

ALEX PANICACCI, PhD

Postdoctoral Researcher (she/her)

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[Personal Website](#) | [Project Website](#) | [Google Scholar](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [OpenScience](#)

Senior Researcher with over 10 years of experience, 1 published book, 12 published papers, 5 plenary talks, and over 30 conference presentations. Individual recipient of over 10 international grants to lead multidisciplinary mixed-methods research on multiple identity integration, belonging, sociodemographic and behavioral trends, emotion, and personality. Passionate about leveraging research to inform equitable strategies and innovation, producing impactful and accessible findings. Enjoy critical thinking and creative problem solving, particularly towards fostering belonging and learning.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

University of Washington, Department of Psychology, Seattle, US

Postdoctoral Researcher (National Science Foundation Co-Awardee), 2023 – present

Key Achievements: Advanced parameters for taxonomy optimization and ethical compliance in surveys; implemented research integrity, data validity, and participant experience; engaged underrepresented populations for equitable impact.

- Conducted mixed-methods studies exploring taxonomies, behavior, belonging, identity, and methodological shortfalls.
- Managed research end-to-end: design, funding applications, participant recruitment & sampling, analysis of different data sources (ANOVA, regression modeling & multinomial regression, content & thematic analysis).
- Authored scientific reports & peer-reviewed publications (2 published papers, 2 up-coming), disseminated the findings to professional and lay audiences, outreach (14 conference talks, 3 workshop and 3 [panels organized](#))
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary and international teams to align research design and insights with strategic goals: team recruitment, allocate workload, set targets, write reports.

University of Washington - Queen Mary University of London, Departments of Psychology & Linguistics, Seattle, US

Principal Investigator - Postdoctoral Researcher (British Academy Awardee), 2019 – 2023

Key Achievements: Elaboration of *The Intersectional Diversity Index* (multidimensional tool to aggregate/ disaggregate data on language, culture, and race); publication of a [book](#): *Exploring identity across language and culture*.

- Conducted mixed-methods studies exploring identity, belonging, and intersecting demographics.
- Managed research end-to-end: design, funding applications, participant recruitment & sampling, analysis of different sources of data (factorial, regression modeling, participant-led ethnography, participatory action).
- Authored 2 scientific reports & 5 peer-reviewed publications, disseminated the findings to professional and lay audiences (16 conference talks), global outreach (organization of 1 scientific panel & 1 community event).
- Led operations: recruit team, manage funds, allocate workload, set targets, write reports.
- Partnered with social enterprises & community projects, engaged marginalized, underrepresented populations.

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation, London, UK

Consular Officer (Citizenship & Passports Division), 2010 – 2019

Key Achievements: Applied research techniques to optimize Census data collection and reporting workflows for official press conferences.

- Managed consular services: handling citizenship & passport applications, conducting interviews, checking criminal records, issue/void of certificates & passports, enhanced all processes to improve efficiency (60%)

University College London, Birkbeck, University of Warwick, University of Birmingham, London, UK

Research Fellow/Assistant, 2016 – 2019

Key Achievements: Participant recruitment implementation (+80%), optimization of survey and data quality.

- Collected and analyzed data using a variety of methods (survey design, speech recordings, experimental design, observations, written narratives, transcript coding) and tools (SPSS, NVivo, Audacity)
- Led recruitment strategies to increase diverse participation and data representativeness and ethical compliance

Impact Ideas Ltd., London, UK

Senior Cultural Campaign Promoter, 2011 – 2017

- Supported marketing campaigns: collect UX data, write UX informed feedback reports, leverage targets, outreach.

S&P Global (Formerly Trucost), London, UK

Research Data Manager, 2012 – 2017

- Managed data compliance and developed systems for equitable data analysis.
- Data scout for partnering with blue-chip organization and stakeholders

EDUCATION

PhD, Applied Linguistics, Cultural Psychology, & Communications, Birkbeck University of London, London, UK
MA, Philosophy of Language & Digital Humanities, King's College University of London, London, UK
MA & BA, magna cum laude, Philosophy, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

TOOL STACK & SKILLSET

Data Analysis & Database management: SPSS IBM, R Studio, EQS, Excel, SPSS Amos, NVivo, LWKC, SQL
Media, Audio, Experiment: CLOx, Audacity, PsyScope, Amberscript, Otter.ai, Wordpress, Photoshop.
Survey Tools & Crowdsourcing: Qualtrics, REDcap, Google Forms, Prolific, Amazon MTurk, Prime Panels, Connect
Quantitative: Survey sampling & weighting, regression, factorial, ANOVA, statistical inference, power analysis, t-tests
Qualitative: Content, thematic, emerging codes, ethnography, focus groups, participatory action, participant-led tasks
Languages: English (advanced), Italian (advanced), French (intermediate/basic), Spanish (basic understanding)
Personal: Creative, inquisitive, openminded, flexible, sociable, empathic
Interests: identity, belonging, integration, personality, emotion, cross-cultural differences, race, ethnicity, philosophy.

ON-GOING RESEARCH

De-Essentializing Taxonomies – Set guidelines for survey optimization (data validity, accuracy, and comparability) and ethical compliance (participant experience, representation), testing new and AI-related methodologies.
Diversity Within Diversity – Explore different experiences of diversity (i.e., first-hand, relational, by proxy) and their impact on individuals' experience, belonging, and behavior.
A Diversity Atlas of The PNW – Trace an interactive, cross-sectional cartography by aggregating/disaggregating data on language, culture, and race, and pair infographics and community stories to foster a narrative of belonging.

SELECTED INDIVIDUAL GRANTS & AWARDS

National Science Foundation Grant (Ethical and Responsible Research), Co-investigator (\$287,320), 2023–2025
AILA Solidarity Award (\$2,000), 2024
British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, Principal Investigator (~ \$537,970), 2019–2023
Queen Mary University of London Practicum Scheme Grant, Principal Investigator (~ \$2,450), 2022–2023
The International Society for Research on Emotion Award, Principal Investigator (\$2,000), 2019
Researcher Link-Scheme - Newton Fund Grant, Principal Investigator (~ \$3000), 2018
 Other competitive grants & funds totaling over \$400,000

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Books:

Panicacci, A. (2021). *Exploring Identity Across Language and Culture: The Psychological, Emotional, Linguistic, and Cultural Changes Following Migration*. London & New York: Routledge.

Selected Papers:

Panicacci, A. (2019). [Do the languages migrants use in private and emotional domains define their cultural belonging more than the passport they have?](#), *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 69, 87-101, 20(1), 49-83.
 Resnik, P., Panicacci, A., Dewaele, J.-M. (2025). [How Trait Emotional Intelligence and emotions shape learners' self-perceptions in the target language](#), *The Language Learning Journal*, Special Issue.
 Panicacci, A. & Dewaele, J.-M. (2018). [Do interlocutors or conversation topics affect migrants' sense of feeling different when switching languages?](#) *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 39(3), 240-255
 Panicacci, A. & Dewaele, J.-M. (2017). ["A voice from elsewhere": acculturation, personality and migrants' self-perceptions across languages and cultures](#). *International Journal of Multilingualism*, 2(1), 62-86

Selected Plenary/Key-note Talks:

Panicacci, A. Are linguistically, culturally, and racially diverse identities less integrated into a society? Creating a cartography of diversity. *The International Society for Research on Emotion Conference – Affect, places and spaces Panel*, Los Angeles, US, 2022

Selected Individual Talks:

Panicacci, A. *Does diversity imply marginalization? How linguistic integration, personality, and meaningful communities mitigate lack of belonging*. The Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Convention, Denver, US, 2025.
 Panicacci, A. *'Diversity within diversity': how linguistic, cultural, and racial aspects shape identity, belonging, and personality*, The Applied Linguistics International Association Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2024.
 Panicacci, A. [Retracing linguistic, cultural, and racial identities in relation to psychological aspects](#). SPSP Convention, Atlanta, US, 2023.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT

Steering Committee, [Linguistic Bias Working Group](#), leading workshops, initiatives, advocacy, US 2022 – present
 Founder, [Multidentities](#), Events focused on diversity & belonging, community work, policy panels, 2022 – present.
 Collaborator, [Multilingual Capital](#), Community outreach, projects, documentaries, London, UK, 2019 – 2023