

Marta Massaia

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<https://martamassaia.github.io/>

Employment

- Sep 2025 – Feb 2026 **Lecturer**, 0,8 FTE
Utrecht University, The Netherlands.
- B.A. *Duitse taal en cultuur* [German language and culture]
 - M.A. *Meertaligheid en taalverwerving - Track Duits* [Multilingualism and language acquisition, German track]

Education

- Oct 2021 – *present* **Ph.D. Linguistics**
Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- THESIS TITLE: The Syntax of Similarity Constructions: Similitive and Simulative Clauses from a Cross-Germanic Perspective
 - PROMOTOR: Norbert Corver
 - CO-PROMOTORS: Denis Delfitto, Marijana Marelj
- Nov 2019 – Jul 2021 **M.A. Scienze del Linguaggio [Language Sciences]**, *cum laude*
Ca' Foscari University, Italy
- MAJORS: German, Swedish
 - THESIS TITLE: *Zwischen Form und Skopus: Eine syntaktische Analyse des italienischen allora* [Between form and scope: A syntactic analysis of Italian allora]
 - SUPERVISORS: Roland Hinterhölzl, Alessandra Giorgi
- Sep 2016 – Oct 2019 **B.A. Lingue, Civiltà e Scienze del Linguaggio [Language, Civilisation and the Science of Language]**, *cum laude*
Ca' Foscari University, Italy
- MAJORS: German, Swedish
 - THESIS TITLE: *Unpersönliche Passivierung im Deutschen: Effekte der Telizität und der Agentivität auf die Passivfähigkeit intransitiver Verben* [Impersonal passivization in German: Telicity and agentivity effects on the ability to passivize intransitive verbs]
 - SUPERVISOR: Peter Martin Paschke

Non-degree Studies

- 25 Feb 2025 **Workshop Preparing for the job market: Exploring your skillset**
Graduate School of Humanities, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- 17-21 Jun 2024 **LOT Summer School**
Leiden University, The Netherlands
- *The Syntax of Questions* (Michelle Sheehan)
 - *The Semantics of (In)Definite DPs, with Special Focus on West African* (Malte Zimmerman)
- 26 Mar 2024 **Workshop Integrity in the Workplace**
Graduate School of Humanities, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- 28 Feb 2024 **Workshop Introduction to LaTeX**
Centre for Digital Humanities, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Non-degree Studies (continued)

- Dec 2023 – Feb 2024 **Basiskwalificatie Onderwijs (BKO-)deeltraject** [University Teaching Qualification (UTQ) modular certificate track]
Graduate School of Humanities, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- 15-28 Jul 2023 **5th Crete Summer School of Linguistics**
University of Crete, Greece
· *Agreement Systems* (Elena Anagnostopoulou and Ümit Atlamaz)
· *Introduction to Semantics* (Cleo Condoravdi)
· *Intermediate Syntax* (Caroline Heycock)
- 10-14 Jul 2023 **LOT Summer School**
Utrecht University, The Netherlands
· *The Syntax of Talking Heads* (Martina Wiltschko)
· *Advanced Introduction to Morphology* (Alec Marantz)
- 16-20 Jan 2023 **LOT Winter School**
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
· *Dissimilation and Clause Size* (David Pesetsky)
- 20-24 Jun 2022 **LOT Summer School**
University of Groningen, The Netherlands
· *Quantificational Variability – Internal Built and External Syntax of Negative Polarity Items and WH* (Gertjan Postma)
- 10-14 Jan 2022 **LOT Winter School**
Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam, The Netherlands
· *Adventures in Phrase Structure Theory* (Ad Neeleman)
· *Modality and Polarity-Sensitivity* (Hedde Zeijlstra)
- 24 Dec 2019 **Online training course *Linguaggio, Identità di Genere e Lingua Italiana*** [Language, gender identity and the Italian language]
Ca' Foscari University, Italy
- 24 Jul – 11 Aug 2018 **Summer school *Läsa och Skriva i Dalarna: Ett Kreativt Möte med Språk, Kultur och Litteratur*** [Studying and writing in Dalarna: a creative meeting with language, culture and literature]
Malungs Fölkhögskola, Sweden

Publications

- In press **Massaia, Marta.** The syntax of simulation in Scandinavian and beyond. In Lukasz Jedrzejowski & Ásgrímur Angantýsson (eds.), *On the Syntax of Adverbial Clauses in Scandinavian: A Comparative Perspective*. Berlin/New York: Language Science Press.
- 2026 **Massaia, Marta.** Allora as an Italian discourse particle. *Linguistik Online* 146(5): 215-238. pdf [↗](#)
- 2025 **Massaia, Marta.** The syntax of similitive clauses: Insights from Germanic. *Linguisticae Investigationes* 48(2): 189-220. pdf [↗](#)
- Massaia, Marta.** Mapping the left periphery of similitive constructions: Dutch dialects as a case study. *Languages* 10(3): 47. pdf [↗](#)

Edited volumes/special issues

- 2025 Corver, Norbert, Cloin-Tavenier, Lex & **Massaia, Marta** (eds.). Special Issue *Mind your Manner Adverbials!* *Languages* 10. pdf [↗](#)

Databases

- 2025 Corver, Norbert, Cloin-Tavenier, Lex, **Massaia, Marta**, Krips, Iris, Wensink, Tess, Spoel, Shean, & van Stiphout, Mees. MiMA-database. [↗](#)

Presentations

Peer-reviewed

- 2026 **Massaia, Marta.** Fronting similar manners in different ways: Accounting for a topicalization asymmetry in similative and simulative clauses. *Adverbial Clauses: New Horizons*, FU Berlin.
- 2025 **Massaia, Marta.** Adverbial clauses as relative clauses? The view from similarity constructions. *Adverbial Clauses as Relative Clauses: Old Questions, New Answers*, University of Hamburg.
- 2024 **Massaia, Marta.** Similative clauses as relative clauses: Evidence from West-Germanic. *Germanic Sandwich 9*, Lancaster University.
Massaia, Marta. Mood alternations in simulative clauses: The (minor) role of subjunctive in the expression of irrealis. Workshop *Mood Alternation in Adverbial Clauses*, FU Berlin.
- 2023 **Massaia, Marta.** The Syntax of simulative clauses: as-clause+if-clause, as if-clause, or as+if-clause? *ÖLT 2023 Current Issues in Syntax, Semantics, and Pragmatics*, University of Graz.
Massaia, Marta. A cross-Germanic perspective on simulative clauses. *International Conference on the Variation of Adverbial Clauses*, University of Göttingen.
Massaia, Marta. Similative clauses as relative clauses: Evidence from Germanic. *TABU Dag 2023*, University of Groningen.
Massaia, Marta. On simulative clauses in Germanic. *On the Diachrony of Adverbial Clauses*, University of Tübingen.

Internal/invited

- 2026 **Massaia, Marta.** Topicalizing manners. *Grote Taaldag*, Utrecht University.
Massaia, Marta. Topicalizing manners. *Syntax Circle*, Leiden University.
- 2025 **Massaia, Marta.** How similar are similatives and simulative clauses? *RUG Syntax Seminar*, University of Groningen.
Massaia, Marta. How similar are similatives and simulative clauses? *MiMA-workshop on The Grammar of Manner Adverbials*, Utrecht University.
Massaia, Marta. Mapping the left periphery of Germanic similative clauses: Dutch dialects as a case study. *Grote Taaldag*, Utrecht University.
- 2024 **Massaia, Marta.** Germanic simulative clauses: as-clause + if-clause, as if + clause, or as + if-clause? *Research Seminar in Linguistics*, Ulster University.
Massaia, Marta. Mapping the left periphery of similarity constructions in Germanic. *SyntaxLab*, University of Cambridge.
Massaia, Marta. The syntax of simulation: A new perspective from Germanic. *LOT Summer School*, Leiden University.
Massaia, Marta. Mapping the left periphery of similarity constructions in Germanic: Dutch dialects as case study. *Syntax Square*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- 2023 **Massaia, Marta.** The Syntax of simulation in Germanic. *MiMA-project midway workshop*, Utrecht University.
Massaia, Marta. Similative clauses as relative clauses: Evidence from Germanic. *The 5th Crete Summer School of Linguistics*, University of Crete.
Massaia, Marta. A cross-Germanic perspective on simulative clauses: Some thoughts and questions. *LOT Summer School*, Utrecht University.
Massaia, Marta. Decomposing clausal manner adverbials. *Syntax Seminar Talks*, University of Verona.
- 2021 **Massaia, Marta.** "Allora" als Diskurspartikel des Italienischen. *Ways of Expressing Modality. German Modal Particles from a Comparative Perspective*, Ca' Foscari University.

Teaching

Main instructor

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

Nov 2025 – Feb 2026

Forschen und Schreiben [Research and Writing in German] – B.A. 3 / DU3V18001 [↗](#)
Kultur und Kommunikation im deutschen Kontext [Culture and Communication in the German Context] – M.A. / TLMV16304 [↗](#)

Sep 2025 – Nov 2025

Sprachliche Strukturen im Diskurs [Linguistic Structures in Discourse] – B.A. 3 / DU3V15102 [↗](#)
Sprache und Kommunikation erforschen [Language and Communication Research] – B.A. 3 / DU3V19001 [↗](#)

12-16 Aug 2024

Introduction to Generative Syntax, Utrecht Summer School.

14-18 Aug 2023

Introduction to Generative Syntax, Utrecht Summer School.

15-19 Aug 2022

Introduction to Generative Syntax, Utrecht Summer School.

Teaching Assistant

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

Sep 2023 – Nov 2023

TA for *From Language to Linguistics* – B.A. 1 / TW1V13001 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Marijana Marelj

Sep 2022 – Nov 2022

TA for *From Language to Linguistics* – B.A. 1 / TW1V13001 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Marijana Marelj

CA' FOSCARI UNIVERSITY

Apr 2021 – Jun 2021

TA for *Lingua Tedesca 3* [German language 3] – B.A. 3 / LT0072 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Roland Hinterhölzl

Oct 2020 – Dec 2020

TA for *Linguistica Generale 1* [General linguistics 1] – B.A. 1 / LT0240 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Nicola Munaro

Jun 2020 – Dec 2020

TA for *Lingua Tedesca 2* [German language 2] – B.A. 2 / LT0062 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Federica Cognola

Dec 2019 – Jan 2020

TA for *Lingua Tedesca 1* [German language 1] – B.A. 1 / LT0052 [↗](#)
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Peter Martin Paschke

Guest lecturer

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

17 Feb 2026

Guest lecture for *Topics in Morpho-Syntax* – R.M.A. / TLRMV24102 [↗](#)
TITLE: The syntax of similative clauses
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Norbert Corver

30 Mar 2022

Guest lecture for *Deutsch im Sprachvergleich* [Comparative Germanic linguistics] – B.A. 3 / DU3V17006 [↗](#)
TITLE: Ma allora.. ist allora eine Modalpartikel des Italienischen denn?
MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Stefan Sudhoff

Research visits

24-30 Jun 2024

Short research visit at the University of Cambridge, UK
CONTACT PERSON: Theresa Biberauer

10-25 May 2024

Research visit at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA
CONTACT PERSON: David Pesetsky

1-5 May 2023

Short research visit at the University of Verona, Italy
CONTACT PERSON: Denis Delfitto

Research visits (continued)

- Feb – Jun 2021 **(Online) internship** at the University of Göttingen, Germany
CONTACT PERSON: Marco Coniglio
- Oct 2018 – Mar 2019 **International Mobility Programme (Erasmus+)** at the University of Cologne, Germany
- *Deutschsprachige Literatur der Moderne* [Modern German literature] (Ingo Breuer)
 - *Einführung in die Pragmatik* [Introduction to pragmatics] (Claudia Wegener)
 - *Syntax* (Sophie Repp)

Data collection

- Jun 2023 Frisian; questionnaire distributed in collaboration with the Fryske Akademy
Various Dutch dialects; questionnaire distributed in collaboration with the Meertens Institute.
- Jan – Feb 2023 Various Dutch dialects; questionnaire distributed in collaboration with the Meertens Institute.

Academic service

Organization

- 2021 – present Co-organizer of the *Syntax Interface Lectures (SIL)* [↗](#), Utrecht University.
2025 Co-organizer of the *Uiltjesdagen*, 2-3 Apr 2025, Utrecht University.
Co-organizer of the *MiMA-Workshop on the Grammar of Manner Adverbials*, 6-7 Mar 2025, Utrecht University.
- 2023 Co-organizer of the *MiMA-project midway workshop*, 10 Nov 2023, Utrecht University.
Co-organizer of the LOT Summer School, 3-14 Jul 2023, Utrecht University

Reviewing

- Journals *Ad hoc* reviewer for: *Isogloss* (1x, 2026; 1x, 2024)
- Conferences *MiMA-Workshop on The Grammar of Manner Adverbials* (2025)

Other

- 29 Nov 2024 Member of the LOT PhD candidates panel during the LOT research evaluation.
- 11-13 Nov 2024 Member of the PhD-panel during the *facultaire onderzoeksvisitatie* [faculty research visitation/evaluation] at Utrecht University.

Academic memberships

- 2025 – present Member of the Dutch *Syntax Circle* [↗](#)
Member of the *Associazione Italiana di Studi Strindberghiani (ASTRI)* [Italian association of Strindberghian studies]
- 2022 – present Member of the *Algemene Vereniging voor Taalwetenschap (AVT)* [General association for linguistics] [↗](#)
- 2021 – present Member of the International Scientific Network *Adverbial Clauses and Subordinate Dependency Relationships* [↗](#)

Languages

Italian	native
English	near native
German	advanced
Dutch	lower intermediate
French	lower intermediate
Swedish	basic
Spanish	basic

Other skills

Operating systems	Microsoft Windows
Typesetting	\LaTeX
Text processing	Microsoft Word
Reference management	BibTeX
Data analysis	Microsoft Excel
Web development	Javascript, HTML, CSS, WordPress