

PAOLO MOROSI

CURRICULUM VITAE

December 2025

Address Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Centre de Lingüística Teòrica (CLT)
Department of Catalan Philology
08193 Bellaterra (Barcelona)
Spain

Email paolo.morosi@uab.cat

Website clt.uab.cat/paolo-morosi/

ORCID 0009-0002-8910-5337

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Syntax-semantics interface, (in)definiteness, determiners, Romance languages, Large Language Models

CURRENT POSITION

July 2025- **Post-doctoral researcher**
Project [TURING](#)
[The Language Understanding of Artificial Intelligence Applications]
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Funding entity: Spanish Ministry of Science & Innovation

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2021-2025 **Doctoral researcher, FI fellow**
4-year fellowship
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Funding entity: AGAUR, Generalitat de Catalunya

EDUCATION

2025 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
PhD in Cognitive Science and Language
Qualification: Excellent Cum Laude
Dissertation: *(In)definiteness and (Non-)maximality: Italian as Compared to other Romance Languages*
Supervisor: M. Teresa Espinal
[Research stay in 2023 at CNRS/UMR 7023, Structures Formelles du Langage (SFL), Université Paris 8]

2022 National University of Ireland (NUI)
European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESLLI)

2022)

- 2020 Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat de Girona & Universitat Rovira i Virgili
MA in Cognitive Science and Language
Qualification: Excellent Cum Laude
- 2019 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
BA in English and Catalan Studies
Qualification: Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

DISSERTATIONS, BOOKS & MONOGRAPHS

- 2025 **Paolo Morosi.** (In)definiteness and (Non-)maximality: Italian as Compared to other Romance Languages. Doctoral dissertation, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Preprint* Raquel Montero, Natalia Moskvina, **Paolo Morosi**, Tamara Serrano, Elena Pagliarini & Evelina Leivada. Quantification and object perception in Multimodal Large Language Models deviate from human linguistic cognition. *arXiv*.
- Preprint* Nikoleta Pantelidou, Evelina Leivada & **Paolo Morosi**. Resource-sensitive but language-blind: Community size and not grammatical complexity better predicts the accuracy of Large Language Models in a novel Wug Test. *arXiv*.
- Preprint* Evelina Leivada, Raquel Montero, **Paolo Morosi**, Natalia Moskvina, Tamara Serrano, Marcel Aguilar, Elliot Murphy & Fritz Günther. Large Language Model probabilities cannot distinguish between possible and impossible language. *arXiv*.
- To appear* Elliot Murphy, **Paolo Morosi**, Evelina Leivada & Andrew Nevins. Machine yearning: LLMs do not capture formal linguistic structure and obscure the causal neural mechanisms of syntax. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.
- In press* **Paolo Morosi**. Numberless indefinite definites in Italian: Structure and meaning. *Isogloss*.
- 2025 **Paolo Morosi** & M. Teresa Espinal. Indefinite definites in Italian. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 43, 2101–2138.

GRANTS, AWARDS & FUNDED PROJECTS

- 2024- Project TURING [The Language Understanding of Artificial Intelligence Applications]
Funding entity: Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation/National Research Agency

Project reference: CNS2023-1444
Amount: 336,380 EUR
PI: Evelina Leivada
Role in the project: Post-doctoral researcher, core research team

2024- Project 'Expletiveness and Expressive Meaning'
Funding entity: Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation/National Research Agency
Project reference: PID2023-150347NB-I00
Amount: 125,250 EUR
PIs: Susagna Tubau & Xavier Villalba
Role in the project: Work team

2021-2024 Project INTERCATII [The Interpretation of Functional Categories II]
Funding entity: Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation/National Research Agency
Project reference: PID2020-112801GB-I00
Amount: 36,300 EUR
PIs: M. Teresa Espinal & Xavier Villalba
Role in the project: Work team

2022 Tuition fellowship
European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI 2022)

2021 Expletiveness and Expressive Meaning
Funding entity: Spanish Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness/National Research Agency
Project reference: FFI2017-82547-P
Amount: 72,600 EUR
PIs: M. Teresa Espinal & Xavier Villalba
Role in the project: Work team

SEMINARS & TALKS

INVITED

- Upcoming/2026 Paolo Morosi. **TBA**. Seminar at the *Grup de Lingüística Formal*, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2025 Paolo Morosi. **Form–meaning mismatches in the expression of (in)definiteness in Italian**. *Symposium on Empirical Approaches to Meaning and Structure (SEAMS)*, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus, 21-23 November.
- 2024 Paolo Morosi. **Numberless indefinite definites in Italian: Structure and meaning**. Seminar at the *Centre for Theoretical Linguistics (CLT)*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 25 October.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **Representativity: Plural definite descriptions as singular group-denoting expressions**. SynSem seminars. *Structures Formelles du Langage (SFL) lab*, Paris, France, 15 May.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **On Italian di+ART nominals. Cross-linguistic and cross-categorical explorations**. LingLunch seminars. *Laboratoire de Linguistique Formelle (LLF)*, Université Paris Cité, Paris, France, 13 April.

- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **Representativitat: Descripcions definides plurals que denoten grups singulars.** Seminar at the *Centre for Theoretical Linguistics (CLT)*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 10 February.

CONFERENCE / WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

- 2025 Raquel Montero, Natalia Moskvina, Paolo Morosi, Elena Pagliarini & Evelina Leivada. **Exploring individual and community-level variation in quantifier scale.** *Going Romance 2025*, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy, 3-5 December. [poster]
- 2025 Evelina Leivada, Raquel Montero, Paolo Morosi, Natalia Moskvina, Tamara Serrano, Marcel Aguilar, Elliot Murphy & Fritz Günther. **Evaluating Large Language Models' sensitivity to illicit meaning and structure through probabilities.** *Symposium on Empirical Approaches to Meaning and Structure (SEAMS)*, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus, 21-23 November.
- 2025 Natalia Moskvina, Raquel Montero, Masaya Yoshida, Ferdy Hubers, Paolo Morosi, Walid Irhaymi, Jin Yan, Elena Pagliarini, Fritz Günther & Evelina Leivada. **Language comprehension in LLMs and humans across languages.** *1st International Workshop on Language and Language Models (WoLaLa)*, Budapest, Hungary, 20-21 November.
- 2025 Natalia Moskvina, Raquel Montero, Masaya Yoshida, Ferdy Hubers, Paolo Morosi, Walid Irhaymi, Jin Yan, Elena Pagliarini, Fritz Günther & Evelina Leivada. **Does ChatGPT really understand you? Language comprehension across languages by humans and LLMs.** *21st Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Cognitive Science (AISC2025)*, Lucca, Italy, 17-19 September.
- 2025 Raquel Montero, Natalia Moskvina, Paolo Morosi, Elena Pagliarini & Evelina Leivada. **Vague quantification and object representation in humans vs. Large Vision Language Models.** *11th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPrag 2025)*, Cambridge, UK, 17-19 September.
- 2025 Paolo Morosi & M. Teresa Espinal. **The syntax and semantics of Italian numberless indefinite definites.** *50th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG50)*, Università degli studi di Padova, Padua, Italy, 19-21 February. [poster]
- 2024 Paolo Morosi. **Numberless indefinite definites in Italian: Structure and meaning.** *Going Romance 2024*, Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal, 19-21 February.
- 2024 Paolo Morosi. **Numberless indefinite definites in Italian: Structure and meaning.** *Workshop 'Special Definites, Demonstratives, and Pronouns'*, University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania, 15-16 November.
- 2024 Paolo Morosi. **On the non-expletiveness of the Italian indefinite definite article.** *Workshop 'Functional Categories, Dimension of Meaning, and Expletiveness'*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 12-14 June.
- 2024 Paolo Morosi & M. Teresa Espinal. **On Italian non-definite definites: An indefinite account.** *49th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG49)*, University School for Advanced Studies IUSS, Pavia, Italy, 21-23 February.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **On Italian indefinite definites.** *Workshop 'Issues in the Syntax and Semantics of Definiteness'*, University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania, 8-9 December.

- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **On the non-definite interpretations of Italian definites.** *Workshop 'The Interpretation of Functional Categories'*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 21-23 September.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi & M. Teresa Espinal. **On Italian di+ART nominals. Cross-linguistic and cross-categorical explorations.** *53rd Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL53)*, INALCO, Paris, France, 26-30 June.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi & M. Teresa Espinal. **Di+ART nominals in light of choice functions.** *32nd Colloquium on Generative Grammar (CGG32)*, UPV/EHU, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, 24-26 April.
- 2023 Paolo Morosi. **Representativity: Plural definite DPs as singular group-denoting expressions.** *48th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG48)*, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Florence, Italy, 16-18 February. [poster]
- 2022 Paolo Morosi. **Representative interpretations of plural definite DPs.** *18th Workshop on Syntax, Semantics, and Phonology (WoSSP)*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 20-21 October.
- 2022 Paolo Morosi. **Italian di+ART nominals. Specificity and telicity.** *31st Colloquium on Generative Grammar (CGG31)*, Universitat de les Illes Balears, Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 1-3 June. [poster]
- 2022 Paolo Morosi. **Di+ART, specificity and islandhood.** *47th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG47)*, Università degli Studi di Catania, Catania, Italy, 24-26 February. [poster]

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

TEACHING

- Fall 2024* Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
BA Course 'Introduction to Linguistics' (in Catalan)
[co-taught with M. Teresa Espinal]
- Spring 2024* Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
BA Course 'Introduction to Linguistics' (in Catalan)
[co-taught with Anna Gavarró]
- Fall 2023* Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
BA Course 'Introduction to Linguistics' (in Spanish)
[co-taught with M. Teresa Espinal]
- Fall 2021* Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
BA Course 'Introduction to Linguistics' (in English)
[co-taught with Eulàlia Bonet]

ADVISING & SUPERVISION

- 2025 Universitat de Barcelona - Committee member
Nikoleta Pantelidou, MA thesis. *Evaluating the cross-linguistic accuracy of Large Language Models in a novel Wug Test*

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

<i>Upcoming/2026</i>	<i>Workshop 'Bilingual language processing: Bridging human and artificial cognition'</i> CNRS/IKER 23-24 April [Organizing committee]
<i>2022</i>	<i>Going Romance 2022</i> Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona 13-14 February [Organization assistant]

OTHER SERVICE

<i>2022</i>	Co-organizer of weekly CLT seminars Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
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PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH LABS

Centre de Lingüística Teòrica/Center for Theoretical Linguistics (CLT)
[2020-]

LANGUAGES

Italian (native)
Catalan (native)
English (fluent)
Spanish (fluent)