



Giulia Vigna

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EDUCATION

PhD Course in Psychological Sciences

University of Padua, Padua, Italy | October 2023 – September 2026

Keywords: Zero, Empty Sets, Numerical Cognition, Child Development.

Supervisor: Dr. Silvia Benavides Varela

Research Master – Education and Child Studies (M.Sc.)

Profile: Applied Neuroscience in Human Development

Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands | September 2021 – April 2024

The program is designed in such a way that it can explicitly serve as preparatory training for a PhD position.

The curriculum includes courses of Advanced Statistics, Academic Skills, Developmental Psychology and Neuroscience. Total length: 120 ECTS (3.360 hours). Master's project supervisor: Dr. Szilvia Biro.

Final grade for Master's Thesis: 9/10. Final diploma obtained cum laude.

Online Premaster – Research and Statistics

Leiden University, The Netherlands | January – April 2021

Online program about research methods and statistics of social and behavioral sciences and the use of data analysis software (SPSS). Total length: 20 ECTS (560 hours). Final grade: 9.1 / 10.

School for Advanced Studies – University of Udine

University of Udine, Udine, Italy | September 2015 – July 2020

The School for Advanced Studies is an institution fostering talent embedded in selected Italian universities, covering student fees and providing subsistence and accommodation. Students are admitted following a selective procedure, they attend additional courses, and are examined twice a year.

Total length: 60 ECTS (1.500 hours). Final grade: 110/110 cum laude.

Master – Primary Education (Laurea Magistrale a Ciclo Unico in Scienze della Formazione Primaria)

University of Udine, Udine, Italy | September 2015 – November 2020

This five-year degree, which combines a Bachelor and a Master, is a necessary qualification for selections for teaching positions in both infant schools and primary schools in Italy.

Total length: 300 ECTS (7.500 hours). Final grade: 110/110 cum laude.

High School Diploma (Scientific Profile)

Liceo Scientifico "G. Marinelli", Udine, Italy | 2010 – 2015

Final grade: 100/100 cum laude.

INTERNSHIPS

Babylab CIMEC (Center for Mind/Brain Sciences) & Neonatal Neuroimaging Unit

University of Trento, Rovereto, Italy | May – August 2023

Collaboration on the following research projects: (1) EEG study on the neural basis of number sense in newborns; (2) Behavioral study on the innate basis of the concept of entropy in 8-month-old infants.

Total hours: 500.

Infant and primary schools

Udine, Italy | 2016 – 2020

Infant schools: “Via D’Artegna” e “Pecile”.

Primary schools: “G. Pascoli” e “IV Novembre”.

Total hours: 600.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Babylab – Leiden University

Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands | March - April 2023

Research assistant in a NIRS study aimed at analyzing auditory discrimination analysis in 10-month-old children.

Babylab – University of Padova

University of Padova, Padova, Italy | 2019 - 2021

Researchers and young graduates meet regularly to discuss the results of the latest scientific articles and to collaborate on new scientific experiments. Coordination: Dr Silvia Benavides-Varela.

Winter School: “Psychology of mathematical learning”

C.N.I. S. di Padova - Centro “Le Torri”, Nevegal - Belluno, Italy | 2-6 January 2020

Three-day course held by prof. Daniela Lucangeli.

Erasmus Studio

Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden | January - June 2018

WORKING EXPERIENCES

Primary School Teacher

DATE	POSITION	SCHOOL	CITY	PhD LEAVE
December 2024 – present (permanent contract)	General teacher position (EEEE)	7° Istituto Comprensivo – San Camillo	Padova (PD), Italy	From December 2024
September 2024 – December 2024	English specialist (EEIL)	6° Istituto Comprensivo – Bruno Ciari	Padova (PD), Italy	September 2024 – December 2024
September 2023 – June 2024	English specialist (EEIL)	Educandato Statale Collegio Uccellis	Udine (UD), Italy	October 23 – June 24
November 2020 - June 2021	Teacher for Special Needs	Istituto Comprensivo di Fagagna	Fagagna (UD), Italy	No
November 2019 & September 2023	General teacher position (EEEE)	Educandato Statale Collegio Uccellis	Udine(UD), Italy	No

University Tutor

University of Udine, Udine, Italy | 2018 – 2020

I supported the university students providing information and advice, resolving problems related to their academic courses. I also promoted the University of Udine among high school students.

SKILLS

Linguistic skills

Italian (native)

English (C1) – Certification: Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), July 2020.

German (A2) – Certification: Linguistic Center of the University of Udine, January 2019.

Computer skills

SPSS, R, PsychoPy and Pavlovia, Labvanced, Zotero, Microsoft, Prezi, Genially, Movie Maker.

Research skills

Eye-tracker (Tobii Pro Lab), acquisition of neonatal EEG data.

Statistical skills

Moderation and Mediation, Multilevel models, Principal Component Analysis, Confirmatory Factor Analysis, Logistic Regression, Item Response Theory, Cluster analysis, Meta-analysis techniques.

Other skills

Driving license (since 2015), certificate for fire-fighter support units (high-risk), playing guitar.

VOLUNTARY WORK

Volunteering as Educator

- *Centro di Associazione La Nostra Famiglia, Pasian di Prato (Italy)* (July 2022): Organization of activities for children affected by hemiplegia.
- *Gruppo Scout Udine 2 AGESCI (Associazione Guide e Scout Cattolici Italiani), Udine* (2004 – 2019).
- *Progetto Autismo FVG – Onlus, Feletto* (July 2015). Organization of activities for children affected by autism spectrum disorder.

Other voluntary activities

- *Nuovi Cittadini Onlus* (2016 – 2017). Weekly lessons of Italian for foreign adolescents.
- *Libera – associazioni, nomi e numeri contro la mafia* (2011 – 2015).

REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITIES

Representatives of Postdoctoral Researchers and PhD Candidates in the Department Council

Department of Developmental Psychology and Socialization

University of Padua | March 2024 - present

Member of the Directive Board - Alumni Association of the University of Udine School of Advanced Studies

December 2022 - present

The Association, founded in 2011, promotes different events so that the alumni of the School for Advanced Studies of Udine can keep in touch even after their graduation. Furthermore, through the organization of meetings and cultural events, the Association involves citizens in the School's project and fosters relations between students and alumni.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Concorso Docenti 2024 – Scuola dell'Infanzia e Primaria

National Contest for Permanent Teaching Positions in Italian Infant Schools and Primary Schools

Total Score Written exam (11/03/2024): 94/100

Total Score Oral exam – Infant School (15/05/2024): 100/100; Primary School (20/08/2024): 98/100.

Winner for EEEE – Primary School, Province of Padova (PD).

Accommodation at the "Casa dell'Assistente Prof. Virgilio Ducceschi"

University of Padua | October 2023 – September 2024

Merit-based assignation of a single room with private bathroom in a residence for students enrolled in the first year of PhD programs at the University of Padua. The University of Padua issues this call within the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), Mission 4 – Component 1 – Reform 1.7 “Students’ housing and legislation reform on students’ housing”, funded by European Union NextGenerationEU.

Total (estimated): 2.400€.

Ina van Berckelaer-Onnes (IBO) stipend 2022

Leiden University | 2022

Contribution for attending the MCLS 2022 conference in Antwerp (Belgium). Total: 550 €.

School for Advanced Studies – University of Udine

Udine, Italy | 2015 – 2020

University fees full exemption, free board and lodging, extra contribution for studying abroad.

Total (estimated): 44.000 €.

Excellent Student Award

Provincia di Udine | 2015

A €600 grant for having obtained the highest grade possible in the final state examination of the second cycle of education.

INVITED SPEAKER

Tobii user workshop

Leiden, The Netherlands | March 23rd, 2023

Speaker: *Action anticipation based on mental state attribution in toddlers and adults*

Lecture for Master’s students (Master’s Program: Developmental Psychology)

University of Padova, Padova, Italy | November 4th, 2020

Title of the presentation: *The development of numerical skills during childhood.*

14° Meeting of CIDI (Centro Iniziativa Democratica Insegnanti)

Udine, Italy | May 25th, 2019

Presentation about possible activities to foster preschoolers’ numerical skills.

SUPERVISION

Master Thesis Co-supervisor

University of Padova, Padova Italy | 2021

Candidate: Laura Bassi | Supervisor: dott.ssa Silvia Benavides-Varela

Master’s Program: Developmental and Educational Psychology

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Vigna, G., Porru, A., Lucangeli, D., Benavides-Varela, S. (2024, September 19-20). *The association between fingers' usage and early numerical skills in toddlers* [Poster Presentation]. Thematic meeting "Cognitive, neural, and evolutionary mechanisms in number processing", 2024, Padova, Italy.

Vigna, G., Porru, A., Lucangeli, D., Benavides-Varela, S. (2024, July 10-12). *The association between fingers' usage and early numerical skills in toddlers* [Poster Presentation]. IMBES (International Mind, Brain, and Education Society) 2024, Leuven, Belgium.

Vigna, G., Porru, A., Lucangeli, D., Benavides-Varela, S. (2024, April 10-12). *The association between fingers' usage and early numerical skills in toddlers* [Poster Presentation]. Workshop: Relations between space, language, and numbers, Tübingen, Germany.

Vigna, G., Ghidoni, E., Burgio, F., Danesin, L., Angelini, D., Benavides-Varela, S., & Semenza, C. (2022, January 21-26). *Dyscalculia in Early Adulthood: Implications for Numerical Activities of Daily Living* [Poster Presentation]. 42° European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology. Bressanone, Italy.

Vigna, G., Bassi, L., Benavides-Varela, S. (2022, June 1-3). *An evaluation of 4-year-old understanding of zero* [Poster Presentation]. MCLS (Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society) 2022 conference, Antwerp, Belgium.

Vigna, G., Benavides-Varela, S. (2021, April 7-9). *The Relation Between the Finger-Based Numerical Representations and the Understanding of Zero in Preschoolers* [Poster Presentation]. SRCD (Society for Research in Child Development) Biennial Meeting 2021.

PUBLICATIONS

Visibelli, E., **Vigna, G.,** Nascimben, C., Benavides-Varela, S. (2024). Neurobiology of numerical learning. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, 158, 105545. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neubiorev.2024.105545>

Vigna, G., Ghidoni, E., Burgio, F., Danesin, L., Angelini, D., Benavides-Varela, S., & Semenza, C. (2022). Dyscalculia in Early Adulthood: Implications for Numerical Activities of Daily Living. *Brain Sciences*, 12(3), 373. MDPI AG. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/brainsci12030373>

Bassi, L., **Vigna, G.,** Benavides-Varela, S. (2022). La comprensione dello zero durante l'infanzia. *DIS* 3(2) *Erickson*, pp. 393-410. doi: 10.14605/DIS322201.

Vigna, G., Benavides-Varela, S. (2020). Una revisione della letteratura sulla comprensione del concetto di zero e dei suoi precursori durante l'infanzia. *DIS* 1(3) *Erickson*, pp. 393-410. doi: 10.14605/DIS132003 — ISSN: 2723-9330.