgs & Lits  
1970 Concord Public Schools, Concord, MA, Instructor of Italian  
1970 Berlitz, Seattle, WA, Instructor of Italian

### **Teaching in writing (workshops/lectures in public & private schools and writer associations)**

Annually, around the USA  
2019 India (Bengaluru)  
2015 Turkey (Istanbul), Italy (Milano and Siena), Germany (Bonn)  
2014 & 2011 summer Chautauqua Writers Center  
2011 Germany (Munich)  
2009 India (Mumbai and New Delhi)  
2009 & 2006 summer Highlights Foundation Writers Workshop at Chautauqua, NY  
2007 Japan (Tokyo), Taiwan (Taipei), Thailand (Bangkok), Bangladesh (Dhaka)  
2005 Iran (Kerman – a conference)

### **Awards and Honors**

2017-2021 Appointed as Fulbright Specialist in Sign Linguistics and Deaf Literacy  
2015 Inducted as a Fellow of the Linguistic Society of America  
2014 Linguistics, Language, and the Public Award from the Linguistic Society of America for my (team) work on providing the medical profession with information about the acquisition of sign language  
2012 Visiting Research Fellow Trinity Long Room Hub, Trinity College, Dublin  
2010 Leverhulme Visiting Professor, University of Newcastle, UK  
1992 S.W. Brooks Visiting Lecturer, University of Queensland, Australia

### **Grants and Fellowships**

2019-present International scholar participant in CNPQ grant to the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Brazil (Director, Ronice Müller de Quadros)  
2017-2020 Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation Grant for bilingual-bimodal ebook course support  
2014-2015 Fulbright U.S. Scholar, Siena, Italy  
2013 SEED Grant (from ITS), Hungerford Faculty Support Grant, Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility Curriculum Grant, Swarthmore Foundation Grant (all from Swarthmore College to support course co-taught at Gallaudet)  
2009 & 2013 Mellon Foundation conference grants (via AALAC)  
1997 & 1995 Mellon Foundation, grants  
1990–91 & 1979-80 National Endowment for the Humanities, fellowships

1989–91 National Science Foundation, Co-Project Director, Instrumentation and Laboratory Improvement, grant  
 1988 Sloan Foundation, summer grant  
 1981–83 National Science Foundation, grant  
 1976 Nederlandse Organisatie voor Zuiverwetenschappelijk Onderzoek, Amsterdam, summer grant

### **Other Scholarly Experience**

**Organizer of multiple events, including national and international conferences**, recent ones at Swarthmore College being:

- 2018spr LIASE lecture: “West to East: Mercury biomagnification in fish food webs from selected Chinese & Tibetan sites”. (Linda Campbell of St. Mary’s College was in town for 4-days, and I hosted her, giving lectures and workshops at Swarthmore and at the PSD.)
- 2018spr (with DHCC, Swarthmore) Deaf & Gay
- 2017 spr Disrespected Literatures (3-day conference)
- 2017 spr (co-organizer) Interpreting the Gestures of Orchestral Conductors (3-day)
- 2017 spr (behind the scenes helper) Virtual Center for Applied Sign Linguistics (2-day)
- 2017 spr (with DHCC, Swarthmore) Coining New Signs: Why? How? Who?
- 2016 spr (with DHCC, Swarthmore) An Evening with Carol Padden & Tom Humphries
- 2014 spr (behind the scenes helper) Sign Language Pragmatics: Round Table Discussion (2-day)
- 2013 fall (with DHCC, Swarthmore) Mark Drolsbaugh presentation
- 2013 spr Workshop on Deaf across the Curriculum (Mellon funded) (3-day)
- 2012 spr (behind the scenes helper) Signing Hands across the Water (Deaf poetry) (3-day)
- 2011 fall (with DHCC, Swarthmore) Eugenics and Civil Rights (Deaf issues)
- 2009 fall Workshop on Linguistics in the Liberal Arts Setting (Mellon funded)
- 2009 spr Comedy: A Defining Force in Group Identification
- 2008 spr Around the Deaf World in Two Days: Sign Languages, Social Issues/Civil Rights, Creativity
- 2004 fall Signs and Voices: Language, Arts, and Identity from Deaf to Hearing

**Member of External Evaluation Committees** for Languages, Cultures and Linguistics Dept at Bucknell University (2019 – head of committee); for Linguistics Dept. at Reed College (2018- head of committee); Linguistics & Cognitive Science at Pomona College (2014); Linguistics Program at Emory University (2009); Linguistics Dept. at Macalester College (1998 – head of committee)

**Member of editorial board or associate editor** at various times of *Language*, *Sign Language & Linguistics*, *Journal of Italian Linguistics*, *Probus*

**Referee for articles submitted to linguistics or other academic journals:** *African Studies*; *Brain and Language*; *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*; *Cognition*; *ERIC*; *Frontiers in Psychology*; *Journal of Linguistics*; *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*; *Language*; *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*; *Language Learning*; *Languages*; *Linguistic Inquiry*; *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*; *PLOS ONE*; *Rivista di Psicolinguistica Applicata/Journal of Applied Psycholinguistics*; *Sign Language & Linguistics*; *Sign Language Studies*; *Tout Moun: Caribbean Journal of Cultural Studies*

**Referee for articles submitted to medical journals:** *Maternal and Child Health Journal* (2016); *Pediatrics* (2016, 2017); *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* (2016)

**Referee for manuscripts submitted to:** Blackwell Publishers, Cambridge University Press, Edward Arnold Publishers, Ltd., Hodder Headline PLC, Indiana University Linguistics Club, M.I.T Press, Oxford University Press, University of Chicago Press

**Grant/Fellowship Reviewer for:** LEaDing Fellows Postdoc Programme of the Netherlands, Israel Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Science Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, REPRISE/Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR)

**Referee of abstracts for national conferences:** Eastern States Conference on Linguistics, Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, North Eastern Linguistic Society, Penn Colloquium in Linguistics, Texas Linguistic Society, West Coast Conference on Foreign Language

**Extra-mural reviewer for tenure and/or promotion committees:** Georgetown University, Haverford College, Indiana University, Michigan State University, Pomona College, Portland State University, Purdue University, SUNY Albany, SUNY Stony Brook, University of Arizona, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at San Diego, University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of Illinois at Urbana, University of Massachusetts at Boston, University of Missouri at Columbia, University of Texas at Austin, University of Washington, York University (Canada)

**Member of:** American Association for the Advancement of Science, Linguistic Society of America, Authors Guild, Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

**In the past:** LSA Executive Committee, LSA Language in the School Curriculum Committee, LSA Linguistics, Language, and the Public Interest Award Committee (chair), LSA Membership Committee, LSA Nominating Committee, LSA Status of Women in Linguistics Committee (chaired), LSA Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee, Società Internazionale di Linguistica e Filologia Italiana, Società Linguistica Italiana, GLOW

**Keynote Speaker and Special Invitations:** 45<sup>th</sup> Austrian Linguistics Association Conference (6 December 2019); Book Week University of Minnesota (November 2019); 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia (October 2018); TEDx Swarthmore 2012; Siena School for the Liberal Arts "Through the looking glass: Movimento e comunicazione"; Tercenterary Academic Celebration in honor of Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia, Georgetown U; Participant in radio documentary "Voiceprint", U Alberta, Canada Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Romance Linguistics, Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, U North Texas Languageing

**Presentations in Linguistics since 2015:** Tri-Co Medical Humanities Network Symposium, Swarthmore College (29 February 2020); Sign-Language Research Workshop, Austrian Linguistics Association Conference, University of Salzburg (7 December 2019); Form-Meaning Units Workshop Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands (June 2019), University College London, Deafness Cognition and Language Research Centre (January 2019), University of Oslo, Norway (January 2019), Keystone State Literacy Association Annual Conference (October 2018), University of Amsterdam (July 2018), Radboud University, Nijmegen (July 2018), University of Göttingen (June 2018), University of Stockholm (June 2018), University of Vienna (June 2018), Humboldt University, Berlin (June 2018), University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona (June 2018), Northwestern University Linguistics & Cognitive Science series (November 2017), World Federation of the Deaf (November 2017 in Budapest, Hungary), West Chester University (October 2017), Swarthmore College Faculty Lunch Series (spring 2017), Princeton University Linguistics Series (sign lg. humor, December 2017), International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs (Linz, Austria, July 2016), New York-St. Petersburg

Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (St. Petersburg, Russia, July 2016), Universidade Estadual de Campinas in São Paulo Brazil ANPOLL conference (July 2016), University of Applied Sciences of Special Needs Education in Zurich, Switzerland (June 2016 – 2 presentations), Gallaudet University Linguistics Series (spring 2016), 2016 International Academic Conference of the National Institute of Korean Language (NIKL) Seoul (Sept. 2016), International Conference on Bioethics, Medical Ethics and Health Law (Napoli, Italy, 20-22 October 2015), Coalition for Global Hearing Healthcare Conference at Gallaudet in Washington, D.C. (9 – 10 October 2015), New York-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (July 2015), 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on the Education of the Deaf (Athens, Greece, 2015 – 2 presentations), Second International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition (Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 2015), Mason Perkins Deafness Fund I Venerdi del Pendola (Siena, Italy, spring 2015), Università di Venezia a Ca'Foscari (Italy, spring 2015 – 3 presentations), Universität Hamburg (Germany, May 2015– 2 presentations), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain, February 2015 – 2 presentations)

**Selection of Presentations in Linguistics before 2015:** Cambridge U, Center for Bioethics of the U Pennsylvania, Chicago Linguistic Society, Columbia U, Dartmouth College, Durham U, Eastern States Conference on Linguistics, Essex U, Haverford College Linguistics Colloquium (multiple times), Heriot-Watt U, International Linguistic Association, Lancaster U (Researching and Applying Metaphor Conference), Linguistic Society of America, Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, Michigan Linguistics Colloquium, Milwaukee Linguistics Symposium on Historical Linguistics, MIT Linguistics Speaker Series, MIT Workshop on External Arguments, New Ways of Analyzing Variation in English, New York Academy of Sciences, Newcastle U, North Eastern Linguistic Society, Nottingham U, Oxford U, Pastoral Care Rounds at the Hospital of the U Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State U at Brandywine, Princeton U Linguistics Speaker Series, Romance Philology Convocation, Società Linguistica Italiana, Teachers College of Columbia U Applied Linguistics Speaker Series, Tri-College Research Symposium for the Cognitive Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, U California at Berkeley, U Central Lancashire, U College London, U Delaware Linguistics and Cognitive Studies Colloquium (multiple times), Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (Florianopolis, Brazil – twice), Universidade Federal Fluminense (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), U Geneva Linguistics Speaker Series, U Groningen, U Manchester, U Maryland Verb Movement Conference, U Minnesota, U Montana, U of Pennsylvania Cognitive Science Women's Group Series and National Science Foundation Visiting Professorships for Women Series, U Pennsylvania Disability Studies Conference, U Pennsylvania's Spirituality, Religion, and Health Interest Group, U Stellenbosch Education Department Speaker Series, U of Stellenbosch Linguistics Speaker Series, U Texas Linguistics Speaker Series (multiple times), U Witwatersrand Linguistics Speaker Series, Washington Linguistics Club

### **Teaching Recognition:**

2014 Highest rated professor at Swarthmore College, ranking done by Swat Visually (This is the only faculty ranking done in all the years Napoli has been there.)  
 1983–85 Faculty Honor Roll, University of Michigan  
 1971–72 Nominated as best teaching fellow in Italian, Harvard University

### **Dissertations Chaired:**

University of Michigan:

1989 Mutsuko Simon  
 1988 Barry Miller  
 1987 Hala Talaat  
 1986 Hitomi Oishi & Kingkarn Thepkanjana  
 1985 Michiyasu Shishido & Noriko Nagai

1983	David Strong
1982	Noriko Ue
Georgetown University:	
1980	Alexa McCray
1978	James Roberts

#### **External member of dissertation committees (international):**

Ongoing co-chair	Luca Marra, University of Zurich, Switzerland, on prosody in the sign language of interpreters
2018	Eréndira Alejandra Cervantes Carreto, University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, <i>Language Contact and Bimodal Bilingualism Competence in Mexican Sign Language (LSM) and Writing Spanish</i> . Napoli chaired the dissertation proposal defense only.
2016	Maria Roccaforte, Università di Roma, La Sapienza <i>Studi linguistici sulle componenti orali della lingua dei segni italiana</i> (LIS) (on mouthing in Italian Sign Language)
2015	Mariana Cunha, Universidade Federal Fluminense (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) <i>O bilinguismo (Libras –Português) na tenra infância: Produção de uma série de livros infantis interativos para aproximação de pais ouvintes e filhos surdos</i> (on bilingual-bimodal ebooks for deaf children)

#### **Major Awards in Creative Writing in general**

1995	Summer fellowship from the American Association of University Women for research pursuant to writing fiction.
1995	Grant to Individual Women Artists from the Leeway Foundation for excellence in fiction.
1998	Drexel University/Free Library of Philadelphia Children's Literature Citation.
2007	Literary Lights for Children Award from the Boston Public Library.

#### **Awards for particular fiction books**

##### **National:**

- Golden Kite Award for STONES IN WATER, and Golden Kite Honor Book Award for BREATH
- Sydney Taylor Award from the National Association of Jewish Libraries for STONES IN WATER, for STORM, and Sydney Taylor Honor Book Award for THE KING OF MULBERRY STREET
- Parents' Choice Gold Medal Award for ALLIGATOR BAYOU, and Parents' Choice Silver Medal Award for NORTH, and for THE KING OF MULBERRY STREET
- Anne Izard's Storytellers' Choice Award for MAMA MITI
- Frances and Wesley Bock Book Award for MAMA MITI

##### **State:**

- Jerry Weiss Award of the New Jersey Reading Association for THE PRINCE OF THE POND
- Carolyn W. Field Honor Book award from the Pennsylvania Library Association for STONES IN WATER, for BEAST, for SPINNERS, and for FIRE IN THE HILLS
- Kentucky Blue Grass Award for ALBERT
- Nevada Young Readers Award for DAUGHTER OF VENICE
- Eureka! Silver Honor Book of the California Reading Association for TREASURY OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY and for TREASURY OF NORSE MYTHOLOGY