Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano (Switzerland)

Co-supervision and collaboration with BSc, MSc, PhD students on research projects covering computer science education, with a focus on introductory programming and artificial intelligence by creating language models.

Sep 2020-Aug 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano (Switzerland)

Teaching assistant for courses in the Informatics BSc and MSc degree programs.

- O Programming Fundamentals 1 Fall '21
- Introduction to programming using sublanguages of Racket. Programming Fundamentals 2 — Spring '21, '22, '24
- Object-oriented programming in modern Java. Co-author of the course textbook, including assignments.
- O Programming Styles Fall '23, '24
 - Exploring functional programming and programming language concepts in Java, JavaScript, Python, and Haskell.
- \circ Algorithms and DS, Programming Languages Concepts, Didactics of Informatics 1+2, Software Engineering Five courses for high school teachers, with tailored teaching materials.

Sep 2022–May 2023 Instructor, Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera italiana, Locarno (Switzerland) Co-taught a two-semester course on Didactics of Informatics for prospective high school teachers.

Education

Sep 2020–Aug 2025 **Ph.D. in Informatics**, *Università della Svizzera italiana (USI)*, Lugano (Switzerland)

Dissertation on teaching introductory programming in the domain of graphics D, advised by Prof. Matthias Hauswirth. Research interests: programming education, programming languages, software engineering. Co-supervisor of Bachelor and Master students for theses and internships in Computer Science Education. Mar - Sep 2023: research visit at Aalto University, Finland, advised by Juha Sorva.

Sep 2018-Jul 2020

Double Master's Degree in Informatics, UniMiB and USI, Milan and Lugano

Graduated with 110/110 cum laude, with a thesis on a qualitative study on mastery checks while learning to program (Computer Science Education).

Sep 2015-Jul 2018

Bachelor's Degree in Informatics, University of Milano-Bicocca (UniMiB), Milan (Italy)

Graduated with 110/110 cum laude, with a thesis on an automatic approach to identify potential binge drinkers on Twitter (Machine Learning & NLP). Participated in an additional cybersecurity program at Politecnico di Milano, ranking second in both the local final competition and the national final (as a team).

Sep 2010–Jul 2015 **Technical High School**, ITIS Paleocapa, Bergamo (Italy)

Graduated with 100/100, with a thesis on an automated spelling correction system. Sep 2014: Won a bronze medal at the national final of the Italian Olympiad in Informatics.

Research Software Development & Outreach

Oct 2021- PyTamaro

- Created and actively maintain PyTamaro : an open-source educational graphics library for learning programming on strong foundations in an engaging way. Downloaded over 40 000 times.
- Developed the PyTamaro Web platform S: a collaboration with teachers to design hundreds of interactive activities to teach programming. Students around the world have executed over 700 000 programs.

Sep 2014-Aug 2022 Olympiad in Informatics

- Authored tasks for the International Informatics Olympiad in Teams (editions 2017 2022).
- Trained high school students on problem-solving and algorithms implementation in C++.
- Organized a yearly Olympiad-style online contest (editions 2014 2019).

Selected Research Publications

The full list is available online §

(Programming) '25 Two Approaches for Programming Education in the Domain of Graphics: An Experiment 🖪

SPLASH-E '23 Teaching Programming with Graphics: Pitfalls and a Solution 🖪

Koli Calling '21 Wrong Answers for Wrong Reasons: The Risks of Ad Hoc Instruments 🖟 (Best Paper Runner-Up)

ITICSE '21 A Curated Inventory of Programming Language Misconceptions 🖪

Natural Languages

Italian Native

English Proficient