

Davide Spinelli

Doctoral Student

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Profile

My research interests lie at the intersection of linguistics and cognitive neuroscience.

My doctoral project combines theoretical and experimental approaches (including eye-tracking and EEG) to investigate semantic processing during language comprehension, with a particular focus on the syntax-semantics interface and the inferential aspects of meaning.

Additional research interests include neurocognitive models of language processing.

Current positions

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| Current | <i>Doctoral student (PhD)</i> in Psychology, Linguistics and Cognitive Neuroscience, University of Milano-Bicocca. Advisors: F. Foppolo, C. Reverberi, S. Pistoia Reda |
| Current | <i>Ingénieur de recherche</i> (until Sept. 2026), Grenoble Neuroscience Institute (GIN) & LIDILEM lab, University Grenoble Alpes (UGA). <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Research project</u>: <i>Neural correlates of L2 comprehension</i> (COraIL)▪ <u>Task</u>: fMRI data analysis (ROIs, Functional connectivity), |

Previous positions

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| 2025 | Internship as <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> (7 months, paid), LIDILEM lab, University of Grenoble Alpes (UGA) & Grenoble Neuroscience Institute (GIN – <i>Functional neuroimaging and Brain perfusion team</i>). Tutors: C. Delon-Martin, M. Masperi, V. Moscati <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Topic</u>: <i>Neural correlates of L2 comprehension</i> (COraIL) |
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- Tasks: stimulus programming (python, E-prime), neurophysiological data collection (fMRI), data analysis (MATLAB, SPM), tutoring MA students (in Rstudio, E-Prime).

2023 Internship as *Research Assistant* (3 months, unpaid), Language and Cognition Laboratory (LC lab), University of Genova. Tutor: F. Domaneschi

- Topic: *Pragmatic Processing in Dyslexia*
- Tasks: training on Eye-tracking Tobi X3-120, data analysis (Rstudio).

Education

2022-2025 M.A. (Master's degree) in Linguistics and Cognitive Studies (*summa cum laude*), University of Siena.
Dissertation: *Processing Uninformativeness: An Experimental Inquiry into the Logic-Grammar interface*. Advisors: S. Pistoia-Reda, V. Moscati

2022-2023 M1 (Professional Master) in Clinical Linguistics, University of Bologna. Advisors: F. Domaneschi, G. Gagliardi.
Main topics: Cognitive neuroscience of language, Language disorders, Psychometry

2017-2020 B.A. (Bachelor's degree) in Linguistics, University of Pavia.
Dissertation: *Semantics and Pragmatics of Nominal Phrases*. Advisors: F. Pecorari, T. Piazza.

Honors

2025-2028 3-year PhD scholarship, Italian Ministry of University and Research, University of Milano-Bicocca

2025 LabEX CerCog – Cerveau et Cognition, scholarship of excellence (7 months), University Grenoble Alpes (UGA)

Conferences & Publications

Upcoming *Poster presentation*: “When Meaning Becomes Trivial: The Logic of Semantic Processing” (with F. Foppolo), at *Experimental Pragmatics in Italy* (XPRAG.it 24-25 Sept. 2026), University of Genova

June 2026 *Poster presentation*: “Listening comprehension in second language. Do neural correlates

depend on language proficiency?” (with T. Biagiotti, C. Delon-Martin, Emilie Cousin), at *Annual Meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping* (OHBM, 14-18 June 2026), Bordeaux (FR)

- May 2026 *Poster presentation*: “A semantic constraint on Logical Form: Processing Uninformativeness” (with F. Foppolo), at *Psycholinguistics in Flanders* (PIF, 12-13 May 2026), University of Pavia
- May 2026 *Talk presentation*: “The Logic-Grammar interface: Veridicality and Unformativeness” (with F. Foppolo), at *Giornata di Psicologia del Pensiero* (7-8 May 2026), University of Trieste
- Feb. 2026 *Talk presentation*: “Processing Uninformativeness: Evidence for Modalized Veridicality Requirement” (with S. Pistoia-Reda, V. Moscati), at *51° Incontro di Grammatica Generativa* (IGG 51, 12-15 Feb. 2026), University of Udine
- Nov. 2025 *Talk presentation*: “Processing Uninformativeness: Evidence for Modalized Veridicality Requirement”, at *Symposium on Empirical Approaches to Meaning and Structure* (SEAMS, 21-23 Nov. 2025), University of Cyprus
- Sept. 2025 *Talk presentation*: “Grounding the Breakdown: Central and Autonomic Correlates of L2 Listening Obstacles” (with T. Biagiotti), at *Embodied and Situated Language Processing* (ESLP, 23-26 Sept. 2025), Aix-Marseille Université

Advanced Training

- Aug. 2026 *Summer School*, “9th Institute for Language, Communication and Brain summer school” (selection: competitive), Aix-Marseille Université
- Aug. 2023 *Summer School* “European School in Logic, Language and Information” (selection: non-competitive), University of Ljubljana

References

F. Foppolo PhD, University of Milano-Bicocca , francesca.foppolo@unimib.it
S. Pistoia-Reda PhD, University of Siena, salvatore.pistoiaireda@unisi.it
V. Moscati PhD, University of Siena, vincenzo.moscati@unisi.it
F. Domaneschi PhD, University of Genova, filippo.domaneschi@unige.it
C. Delon-Martin PhD, Grenoble Neuroscience Institute, chantal.delon@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr

Skills and Competences

SPOKEN LANGUAGES

Italian	Native Language
English	Advanced Level (C1, IELTS certificate)
French	Intermediate Level (B1)

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Psychopy	Advanced, experimental design
R/RStudio	Advanced, frequentist and Bayesian statistics
PCibex	Advanced, experimental design
E-prime	Advanced, experimental design
MATLAB, SPM	Advanced, neurophysiological data analysis
Python	Intermediate, experimental design and data analysis

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