

# Rebecca R. Cuciniello - Academic CV

## Personal Information

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**Family Name:** Cuciniello  
**Legal Name:** Riccardo  
**Chosen Name:** Rebecca  
**Pronouns:** they/them  
**Date of birth:** 8<sup>th</sup> June 1998  
**Nationality:** Italian  
**Email:** riccardo.cuciniello01@universitadipavia.it  
**Phone number:** +39 3421929223

## Education

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2023-ongoing      **Ph.D. Philosophy**, University of Genova  
North-western Italian Philosophy Consortium  
Supervisors: Maria Cristina Amoretti, Elena Casetta  
(with scholarship)

2026  
(March-September)      **Visiting Ph.D. Student**, IHPST, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne - CNRS  
Advisor: Matteo Mossio

2025  
(February-March)      **Visiting Ph.D. Student**, UPV/EHU, San Sebastian, Faculty of Education, Philosophy,  
and Anthropology,  
Advisor: Leonardo Bich

2025      (2nd      **Attendance to** “Change, becoming, dynamism: beyond the flipbook view of the  
semester)      world” course, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain  
Prof. Lorenzo Azzano

2025 (1st semester)      **Attendance to** “Origins of Life” doctoral course, University of Pavia.  
Prof.: Daniele Dondi, Dhanalakshmi Vadivel  
Evaluation: 30/30

September      9-13,      **Attendance to** Seventh European Advanced School in the Philosophy of the Life  
2024      Sciences (EASPLS), “Explanation and Evidence in Biology and Medicine”, KLI,  
Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research (KLI), Klosterneuburg,  
Austria.

2020-2022      **M.A. Philosophy**, University of Turin  
Honours: *Summa cum laude*, recommended for publication  
Supervisors: Elena Casetta, Gaetano Chiurazzi  
Dissertation: *The Concept of Organism in the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis. A  
Scientific and Philosophical Proposal*

2018-2021      **B.A. Philosophy**, University of Rome Tor Vergata  
Honours: *Summa cum laude*  
Supervisor: Riccardo Dottori

Dissertation: *Inumanismo, o l'Immane Essenza dell'Uomo: Heidegger e l'umano nell'era della tecnica.*

## Publications

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- 2026      *What teleology (if any) does the Organisational Approach naturalise?*, 2026, History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences 10.1007/s40656-026-00731-8
- 2025      Amoretti, Cuciniello, Davini, 2025, *Theoretical Foundations of the Function-Dysfunction Debate: An Introduction*, Mefisto. Journal of Medicine, Philosophy, and History, 9, 2, 61-64. <https://doi.org/10.4454/mefisto.9-2>
- 2025      *From Sexed Bodies to Gendered Agencies in Human and Nonhuman Organisms*, Rivista di Estetica (**submitted**)

## Talks & conference papers

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- June, 18-19, 2026      *Integrating plasticity and teleology: lessons from Ernst Mayr's somatic programs*, XIV Workshop on Philosophy of Biology and Cognitive Sciences, Madrid, Spain (**accepted**).
- July 21-23, 2026      *Plasticity is a Blind Spot in Contemporary Theories of Biological Agency*, BSPS Annual Conference, Leeds, UK (**accepted**).
- October 10-12, 2025      *Two dialectical biologies and their dialectical relations*, Dialectical Biology: Legacies of Richard Lewontin, University of Toronto - with Andrea Gambarotto
- September 17-19, 2025      *Limits and Challenges of the Organisational Approach to Health and Disease* (**conference paper**), AISC 2025 Conference, Lucca - with Maria Cristina Amoretti
- August 27-29 2025      *Limits and Challenges of the Organisational Approach to Health and Disease* (**conference paper**), XIV SIFA Conference, Turin - with Maria Cristina Amoretti
- July 21, 2025      *Malfunction as dysregulation: an analysis of functional loss*, ISHPSSB Porto Meeting, Porto, Portugal
- June 30, 2025      *Terminal Organisms at the Edge of Biological Normativity* (**conference paper**), SMS Conference, USI, Lugano, Switzerland
- April 10, 2025      *Malfunction as dysregulation: an analysis of functional loss*, Cambridge-Oslo Workshop on Biological Functions, Oslo, Norway
- February 14, 2025      *Plasticity and goal/s: re-examining the organisational approach*, IAS Research talk, UPV/EHU, San Sebastian, Spain
- October 16, 2024      *Trans\* organisms between Performativity and Plasticity* - International Conference "Rethinking the Sexed Body", Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
- August 2024      *The Extended Evolutionary Synthesis Beyond Mechanism and Teleology* – XXV World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, Italy
- 2022      *Life between Nature and Technology: Topology, Modality* – Forum Ferdinando Rossi, "Augmenting Humans: rethinking the Boundaries of the Human Species", Turin, Italy

## Editing work

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| 2025-2026 | <b>Guest editor</b> for <i>Mefisto. Rivista di Medicina, Filosofia e Storia</i> (Fascia A), Special Issues 1-2 “Function and Dysfunction: Revising, Expanding, and Questioning Two Core Concepts in the Philosophy of the Life Sciences.” |
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## Review work

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| 2025   | <i>Philosophical Inquiries</i> (Scopus; Fascia A Anvur)            |
| 2025-6 | <i>Mefisto. Rivista di Medicina, Filosofia e Storia</i> (Fascia A) |

## Teaching

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| April 2026       | Cultorə della materia, <i>Philosophy of Medicine</i> (M.A. in Philosophy), University of Genoa. Responsibilities: planning and delivering lectures; students’ assessment. Topics: debates on sexual categories; aetiological, developmental, functional accounts of sex; sex and gender in biology.                                                                                                                           |
| April 2026       | Cultorə della materia, <i>Philosophy of Science</i> (M.A. in Philosophy), University of Genoa. Responsibilities: planning and delivering lectures; students’ assessment. Topics: theories of biological functions and evolutionary debates.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| April 2025       | Cultorə della materia, <i>Philosophy of Medicine</i> (M.A. in Philosophy), University of Genoa. Responsibilities: planning and delivering lectures; students’ assessment. Topics: history of the concept of ‘plasticity’ in developmental and evolutionary biology and neurosciences; mechanisms of plasticity; plasticity at the body-prosthesis interface.                                                                  |
| April 2025       | Cultorə della materia, <i>Philosophy of Science</i> (M.A. in Philosophy), University of Genoa. Responsibilities: planning and delivering lectures; students’ assessment. Topics: explanation of variation in evolutionary biology, adaptationism, teleonomy, etiological theories of functions, plasticity-first evolution, epistemological problems related to plasticity, the role of history in evolutionary explanations. |
| December 4, 2024 | <i>Philosophy of Biology</i> (M.A. in Philosophy), University of Turin. Lesson: <i>The Extended Evolutionary Synthesis: a scientific and philosophical project.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Memberships

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| 2025-2026 | Associazione Italiana di Scienze Cognitive (AISC) |
| 2025-2026 | Società Italiana di Filosofia Analitica (SIFA)    |

## Language Skills

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| <b>Italian</b>           | Native speaker            |
| <b>English</b>           | Fluent (written and oral) |
| <b>Ancient<br/>Greek</b> |                           |
| <b>Latin</b>             |                           |

## References

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*Please contact references only upon request*

**Cristina Amoretti**

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University of Genoa  
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**Elena Casetta**

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University of Turin  
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