March 17, 2024

Dear Review Committee:

Please consider this letter as my enthusiastic endorsement of **Ms. Francesca Marino** in her application for CALICO's 2024 *Robert A. Fischer Outstanding Graduate Student Award*. As Francesca's supervisor for her PhD studies, I can speak to the unique nature of her dissertation, her engagement with both CALICO and CALL more broadly, and as to why she is deserving of this award.

First and foremost, I would like to confirm that Francesca has already successfully defended her dissertation proposal. At this point in time, she has completed the process of collecting her data. She is analyzing that data, and she is on-track to graduate. As Francesca describes in her application, her study is a classroom-based, mixed methods study that examines an increasingly critical topic in the fields of applied linguistics and CALL, which involves digital multimodal composing. Notably, Francesca's study is innovative and is one of the first of its kind in our field. It also has the capacity to be of high impact since she is looking at learning Italian as a foreign language. To date, most CALL studies on the topic (a) are purely qualitative in nature, and (b) examine English language learners. As such, the scope, design, and learner population used in Francesca's study will be of much interest to researchers and teachers, both in CALL and beyond.

In terms of Francesca's dedication to and activities with CALL and CALICO, she has been quite active. For instance, she currently serves on the CALICO Graduate Student Special Interest Group, where she has organized and hosted multiple events (e.g., a reading group). She is also serving as a volunteer for the upcoming CALICO 2024 Conference. Finally, Francesca has delivered multiple presentations and lectures – both referred and invited – at the University of South Florida (USF), at local conferences, and at national conferences.

Apart from her service and dissertation work, I have served as Francesca's instructor for multiple PhD-level courses, and I have had the pleasure of collaborating with her on multiple CALL-related projects and publications (e.g., Kessler & Marino, 2023 in *ELT Journal,* and Marino et al., in press, in a volume to be published by John Benjamins). Based on my experiences working with Francesca, I can earnestly say that she is the hardest-working PhD student I have ever seen in my time at USF. Perhaps more importantly, she is also extraordinarily intelligent, kind, considerate, motivated, and responsible. As such, I believe she is a strong candidate and that she is precisely the kind of person who is worthy of receiving this award. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Kessler, PhD
Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics
Director, Multilingual Writing Center
Email: kesslerm@usf.edu

Francesca Marino

Department of World Languages
University of South Florida
4202 East Fowler Avenue, CPR 483
Tampa, FL 33620
fmarino@usf.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., **Linguistics and Applied Language Studies (LALS)**
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
c.2024

M.A., Languages and Intercultural Communication in the Euro-Mediterranean Area
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
December 2018

ERASMUS+ Program
University of Granada, Granada, Spain
September 2014 - April 2015

B.A., **Communication, Foreign Languages, and Cultures**
University of Siena, Siena, Italy
September 2015

EMPLOYMENT & UNIVERSITY-LEVEL TEACHING

Tutor for the Multilingual Writing Center, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | January 2024— Present

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | January 2024— Present
One course in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian II*

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | August 2023— December 2023
Two courses in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian I*

Adjunct, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | May 2023— June 2023
ITA 1120 Beginning Italian I

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | January 2023— May 2023
Two courses in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian II*

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | August 2022— December 2022
Two courses in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian I*

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | May 2022—June 2022
I served as a grader for *CLT 3040 Scientific and Medical Terminology*

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | January 2022—May 2022
Two courses in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian II*

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | August 2021— December 2021
Two courses in *ITA 1120 Beginning Italian I*

Adjunct, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | May 2021— July 2021
ITA 1120 Beginning Italian I

Teaching Assistant, *University of South Florida*
Tampa, FL | January 2021—May 2021
Two courses in *ITA 1121 Beginning Italian II*

Intern at Contracts Administration Office
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
February - June 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Fostering a Sense of Belonging
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
March 2024— Present

TRUTH (Teach, Reach, Unite, Transform, Heal) Framework course
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
January - March 2024

Inclusive and Equitable Pedagogy (IEP) course
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
September - October 2023

Online Instructor Certification (OIC)
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
May 2023

Preparing for College Teaching (PCT) 10-week program
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
January - April 2023

First Fridays Workshop on 'Integrating Podcasting into Teaching'
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
April 2022

Pre-conference workshop at the 5th Estidia conference, Hybrid Dialogues: Transcending Binary Thinking and Moving Away from Societal Polarizations
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
September 2019

Inchiesta Migrante (Inquiry of Migration) 12-hour workshop
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
February - July 2018

Gender, Identity, and Linguistics Seminar
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
May 2018

Sea-crossings. The Mediterranean and its 'Others' 12-hour workshop
Centre for Postcolonial and Gender Studies at "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
April 2017

Gender, Stigmas, and Health Seminar
Department of Medicine. University of Naples "Federico II", Naples, Italy
May 2018

Digital, artistic, and literary languages in the Euro-Mediterranean Area 12-hour workshop
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
October - February 2017

GRANTS & AWARDS

Conference Grant
-Awarded by Sunshine State TESOL of Florida (SSTESOL)
October 2023

Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the Arts and Humanities category
-$1,250 grant awarded by the USF Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL)
May 2023

Dante Alighieri Scholarship in Italian
-$700 grant awarded by the USF College of Arts & Sciences
May 2023

Conference Presentation Grant Program (CPGP)
-$500 grant awarded by the USF Office of Student Engagement to support conference travel
March 2023

***Erasmus+* Grant**
-Awarded by Erasmus+, the EU's program to support education, training, youth, and sport in Europe.
April 2014

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Kessler, M., **Marino, F.**, & Liska, D. (2023). Netnographic research ethics in applied linguistics: A systematic review of data collection and reporting practices. *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics*, *2*(3), 100082. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rmal.2023.100082

2. **Marino, F**. (2023). #TwoSpirit: Identity construction through stance-taking on TikTok. *Discourse, Conext, & Media*, *54*, 100711. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcm.2023.100711

3. Kessler, M., & **Marino, F**. (2022). Digital multimodal composing in English language teaching. *ELT Journal.* https://doi.org/10.1093/elt/ccac047

4. **Marino, F**. (2020). Māori Gender Non-conforming Identity: Analysing the 'Takatāpui' Discourse. *Journal of Multimodal Communication, (9)*1, 20190010. https://doi.org/10.1515/mc-2019-0010

Book Chapters

5. Kessler, M., **Marino, F.,** & Farrell, S. (In press). Computer-assisted language learning and teaching: Emerging trends, challenges, and solutions in ELT. In A. M. Riazi & N. Nazari (Eds.), *Adaptable English language teaching: Advances and frameworks for responding to new circumstances.* Routledge.

6. **Marino, F**., Liska, D., & Kessler, M. (In press). Ethical considerations for research involving computer-assisted language learning, social media, and online environments. In P. I. De Costa, C. Cinaglia, & A. Rabie (Eds.), *Ethical issues in applied linguistics research*. John Benjamins.

7. D'Angelo, L., & **Marino, F**. (2024). Multimodal analysis. In Kessler, M., & Polio, C. (Eds.). *Conducting genre-based research in applied linguistics: A methodological guide.* Routledge.

Book Reviews

8. **Marino, F**. (In press). Book review: Joseph Comer, Discourses of global queer mobility and the mediatization of equality. *Gender and Language*.

9. **Marino, F**. (In press). Book review: Robert Lawson, Language and mediated masculinities: Cultures, contexts, constraints. *Discourse studies.*

10. **Marino, F**. (2024). Book review: Gale Stam & Kimberly Urbanski, Gesture and multimodality in second language acquisition: A research guide. *Visual Communication*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/14703572231210953

11. **Marino, F**. (2022). Book review: Sigrid Norris, Systematically Working With Multimodal Data: Research Methods in Multimodal Discourse Analysis. *Discourse & Society*, *33*(2), 287–289. https://doi.org/10.1177/09579265221077472

Other Publications

12. **Marino, F.** (2024). Personal narrative. In Kessler, M. & Casal, J. E. (Eds.). *Making the most of graduate school: A practical guidebook for students in applied linguistics, education, and TESOL.* Applied Linguistics Press.

13. **Marino, F**. (2023). Looking for my niche. *AAALGrads Newsletter*, 23-26. https://www.aaal-gsc.org/spring-2023-newsletter

14. **Marino, F.** & Norton, B. (2023). Impact of the African Storybook initiative on teacher identity and classroom practice. *OASIS Summary of Stranger-Johannessen* of E. & Norton, B. (2017) in Modern Language Journal. https://oasis-database.org/concern/summaries/z603qz24s?locale=en

15. Hafner, C.A., Figueroa, K. & **Marino, F.** (2021). Remix practices in Digital Multimodal Compositions in a second language. *OASIS Summary of* Hafner, C.A. (2015) in TESOL Quarterly. https://oasis-database.org/concern/summaries/p8418n691?locale=en

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

- **Marino, F**. (2024, March). Designing Effective Video Projects: Practical Advice for EFL/ESL Educators. Paper presented at the TESOL 2024 International Convention, Tampa, FL.

- **Marino, F.**, & Kessler, M. (2024, March). Exploring Rhetorical Moves, Multimodal Features, and Accessibility in Infographics: A Comparative Study. Paper presented at the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

- **Marino, F.** (2024, February). *Digital Multimodal Composing (DMC) in the Second Language (L2) Classroom*. Invited guest lecture for graduate student course LIN 6932 (Computer Assisted-Language Learning). University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

- **Marino, F**. (2023, October). *Video Projects in L2 Pedagogy: Practical Assessment Strategies for EFL/ESL Practitioner*. Paper presented at the 2023 Sunshine State TESOL of Florida (online), FL, USA.

- **Marino, F**. (2023, June). *Digital Video Projects for Fostering L2 Development and Intercultural Competence in Italian: A Classroom Report*. Class report presented at the CALICO 2023 Conference, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

- **Marino, F.** (2023, April). *Activities with digital tools and social medi*a. Invited guest lecture for graduate student course TSL 5372 (ESOL Curriculum & Instruction). University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

- Ferronato, T. **& Marino, F.** (2023, April). *Collaborative video commercials*. Poster presentation for the 2023 Celebration of Teaching organized by the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL). University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

- Kessler, M., & **Marino, F**. (2023, March). *Online ethnographic research in applied linguistics: A systematic review of data collection and handling practices*. Paper presented at the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Annual Conference, in the colloquium (organizer: Daniel R. Isbell) Ethics in applied linguistics research methods: Evidence and action, Portland, OR, USA.

- **Marino, F**. (2023, March). *Gender, heteronormativity, and advertising. A multimodal discursive approach to advertising to children.* Paper presented at the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Annual Conference, Portland, OR, USA.

- **Marino, F.** (2022, October). *"Stop saying." Construing nativeness on TikTok*. Paper presented at the 2022 Sunshine State TESOL of Florida (online), FL, USA.

- **Marino, F.** (2022, May).*#Twospirit. Sociolinguistic construction of identity on TikTok*. Paper presented at Approaches to Digital Discourse Analysis Conference - Adda 3, St. Petersburg, FL, USA.

SERVICE

Co-host of the 3rd CALICO Grad student SIG (Special Interest Group) Reading Circle — March 2024

Reviewer for the 2024 7th SOQM Interdisciplinary Symposium on Qualitative Methodologies, *Students Organization for Qualitative Methodologies (SOQM)* — March 2024

Member of the Student Editorial Board (SEB) 2023-2024 of the English for Specific Purposes (ESP) journal
October 2023— Present

Doctoral Reviewer for the TESOL 2024 Graduate Student Research Forum
October 2023

Reviewer for the Meral Güçeri TESOL/TEFL Travel Grant (TESOL Awards Program)
October 2023

Committee member of CALICO Grad student SIG (Special Interest Group) — Special Interest Group for Graduate Students within the Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO)
August 2023— Present

Reviewer for Language and Technology strand, *American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Conference 2024* — July 2023

Reviewer, *English Language Teaching (ELT) journal* — 2023

Student member of the Digital Discourse, Media, and Writing lab
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
August 2022— Present

Reviewer for Language and Technology strand, *American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Conference 2023* — August 2022

Supervisor for the E-tandem Language Project — Online language exchange between students of the Italian Program at the University of South Florida and Italian students from the University of Naples L'Orientale.
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
August 2022— Present

Social media manager for the Italian at USF account on Instagram
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
January 2022— Present

Student volunteer assisting the Organizing Committee of ADDA 3 — **Approaches to Digital Discourse Analysis Conference**
University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL
May 2022

Co-president of LINGO — Graduate student organization for Linguistics at USF
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
August 2021— April 2022

Student volunteer assisting the Organizing Committee of the 5th Estidia conference, Hybrid Dialogues: Transcending Binary Thinking and Moving Away from Societal Polarizations
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
September 2019

Student Representative
Master's Degree Course in Languages and Intercultural Communication in the Euro-Mediterranean Area
University of Naples "L'Orientale", Naples, Italy
2016-2018

Student Representative

- BA in *Communication, Foreign Languages, and Cultures*

- Department of Philology

- The *High Council* of Students

University of Siena, Siena, Italy

2016-2018

LANGUAGES

Italian L1

English, (IELTS), (TOEFL), Advanced speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills

Spanish, Upper-Intermediate speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills

French, Intermediate speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills

Romanian, Basic user

MEMBERSHIPS & ASSOCIATIONS

CALICO

Member | Since 2023

IGALA

Member | Since 2023

NCOLCTL

Member | Since 2023

TESOL International Association

Member | Since 2023

AAAL

Member | Since 2022

Sunshine State TESOL

Member | Since 2022

Digital Discourse, Media, and Writing Lab (DDMW)

Member | Since 2022

Italian at USF

Member | Since 2021

LINGO (USF)

Member | Since 2021

Link Siena Student Union
Member | 2011—2015

I. To the candidates
Once you have completed this award application, please forward it and a current CV to your mentor professor for finalization and emailing to CALICO. Fill out the personal information and respond to the five questions with a <u>maximum</u> of 200 words for EACH question.

Name	Francesca Marino
University & name of degree program	University of South Florida (USF) Ph.D. program in Linguistics and Applied Language Studies (LALS)
(Tentative) title of dissertation	Digital Multimodal Composing in an L2 Italian Classroom: The Effects of Digital Video Projects on Students' L2 Development and Investment
Organization memberships (include dates)	- CALICO | Since 2023 - CALICO Graduate Student SIG | Since 2023 - National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) | Since 2023 - International Gender & Language Association (IGALA) | Since 2023 - TESOL International Association | Since 2023 - American Association of Applied Linguistics (AAAL) | Since 2022 - Sunshine State TESOL | Since 2022 - Digital Discourse, Media, and Writing Lab at USF | Since 2022

1. Provide a description of your primary research in CALL with a short justification regarding its future significance to teaching and learning.

> My primary research in CALL focuses on Digital Multimodal Composing (DMC), specifically exploring its impact on learners' second language (L2) development and investment.
> My dissertation (please find more details in the next box) may corroborate the importance of integrating digital multimodal approaches into L2 teaching and learning practices. Additionally, by comparing students' experiences with different types of assignments (text-based vs digital multimodal), my research will contribute to a deeper understanding of the potential benefits and challenges of incorporating DMC into L2 curricula as well as the contextual factors that shape learners' experiences. The results may also inform future L2 instructional practices and the design of digital learning tools, platforms, or practical resources that meet the needs of students engaging in DMC across various fields. While my dissertation focuses on these aspects, I am also interested in investigating other facets of DMC (e.g., meaning-making choices, and issues pertaining to accessibility).

2. Describe your CALL research undertaken: projects (e.g. CALL development, pedagogical modules, innovations…) completed and/or currently in progress perhaps as preparation for your dissertation or with another researcher.

My dissertation: Using a mixed-methods quasi-experimental design with an experimental and a comparison group, my dissertation seeks to examine the influence of a series of DMC tasks on the development of L2 skills (i.e., writing, listening, speaking, and reading skills, and grammatical competence). The study also explores DMC's impact on L2 Italian learners' investment in learning a second language. The study was conducted in two separate sections of a 15-week undergraduate Italian language I taught last fall, and I am currently in the process of analyzing the data.

CALL development: Apart from the dissertation, I plan to create resources based on its findings to help L2 learners and instructors.

Future research
1. A bibliometric analysis of DMC across multiple fields to gain insights into its evolution, trends, and applications;
2. A study exploring instructors' perceptions of the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on DMC.
   These studies seek to broaden our understanding of DMC's significance in various domains and offer insights into L2 learning and teaching practices.

CALL-related book chapters (in press, please see CV):
1. <u>Title of chapter (accepted, in press)</u>: Computer-assisted language learning and teaching: Emerging trends, challenges, and solutions in ELT.
2. <u>Title of chapter (accepted, in press)</u>: Ethical considerations for research involving computer-assisted language learning, social media, and online environments.

3. Describe your experience in language teaching using CALL.

- I have implemented DMC tasks (i.e., video projects, memes, slideshow presentations) in the L2 Italian classes that I taught.
- I currently serve as a supervisor for the Electronic Tandem Language Learning (eTandem) Project facilitating online language exchange between students of the Italian Program at the USF and students from the University of Naples L'Orientale.
  In addition:
- I hold a certificate as an online instructor.
- I delivered two guest lectures on CALL:
1. Guest lecture on *Digital Multimodal Composing in the Second Language Classroom* for graduate student course LIN 6932 (Computer Assisted-Language Learning) at the University of South Florida.
2. Guest lecture on *Activities with digital tools and social media* for graduate student course TSL 5372 (ESOL Curriculum & Instruction), at the University of South Florida.

4. Describe up to three subjects on which you have written articles for peer reviewed journals (sole or contributing author).

As of now, I have one published CALL article:

1. Kessler, M., & **Marino, F**. (2022). Digital multimodal composing in English language teaching. *ELT Journal.* https://doi.org/10.1093/elt/ccac047

In this paper, Dr. Matt Kessler and I discuss three DMC tasks (i.e., posters/brochures, storyboards, and video projects) and suggest tools and platforms for completing these tasks. Our evaluation was based on aspects such as ease of use, accessibility, versatility, collaboration and sharing features, and availability of educational resources and support, among others. We also discuss issues to consider when integrating DMC into L2 teaching (e.g., assessment).

Other papers
I have also authored two papers that explore multimodality, specifically focusing on how users express their multimodal choices in varied online platforms. These papers have been published in *Discourse, Context, & Media* and the *Journal of Multimodal Communication.* I am interested in multimodality from both a pedagogical and discursive perspective.

1. **Marino, F**. (2023). #TwoSpirit: Identity construction through stance-taking on TikTok. *Discourse, Conext, & Media*, *54*, 100711. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcm.2023.100711
2. **Marino, F**. (2020). Māori Gender Non-conforming Identity: Analysing the 'Takatāpui' Discourse. *Journal of Multimodal Communication, (9)*1, 20190010. https://doi.org/10.1515/mc-2019-0010

5. Describe your involvement with CALICO and your anticipated participation in its future.

- Last year, I presented at CALICO 2023, where my presentation delved into language learning and intercultural competence through digital video projects. The presentation was titled *Digital Video Projects for Fostering L2 Development and Intercultural Competence in Italian: A Classroom Report.* This presentation was based on a pilot study on DMC in L2 teaching.
- This year, I am excited to return to CALICO 2024 with a new presentation titled *Investigating the Impact of Group Video Projects on Investment in Language Learning: A Comparative Study*. Additionally, I am serving as a volunteer at this year's conference in Pittsburgh.
- Beyond the presentation and volunteering, I am currently serving as a committee member for the CALICO Graduate Student SIG.
- I co-hosted a reading circle on digital multimodality on March 12, 2024 for the CALICO Graduate Student SIG.
- I am also keen on exploring other roles within the Student Graduate SIG for the upcoming year.
- I have offered to serve as a book reviewer for the CALICO journal. (However, I have not yet been assigned any books for review).

II. To the mentor professor

A. Please answer the following questions regarding the graduate student candidate.

1. Is the candidate in good academic standing?   **YES**   NO

2. Has the candidate begun dissertation research/data collection?   **YES**   NO

3. Is the candidate's dissertation primarily focused on CALL?   **YES**   NO

B. Please provide a letter of recommendation focusing on the elements in section I of the application and speak to why this graduate student is deserving of the CALICO Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

> **Please email this application cover sheet along with the candidate's responses, his/her CV, and your responses and letter to Esther Horn at ec06@TXSTATE.EDU. Thank you very much for your participation in this process.**