

Italian,
Born in [REDACTED] in Torino (Italy)

[REDACTED] – [REDACTED] ROMA (RM) – ITALY

EDUCATION

(2007-2011) PhD in Cultural Anthropology, from the Doctoral School “Ethnology and Ethnoanthropology”, Department “Sciences of Signs, Spaces and Cultures”, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy

Supervisor: Mariano Pavanello; Pino Schirripa; Laura Faranda

Topics of the Dissertation: Food, body and health in the Kingdom of Tonga, obesity, NCDs and public health policies

Level on National Classification: Excellent

(2004-2007) M.A in Ethnoanthropological Disciplines (*Cum Laude*), Department “Sciences of Signs, Spaces and Cultures”, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy

Supervisor: Laura Faranda

Topics of the Dissertation: Body, food, obesity among the Native Hawaiian Population of the Wai’anae Coast of Oahu

Level on National Classification: 110/110 cum laude

(2001-2004) B.A in Theories and Practices of Anthropology (*Cum Laude*), Glotto-Anthropological Studies Department, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy

Supervisor: Laura Faranda

Topics of the Dissertation: Female Genital mutilations, international legislations, common law, the Cairo Conference

Level on National Classification: 110/110 cum laude

(2015) Visiting Scholar

Visiting Scholar, ‘Atenisi University, Nuku’alofa, Tonga

(2009-2010) Visiting Student

Visiting PhD student, ‘Atenisi University, Nuku’alofa, Tonga

(1998-1999) American High School Diploma

President Theodore Roosevelt High School, Honolulu, (HI)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Italian: Native language
English: Fluent
French: Good

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Supervision of Graduate and Undergraduate Students, Exam Committee Member for Professor Laura Faranda, Department “Sciences of Signs, Spaces and Cultures”, University of Rome La Sapienza (Italy) 2010-2015 (ongoing)

Member of the editorial board of the peer reviewed Anthropological Journal “**L’uomo**”

Member of the Centro Studi Cibo e Alimentazione (Study Center on Food and Nutrition) of the Università degli studi L’Orientale di Napoli (Italy)

Member of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO)

Member of the European Association of Social Anthropology (EASA)

Member of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO)

ETHNOGRAPHIC, BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND ARCHIVE RESEARCH

2015, March – 2015, May: fieldwork research In the Kingdom of Tonga on farming and gardening traditional knowledge, public health projects of food safety, access to food, gardening and healthy eating

2014, January – 2014, September: bibliographic research between National Library of Rome, *University of Rome La Sapienza* Anthropological Studies Library, *University of Turin* Anthropological Studies Library on food studies and Pacific island studies

2013, May – 2013, September: fieldwork research and city of Rome area manager within the National “Qualitative research on *bingedrinkng* among young Italians”, for Eclectica Study and Research center and Università di Torino, sponsored by the Permanent Italian Observatory for Youth and Alcohol

2012, June – 2012, September: bibliographic research, National Library of Rome, for the production of the Report “Un’analisi critica dell’obesità in Italia e in Europa: dati qualitativi e quantitativi a confronto” (“A critical analysis of the obesity phenomenon in Italy and Europe: comparing qualitative and quantitative data”)

2010, March – 2010, April: Final fieldwork in Nuku’alofa, Kingdom of Tonga, particularly focused on the body image issues of the society’s third gender: the so called *fakaleiti*, or transvestites.

2009, March – 2009, November: Fieldwork research in the Tongatapu Region, predominantly in Nuku’alofa (Kingdom of Tonga); Bibliographic and archive research at the *University of Auckland Library* (New Zealand) on food, body image and health policies in the Pacific Island Countries

2008, September – 2008, October: Pre-fieldwork in the Tongatapu Region, between the Island of ‘Eua and Nuku’alofa ; Bibliographic and archival research at the *University of Hawaii at Manoa Hamilton Library* (Honolulu,Hawaii) within the Pacific Island Studies Department

2008, June - 2008, July: Bibliographic research focused on “anthropology of food”, *University of Turin Anthropological Studies Library* (Italy)

2007, December - 2008, June: Bibliographic research focused on “anthropology of health”, “medical anthropology” and “anthropology of the body”, *University of Rome La Sapienza Anthropology Library* (Italy)

2006, March - 2006, August: Fieldwork research in Wai’anae, O’ahu West Coast (Hawaii) aimed at understanding the health and obesity conditions of the Native Hawaiians from a cultural perspective; Bibliographic research at the East West Centre, Centre for Pacific Island Studies and Ethnic Studies Department, *University of Hawaii at Manoa* (Honolulu, Hawaii), and Hawaiian Pacific University (Honolulu, Hawaii)

CONTRIBUTIONS

My publications include 9 published articles, 2 Book reviews, 1 Report and 1 book. Furthermore, 2 articles and 1 book in preparation:

Articles and Book Chapters

G.Cottino, “Tip-toeing among the bodies of knowledge and the knowledge of the bodies in Tonga”, in Forrest Young, Marie Conran, Suzanne Finney, Guido Pigliasco “*Cultural Encounters: Ethnographic Updates from Asia and the Pacific Islands*”, University of Hawaii Press, 2015

G.Cottino, “ Obesity ‘epidemic’ in the Kingdom of Tonga : critical notes on the right body size“, in *Le Journal des anthropologues, Santé globale, pratiques locales*, 138-139: 65-87, 2014

G.Cottino, “Il paese dalle grandi cosce: l’abbondanza nelle isole del Regno di Tonga“ (“The big thighs country: abundance in the Kingdom of Tonga”), in *Sguardi Etnografici sul cibo* (with Barberani S., Badii M., Riva F.), ebook *Laboratorio Expo Feeding the Planet Keywords*, p. 12-29, Feltrinelli ed., 2014

G. Cottino, "Non communicable diseases nel Regno di Tonga: quale promozione di quale salute pubblica?" (Non communicable diseases in the Kingdom of Tonga: which promotion of which public health?), in M.Pavanello, E.Vasconi (ed.) *La promozione della salute e il valore del sangue. Antropologia Medica e sanità pubblica*, p. 291-305, 2011, Bulzoni editore

G. Cottino, "Sessualità: dove la cultura tongana interroga la nostra?" (Sexuality: where does the tongan culture question ours?), in *Connessioni*, peer reviewed journal of the Centre for family therapy, n. 24:11-31, Milano 2010

G. Cottino, "Certo che sono grasso, sono hawaiano!" ("Of course I'm fat, I'm Hawaiian!"), in *Slow* (Slowfood Journal), n. 33: 87-90, April, 2008

G. Cottino, "Ri-conoscere l'antropologia" ("Re-acknowledging anthropology"), in L.Faranda, *Ascoltare le voci: atti del Convegno nazionale di studenti e laureate in discipline antropologiche*, pp.235-243, Aracne editor, April, 2006

G. Cottino and P. Martelli, "The age of anxiety. Stones, feathers and reinstitutionalization", in *Anthropology and Medicine*, V.13, n. 3, December 2006, pp. 265-271

G. Cottino, "L'Europa delle migrazioni: il caso delle mutilazioni genitali Femminili" (The european migration: the fgm case), in *BAB Passaggi e Paesaggi Interculturali*, n.2, 2004

Book reviews

Gaia Cottino, "Raccontare di gusto. Arti del cibo e della memoria in America Latina e Africa" ("Talking tastefully: arts of food and memory in Latin America and Africa"), Book review, in *Ethnorema*, 10: 116-118, 2014

G.Cottino, "Elisabetta Moro: *La dieta mediterranea: mito e storia di uno stile di vita*" ("Elisabetta Moro: *The mediterranean diet: myth and history of a lifestyle*"), Book review, in *EtnoAntropologia*, V. 2, n. 2: 73-76, 2014

Report

G. Cottino, "Un'analisi critica dell'obesità in Italia e in Europa: dati qualitativi e quantitativi a confronto" ("A critical analysis of the obesity phenomenon in Italy and Europe: comparing qualitative and quantitative data"), Federalimentare (Italian Food Industries Federation) Press

Books

G.Cottino, *Il peso del corpo: un'analisi antropologica dell'obesità a Tonga*, Unicopli, Milano, 2013

Articles to be submitted

G. Cottino, "Masasso, il sapere della terra dalle Langhe a Tonga" ("Massasso, the knowledge of the land from the Langhe hills to Tonga") in "Han visto l'aurora sulle isole più belle della terra. Storie Straordinarie di Italiani nel Pacifico" (They saw the aurora on the earth's most beautiful islands: Extraordinary Stories of Italians in the Pacific"), M. Cuzzi and G. C. Pigliasco (editors)

G.Cottino e V. Peveri, "Pance vuote e grandi cosce: fame e abbondanza tra Africa e Oceania" ("Empty bellies and big thighs: famine and abundance between Africa and Oceania"), Anuac rivista dell'Associazione Nazionale Universitaria degli Antropologi Culturali

Book to be submitted

G. Cottino, "Cibo e corpo: un approccio critico al processo di medicalizzazione" (Food and Body: a critical approach to the medicalization process"), ETS Editor

CONFERENCES

I have co-organized 1 panel, contributed in 18 conferences and panels (plus 1 forthcoming):

Organization of Academic Panels

2010: *Models of health in Oceania: publics, policy and advocacy*, 8th Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) "Exchanging knowledge in Oceania", St. Andrews University (Scotland), 5-8 July

Contributions in Academic Conferences and Panels

2015: *"Empty bellies and big thighs. The famine and abundance dilemmas in Africa and Oceania"* (with Valentina Peveri, Bologna University), University of Torino, 29 May

2015: *"On the fonua: agriculture and horticulture in Tonga"*, 10 Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO), Brussels, 24-27 June

2015: *"Sulla terra: agricoltura e orticoltura nel Regno di Tonga"* ("On the land: agriculture and horticulture in the Kingdom of Tonga"), Convegno Nazionale "Ricerche d'Oceania. Prospettive dall'Italia", 15-16 January, University Of Rome La Sapienza, Italy

2014: *"Food, health and lifestyles at a young age. The case of alcoholic beverages and the responsible eating and drinking habits in a non-medical perspective. Erasmus Plus presentation"*, Core Group Meeting, 4 December, IREB, Paris, France

- 2014: *"Cibi in movimento nel mare di isole del Sud Pacifico"* ("Moving Food in a sea of islands"), National Interdisciplinary Conference within the "Anthropology path of the EXPO2015 Laboratory" entitled "Moving food. Transitions and exchanges between knowledges, practices, technologies, and discourses tied to food production, consumption and circulation", Human and Social Sciences Department and Study center on Food and Nutrition, 20-22 November, University of Naples "L'Orientale", Italy
- 2014: *"Il paese dalle grandi cosce: l'abbondanza nelle isole del regno di Tonga"* ("The big thighs country; abundance in the Kingdom of Tonga"), National Workshop within the "Anthropology path of the EXPO2015 Laboratory" entitled "Dietetic regimes and cultural body models", 28-29 May, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy
- 2013: *"Weighting bodies in the South Pacific. The BMI index in the Kingdom of Tonga: critical notes on the 'right' body size"*, International Conference "Producing Knowledge and Governing Populations", 10-13 September, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France
- 2013: *"Formulating health policies and shaping bodyscapes. Encounters and Engagements in Tonga"*. Joint International Conference "Encounters and Engagements: Creating New Agendas for Medical Anthropology", EASA Medical Anthropology Network- AAA Society for Medical Anthropology, 12-14 June, University of Tarragona, Spain
- 2013: *"Ospedali, 'api e chiese carismatiche: percorsi terapeutici e politiche sanitarie nel Regno di Tonga"* ("Hospitals, 'api and charismatic churches: threpeutical paths and health policies in the Kingdom of Tonga"), 1st National Conference of the Italian Society for Medical Anthropology (SIAM) "Medical anthropology and strategies for health", 21-23 February, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy
- 2012: *"The greatness of beauty: the large scale nature of Miss Heilala"* 9th Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) "The power of the Pacific: values, materials, images", 5-8 December, University of Bergen, Norway
- 2010: *"Health crisis" in the Kingdom of Tonga; critical observations on the obesity issue*, 11th European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) 2010 "Crisis and Imagination", 24-27 August, University of Maynooth, Ireland
- 2010: *Obesity in Tonga. Local perceptions and glocal solutions?*, 8th Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) "Exchanging knowledge in Oceania", 5-8 July, St. Andrews University, Scotland
- 2010: *Non-communicable Diseases nel Regno di Tonga: quale promozione di quale salute pubblica?* (Non-communicable Diseases in the Kingdom of Tonga: which promotion of which Public Health?), "La promozione della salute e il valore del sangue. Antropologia medica e sanità pubblica" (The Health Promotion and the value of blood. Medical Anthropology and Public Health"), 26-27 January, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy

2008: *Patterns of food consumption and body weight: the Native Hawaiian case*, 7th Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) "Putting People First", 10-12 July, University of Verona, Italy

2007: *Il peso del corpo: I nativi hawaiani della costa di Wai'anae* (The weight of the body: the Native Hawaiians of the Wai'anae Coast), Centro Internazionale di Studi sul Religioso Contemporaneo (C.I.S.Re.Co.) "Scritto sul corpo", 31 May-1 June, CISRECO Casole d'Elsa, Italy

2007: "*Hypothesis for a strategy aimed to build culturally competent mental health services*" (with Dr. Martelli), "Vision on health and migration in the EU: building a shared vision for action", Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Lisboa Office, 26-28 September

2007: "*Measuring the immigration phenomenon into European health services*" (Italy representative with Dr. Martelli), International Workshop on Migration and Health, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, Division of Country Health Systems, Barcelona Office, 26-27 November

2004: *Ri-conoscere l'antropologia* (Re-thinking anthropology), National Conference of Anthropology students and graduate students "Ascoltare le Voci", Centro Studi e Ricerche Santa Maria della Pietà (Roma, Italy), 18-20 November

Forthcoming participation to Conferences:

2015: "*Natura e Politica nel Regno di Tonga*" ("*Nature and politics in the Kingdom of Tonga*"), IV ANUAC Conference, 5-8 November, Free University of Bolzano

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Invited Speaker to Classes, Seminars and Lectures

"Hunger and abundance. Reflections on food in the year of Expo" (with Valentina Peveri, Bologna University), Trinità (CN) city and council, 29 May 2015

"There is no obesity epidemic in Tonga", Lecture, 'Atenisi Institute, Nuku'alofa, Tonga, 13 April 2015

"Dal corpo-habitus al corpo in azione: il peso del corpo nel Regno di Tonga" ("From the body-habitus to the body in action: the weight of the body in the Kingdom of Tonga"), six hours seminar within the *Cultural Anthropology* Course (Prof. Laura Faranda) 2014-2015, La Sapienza Università di Roma, November 2014

"Il peso del corpo: aspetti sociali e culturali delle grandi dimensioni corporee nel Sud Pacifico", ("The weight of the body: social and cultural aspects of big body sizes in the South Pacific"), Master degree seminar within the *Cultural Anthropology* Course (Prof. Stefano Allovio) entitled "Shaping humans", Università degli Studi di Milano, 11 April 2014

"Food in the South Pacific: anthropological notes", Prof. Flavia Cuturi graduate course of *Cultural Anthropology*, Università di Napoli l'Orientale (Italy), 24 January 2014

"Anthropology of the body" (lessons), Prof. Laura Faranda undergraduate course of *Cultural Anthropology*, Università La Sapienza di Roma (Italy), March-April 2012

"Ethnographic research methodology", Dott. Anna Paini graduate seminar on *Ethnographic research*, Università di Verona (Italy), March 2012

"Ethnographic notes on the Kingdom of Tonga", Professor Adriano Favole graduate course on *Ethnology of Oceania*, Università di Torino (Italy), 16 December 2010

"Body image and beauty in the Kingdom of Tonga" (lessons), Professor Laura Faranda undergraduate course in Ethnology, Università La Sapienza di Roma (Italy), February-March 2009

"Fieldwork in the South Pacific", Professor Laura Faranda graduate seminar on "Ethnographic fieldwork", October 2007

High Formation Course Organizer and Tutor

"Cultural Competencies in Health Institutions", with Dr. Pompeo Martelli, Centro Studi e Ricerche Santa Maria della Pietà, ASL Roma E, January-December 2008

WORK EXPERIENCES AND COLLABORATIONS

2015 Consultancy for the preparation, writing and editing of the EU Knowledge Alliance Erasmus Plus Project "Let EAT Be: Lifestyles and EATING behaviors" for the Permanent Observatory on Youth and Alcohol

2014 Scientific Collaboration with the Permanent Observatory on Youth and Alcohol on the project "Food, nutrition and health in a de-medicalized perspective"

2013 Qualitative Research on Youth and Alcohol Consumption (Binge drinking in Italy). Comparative Study (Roma, Salerno, Torino), for the Observatory on

Youth and Alcohol of Rome, Italy. May-August

- 2012 Consultant on the obesity phenomenon in Italy and EU for Federalimentare (Federation of the Italian Food industries), production of the Report “Un’analisi critica dell’obesità in Italia e in Europa: dati qualitativi e quantitativi a confronto” (“A critical analysis of the obesity phenomenon in Italy and Europe: comparing qualitative and quantitative data”), Roma (Italy). June-September
- 2006 Collaboration to a project of Internationalization of the Local Health Agency, Azienda Sanitaria ASL Roma E Santa Maria della Pietà, and integration within the International Consortium for Cultural Consultancy (McGill University)
- 2006 Volunteer work for the NGO “Hoā ‘Aina O Makaha”, Wai‘anae Coast, Oahu (Hawaii), on social inclusion, farming and healthy living of the Native Hawaiian Community. March-August
- 2003 Internship and consultancy at the Torino town hall “Intercultural centre” for the organization of the festival “identità e differenza” (identity and difference)
- 2000-2015 High School and University students tutoring, Rome (It)
Private English teacher (grammar, conversation)
Translator (English-Italian, Italian-English)