

## IVA SPEHAR YOUKILIS

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures  
Washington University in St. Louis • One Brookings Drive  
[youkilis@wustl.edu](mailto:youkilis@wustl.edu)

### EDUCATION

---

**M.A.** Italian Literature, **University of Virginia**, December 1993

**B.A. University of Zagreb**, Croatia, Filozofski Fakultet  
Coursework in Italian and Russian Language, Literature, and Linguistics  
Zagreb, Croatia (1985-1991)

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

---

2020- present Teaching Professor in Italian, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis  
2011- 2020 Senior Lecturer in Italian, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis  
2006-2019 Director of Italian Summer Language Institute  
2003-2011 Lecturer in Italian, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis  
1997-2003 Lecturer, University of Michigan, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures  
2002 Director, Summer Language Institute, University of Michigan  
2001 Instructor, elementary and intermediate Italian, summer term in Sesto Fiorentino, Florence Program, Italy  
1998-2001 Organizer, Italian cultural exhibitions, University of Michigan Museum of Art (Italian Women through the Centuries, Italian Cities, Rome)  
1996-1999 Instructor, elementary and advanced Italian, Oakland Community College 1992-1993  
Graduate Instructor, University of Virginia  
1992-1993 Director, University of Virginia Summer Foreign Language Institute in Italian. Charlottesville, Virginia  
1989-1991 Teacher and Translator, Lingua School of Language. Directed conversation and grammar courses in Italian, Russian, and Croatian, Milan, Italy

### ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

---

2023-present Idioma Education & Consulting  
2008-2017 Juror, Zerilli-Marimò-City of Rome Prize for Italian Narrative, Department of Italian Studies, New York University and Casa Italiana. Reading and ranking several contemporary narrative texts  
2008- 2015 Reviewer, *Allegro* and *Percorsi*, textbooks for the instruction of elementary Italian  
1991-1993 Interpreter, University of Virginia Medical School, Gamma Knife Surgery  
1985-1991 Translator and Interpreter for Italian, Croatian, and Russian. Zagreb, Rovigo, Brescia, Milan

### COURSES TAUGHT

---

Elementary and Intermediate Italian (101, 102, 106, 1015, 107, 201)  
Conversation classes (215, 301, 319, 2991)  
Fully Online Elementary Italian (111, 112)

Advanced grammar and composition classes (307, 308)  
Independent Study Courses: Guided reading of Italo Calvino's *Se una notte d'inverno un viaggiatore* (2010); Guided reading of Andrej Longo's *Dieci* (2013)

## **SERVICE**

---

### **At Washington University**

2023 Pivot 314 Program Faculty Reviewer, 2024 Application Cycle  
2023-present Mentor, Dean's Mentoring Program  
2023-present Danforth Task Force on Climate and Culture, Graduate Students  
2022-present Washington University IT Policy Development Faculty Task Force Member  
2022-present RLL Advisor for Minors and Majors in Italian  
2021-present Washington University Faculty Advisory Group Member, Student Sunrise project  
2021-2024 Washington University Faculty Senate Council Member  
2021-2023 Coordinator of the Advanced Language Sequence (307, 309, 319)  
2012-2023 University Student Conduct Board Member  
2021-2022 RLL Website Committee  
2021 (Spring) Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) in Italian  
2020-2021 RLL Assessment Committee  
2020-2021 RLL Strategic Planning Committee  
2020-2022 RLL Convener for Support Group in Teaching of 100-200 level Courses  
2020-2021 Washington University Engage Democracy Steering Committee  
2019-present RLL Party Planning Committee  
2019-present Washington University Fulbright Committee member  
2019-2020 Board member of the Association of Teaching, Research, and Practice Faculty  
2018-present Arts and Sciences Four-Year Advisor (48 advisees)  
2018-2023 Arts and Sciences Progress Counselor (one student per semester)  
2018-present Washington University Member of Association of Teaching, Research and Practice Faculty  
2018-2021 RLL Department Undergraduate Committee  
2014-2018 Washington University Certified Mental Health First Aid USA Responder  
2014 Reader, Honors Thesis: Sophia Lauriello  
2010-2023 Faculty Associate for Elliot I  
2009-present RLL Coordinator for Placement Exam in Italian  
2009-2019 Washington University Discussion Leader, First Year Reading Program  
2012 RLL Advisor for Minors in Italian  
2009 Theater Performance (*La Signora Fantastici*), Germaine de Staël Symposium  
2008 Presenter, Italian Film Festival USA  
2007 Organizer and participant, Relay for Life. Team leader for Italian Student club *Italo*  
2007 Organizer, QUIA textbook workshop  
2006-2017 Organizer, *La Tavola Italiana*  
2005-2012 Liaison, *Italo*- student club

### **Outside Washington University**

2023-2026 MLA Committee on Information Technology (CIT)  
2023 President-elect, Foreign Languages Association of Missouri (FLAM)  
2022 Conference Chair, 2022 FLAM Annual Conference at Washington University in St. Louis  
2021-present ACTFL Annual Convention Proposal Reviewer  
2021-present Central States Conference on Teaching Foreign Languages (CSCTFL), Advisory Committee Member  
2021-2023 The Italian Community of St Louis, Advisory Committee member  
2021-present National Representative for Italian, Coalition of Community-Based Heritage Language Schools  
2021 2021 ACTFL Wilga Rivers Award for Leadership in World Language Education (Postsecondary), Selection committee member

2021	Deputy Conference Chair, 2022 FLAM Annual Conference
2021-present	Club Italiano Per Piacere, Advisor
2020-present	Board member of Foreign Languages Association of Missouri (FLAM)
2019-present	Mentor in Italian (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages)
2020	AP College Board, AP Italian, the task force member
2019-2020	The Language Educator Advisory Panel, ACTFL
2019-2021	ACTFL member, OPI Certification coursework
2012- 2017	Liaison to Clayton High school Italian Club
1999-2002	Adviser, CIAO (Cultural Italian American Organization) Club

## PRESENTATIONS

---

- “Transforming Language Learning with Augmented Reality: A Fossett Lab Experience.” Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures: Immersive Tech Week. Washington University in St. Louis, September 2023.
- “AR in Language Learning.” Language Teaching Fair. The Coalition of Language Teaching and Learning (CLTL). Washington University in St. Louis, August 2023.
- “Developing Intercultural Competence through Communicative Online Programs.” American Council of Foreign Language Teaching (ACTFL). Boston, MA. November 2022.
- “Mixed Realities in Language Teaching and Learning.” Foreign Languages of Missouri (FLAM), Annual Conference. Washington University in St. Louis, October 2022.
- “Scaffolding Strategies to Support Reading for Second Language Learners of Spanish and Italian.” 2022 DESE/OCCR Summer Professional Learning Series. Columbia, Missouri. July 2022.
- “Engaging Students in Authentic Conversations.” LLC Symposium, St. Louis University. April 2022.
- “Let’s Talk About TalkAbroad.” Language Teaching Fair. The Coalition of Language Teaching and Learning (CLTL). August 2022.
- “In omaggio a Guido Leopold Weiss.” Club Italiano Per Piacere. St. Louis, MO. April 2022.
- “Pandemic Inspired Teaching Practices: Should it Stay or Should it Go?” Language Teaching Fair. The Coalition of Language Teaching and Learning (CLTL). August 2021.
- “Languages and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Language Learners in St. Louis, Missouri.” Heritage Language Exchange Colloquium. Virtual. February 2021.
- “Use of Telesis.” Learning Management System (LMS), Workshop on in-classroom use of Telesis for teaching, grading, and posting important information. January 2007.
- “Shock-Language Effect.” Language Mini-course at the Workshop for Incoming Instructors. Department of Romance Languages and Literature. The University of Michigan. August 1998-2002.
- “Use of video in foreign language instruction.” Conference for the Teachers of Italian, Warren, MI. April 1998.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

---

American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)  
 American Association for Italian Studies (AAIS)  
 American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI)  
 American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)  
 Central States Conference on Teaching Foreign Languages (CSCTFL)  
 International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT)  
 Foreign Language Association of Missouri (FLAM)  
 AP College Board

## HONORS

---

2023	Leadership Initiative for Language Learning (LILL) Emerging Leader Awardee, ACTFL
2019	Teaching Fund Grant, Romance Languages Department
2010	Recognized for excellence and eminence in teaching, Women's Panhellenic Association

- 2001            Awarded scholarship for the two-week course for *Aggiornamento* for the teachers of Italian sponsored by Dante Alighieri Society, Rome, Italy
- 1992-1993      Awarded Teaching Assistant and Annual Stipend, University of Virginia 1989
- Won scholarship for three months study in Kyiv, Ukraine
- 1988            Awarded scholarship for a semester of study at Università degli Studi di Siena, Italy

### **LANGUAGES**

---

Croatian: native  
Italian: fluent  
English: fluent  
Russian: proficient  
French, Spanish: reading knowledge

### **REFERENCES**

---

Upon request.