

## ANNA CANTON

*Address:* Via Due Palazzi 204/D, 35136 Padova, Italy

*Mobile:* +39 3289675171

*E-mail:* annacanton@virgilio.it

*Date of Birth:* 24-05-1980

*Citizenship:* Italian



### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**June 2023 – Present:** *Research Fellow*, University of Palermo engaged in a research project titled, “The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and Its Translations (Arabic Version),” as part of the PRIN project: “The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and Its Translations: First Exploration and Methodological Test of a Transdisciplinary Research on the Councils' Symbol in History, Culture, and Society (4th-20th Century).”

**October 2024 – Present:** *Lecturer*, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI), teaching the course “Bible and Qur’ān: A Comparative Approach.”

**February - May 2024:** *Lecturer*, Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome), in collaboration with PISAI, taught the course “Bible and Qur’ān: A Comparative Approach.”

**February - May 2023:** *Lecturer*, Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome), in collaboration with PISAI, taught the course “Bible and Qur’an: A Comparative Approach.”

**October 2010 - June 2017:** *Teacher of Catholic Religion*, Primary Schools, Diocese of Padua (Padua, Venice, and Vicenza provinces), responsible for instructing primary school students in Catholic religious education.

**October 2010 - January 2011:** *Research Collaborator*, National Library of the Monument of Praglia, assisted with the transcription and translation of texts from Hebrew and Arabic for cataloguing the Levi Cases Hebrew Collection in the National Library System (SBN).

**May - August 2007:** *Intern*, Studio Montini F.lli S.R.L., served as a general secretary and provided administrative support during an internship.

**Tutoring in Humanities:** provided individual tutoring in Italian, philosophy, history, and geography to students at various educational levels.

### EDUCATION

**November 2019 - May 2023:** *Ph.D. in Islamic, Arabic, and Iranian Studies*, Italian Institute of Oriental Studies (ISO), Sapienza University of Rome (jointly with the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies - PISAI). Dissertation: “*Al-Masīḥ al-Dağğāl* and *al-Masīḥ ‘Īsā b. Maryam*: The Signs of the Hour in Muḥammad b. Aḥmad al-Qurṭubī’s *Kitāb al-taḍkira*.”

**September 2017 - June 2019:** *Licentiate in Arabic and Islamic Studies* (Second Cycle Degree, Bologna Process Level 7 EQF), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI), Rome. Thesis: “The Concept of *Fiṭra* in the *Tafsīr* of Muḥammad b. Aḥmad al-Qurṭubī.”

**September 2012 - October 2015:** *Master’s Degree in Religious Studies*, Higher Institute of Religious Studies of Padua (ISSR), affiliated with the Theological Faculty of Triveneto (FTTR). Thesis: “Martyrdom: A Form of Violence? A Comparative Analysis of Christian Martyrs and Muslim *Šuhadā’*.”

**September 2008 - October 2012:** *Bachelor’s Degree in Religious Studies*, Higher Institute of Religious Studies of Padua (ISSR), affiliated with the Theological Faculty of Triveneto (FTTR). Thesis: “Universality in the Three Major Monotheistic Religions.”

**September 1999 - March 2007:** *Four-Year Degree (VO) in History*, Faculty of Humanities, University of Padua Specialization in the History of Islamic Countries, with a thesis titled “*Ibadiyya*: The Imamate in Oman and Its Theological Aspects”, awarded with honors (110/110 cum laude).

**July 1999:** *Diploma in Linguistics*, I.T.S.P. Scalcerle, Padua, specializing in languages.

#### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

**October 2023 - May 2024:** *Syriac Language Course*, Level 1, Pontifical Oriental Institute (PIO), Rome.

**October 31 - November 7, 2022:** *Autumn School*, “Oriental Christianities on the Silk Roads during Late Antiquity: Languages, Texts, Objects, Images,” EX Patria Project, Lille. Focused on Classical Syriac and Middle Christian Arabic within the context of Oriental Christianity.

**March - April 2022:** *Research Visit*, University of Notre Dame (South Bend, IN), under the supervision of Prof. Gabriel Said Reynolds.

**July 2018:** *Intensive Arabic Language Course*, Dar Comboni for Arabic Studies, Cairo, Egypt.

**June - August 2010:** *Intermediate Arabic Language Certification*, Sana’a Institute for the Arabic Language (SIAL), Yemen. Awarded an Excellent rating through a scholarship from the Theological Faculty of Triveneto (FTTR).

**February - June 2008:** *Advanced Beginner Arabic Language Certification*, Sana’a Institute for the Arabic Language (SIAL), Yemen, with an Excellent rating.

#### COLLABORATIONS

**December 2023 – Present:** Collaboration with the National Office for Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue and the National Office for Education, Schools, and Universities of the Italian Episcopal Conference (CEI).

**October 2022:** Collaboration with PLURIEL (University Research Platform on Islam), Rome group.

**April 2020:** Member of GRAC (Arab-Christian Research Group).

**January 2018:** Member of IQSA (International Qur'anic Studies Association).

**March 2011 – 2017:** Editorial Team Member, Newsletter of the Higher Institute of Religious Studies of Padua (ISSR).

**October 2013 – 2015:** Collaboration with the Higher Institute of Religious Studies of Padua (ISSR) on the “DOCUSEARCH” project, a database of articles on intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

**January 2012 - October 2013:** Awarded a “150 Academic Hours” scholarship at the Higher Institute of Religious Studies of Padua (ISSR) for bibliographic research on intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

### CONFERENCES

**13 December 2024 (forthcoming):** “La meditazione nell’Islam”, Study day: “*Religioni e meditazione*” Padova: ISSR.

**23 November 2024 (forthcoming):** “Does the mark of the Beast lead to salvation? Some hypotheses on the eschatological meaning of the mark of the Beast in Christianity and Islam”, Panel: *Apocalypse Now: Apocalyptic Reception and Impact throughout History*, San Diego (CA): Annual Meeting SBL (Society of Biblical Literature).

**22 May 2024:** Co-organization (with Prof.ssa Patrizia Spallino) and Participation in the panel: “*The Nicene Constantinopolitan Symbol in its Arabic Version: Between Christian Apologia and Islamic Controversy*”). Title of the paper: “Among the oldest evidence of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Symbol in Arabic: The Manuscripts of St. Catherine’s Monastery at Sinai”. Palermo: Annual Conference *EuARE*.

**20 April 2024:** “Il Concilio Vaticano II e gli sviluppi teologici del dialogo islamo-cristiano”, Study day: “*Una sfida teologica per i laici: il dialogo islamo cristiano*”, Roma: Centro Diocesano di Teologia per Laici (ISSR Ecclesia Mater) - PISAI

**6 March 2024:** “Maria nel Cristianesimo e nell’Islam”, Terni: Principia.

**21 June 2023:** “Research Status on Arabic Christian Manuscripts and Texts” (panel: “*The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and its Translations: Status Quaestionis*”), St. Andrews (Scotland): Annual Conference *EuARE*.

**24 October 2022:** “La polemica islamo-cristiana: principali controversie a partire dal Credo niceno”, Study Day Progetto PRIN “*Il Simbolo niceno-costantinopolitano in versione araba: storia, filologia, teologia, filosofia*”, Palermo: Officina di Studi Medievali.

**1-2 March 2022:** “Una sintonia d’intenti: il vescovo Gregorio Barbarigo (1625-1697) e Ludovico Marracci (1612-1700)”, Conference “*Il Corano a Roma. Cattolicesimo e studio dell’Islam in epoca moderna*”, Roma: Pontificia Università Gregoriana – PISAI – Università di Napoli l’Orientale.

**18-21 November 2021:** “Is the Eschatological Window Closing? The Hour between Q al-Kahf 18:32-44 and the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21)”, Hybrid Conference *IQSA (International Qur’anic Studies Association)* Annual Meeting, San Antonio (TX).

## PUBLICATIONS

**2025 (forthcoming):** “Le Chiese non calcedonesi nel contesto dell’espansione araba. Un esempio di inculturazione: il Simbolo niceno-costantinopolitano”, in *Πιστεύομεν. Storia e traditio del simbolo di Nicea e di Costantinopoli*, EDB.

**2025 (forthcoming):** “The Pseudo-Messiah in Islamic Literature: The *Masīh al-Dağğāl* in the Eschatological Treatise of Muḥammad Aḥmad al-Qurṭubī”, *The Bible in Christian Arabic Literature*, Brill’s *Biblia Arabica: Texts and Studies*.

**2025 (forthcoming):** “Christian mysticism in dialogue with Islamic Sufism”, in *Christian Muslim Handbook. Essential Themes on contemporary Christian Muslim Relations*.

**2024:** recensione “Friedmann Yohanan, *Messianic Ideas and Movements in Sunnī Islam*, Oneworld Academic, London 2022, 368 pp.”, *Islamochristiana* 49 (2023).

**2024:** “A Harmony of Intent: Bishop Gregorio Barbarigo (1625-1697) and Ludovico Marracci (1612-1700)”, in, *The Qur’an in Rome*, Berlin – Boston: De Gruyter, 2024, 403-411.

**2024:** “Storia dell’incontro tra Musulmani e Cristiani”, *Educatio Catholica* 3-4 (2023), 55-68.

**2023:** “Il patto della morte”, translator in: Bishara Ebeid, ed., *Tawfīq Yūsuf ‘Awwād. La Camicia di Lana* (I grandi libri della letteratura araba), Venezia 2023, 171-191.

**2020:** “Un *tahrīf* al contrario? Riccoldo da Montecroce e la falsificazione delle scritture nel suo *Contra legem sarracenorum*”, *Islamochristiana* 46 (2020), 121-140.

## PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCE

*Mother tongue:* Italian

*Other Languages:*

English: 10/2018: TOEFL with grade: 88/120

Arabic: intermediate

Spanish: reading

German: reading

French: reading

*Computer skills and competences:* Competent with most Microsoft Office programs.

*Social skills and competence:* good predisposition for working in team, establishing positive relationships with the colleagues.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Collaboration with the Catholic Diocese of Padova. Lectures and meetings in schools and cultural associations on Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations.

Cooking and reading, in particular historical books of cuisine. Love to travel and experience different cultures.