

Simone Pellegrino

FRSA, PhD (ongoing), BA (Hons)
Goldsmiths, University of London

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Critical and inquisitive PhD researcher studying the ideological connotations of chance and randomness in contemporary cultural practices, from LLMs in generative AI to lottery and unscripted TV shows. Previous specialisation in journalism, with experience in news and feature writing, sub-editing and fact-checking and audio production.

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- **Fully competent** user of **Microsoft Office** packages and Mac software.
- **Fully competent** user of **Adobe Creative Suite** (e.g., Audition, InDesign, Photoshop).
- **Expert understanding** of social media platforms and **UGC**.
- **Fully competent user** of **CMS** (e.g., Slash and WordPress).
- **Competent** in SEO and A/B testing.
- **Familiar with** audio-video automation software such as **MBSstudio, MBLive, VMix and OBS**.
- **Excellent interpersonal skills:** I often teamed up with people of different ages and languages.
- **Great adaptability.** I find the right balance between the most efficient and valuable solutions under pressure.
- **Sub-editing** and **fact-checking** skills.

- I am a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.
- I do a daily press review of the major international newspapers.
- I am a sifting observer of transitional cultural phenomena.
- I like detecting new voices and stories.

LANGUAGES

- Italian (native),
- English (fluent),
- French (intermediate),
- German (beginner).

REFERENCES

Available on request.

EDUCATION

PhD Media, Communications and Cultural Studies

Goldsmiths, University of London | January 2024 - ongoing

As part of my PhD studies, I draw on ethics and philosophy to **research** the hegemonic character that chance and randomness take on as they regulate an array of cultural practices in contemporary capitalist democracies. From the phenomenology of fate and (mis-)fortune in **mainstream** and **online media**, to the entropic behaviour of **LLMs** in **generative AI** whose disorder peculiarly turns the **machine** into an **oracle**, I aim at fathoming the ideologies intrinsic to their experience. Questions of **temporality** and **space**, **consciousness** and **attention**, **affectivity** and **desire** are also central to this project, as I evaluate the risks that contingency poses to the state of **agency** in the late-modern individual. At 22, I am currently the **youngest** candidate in the Graduate School. Alongside my academic activities, I **supervise** a **research project** for UIS Research Centre, a not-for-profit, student-led **think tank**.

BA (Hons) Media and Communications / Journalism

Goldsmiths, University of London | October 2020 - June 2023

First Class with Honours (80+)

I **specialised** in **journalism**. Throughout the module, I **collaborated** with fellow students to create the web magazine *Blurr*, for which I **produced** three original **articles** and **worked** as a **sub-editor**. I was designated as the **co-editor** of *Tablecloth* magazine, whose first printed **issue** was published in March 2023. Other audiovisual work that I **produced** appeared on *EastLondonLines* and *The Tab*. In an **internship** at the **Epsom and Ewell Times**, a not-for-profit publication partnered with the **BBC Local News Initiative**, I wrote **breaking news** on the council's budgets, and covered pollution in the area with comprehensive review and on **tight deadlines**. I **wrote, hosted** and **edited** a five-minute **podcast** on food traceability laws and the risks for the local traditions of the Italian city of Bari, as part of my radio specialisation. I **researched, designed** and **wrote** texts for my Media Arts project *Open Media Harm*, a website aimed at underscoring the stakes of open media and estimating the number of users concerned per second, since the page was opened, about the veracity of news on social networks. I co-edited the Media, Communications and Cultural Studies Department's **TikTok** account. Other relevant modules included: Structures of Contemporary Political Communications; Media, History and Politics; Media, Modernity and Social Thought; Money, Society and Culture; Film and the Audiovisual; TV and After; Culture and Cultural Studies.

High School Diploma

Liceo Linguistico Marco Polo, Bari, Italy | September 2015 - June 2020

Summa cum Laude

I **delved into** Italian, English, French and German literature and **gained** an essential knowledge of Latin grammar. I **founded** the institute's web radio and **oversaw** a team of fifteen radio hosts in producing audio contents that informed students and built up their education. I **broadened** my understanding of European politics and **compared** the French and Italian governmental systems, as part of my Erasmus with Lycée Louis Aragon of Héricourt, France. I **studied** at Max Planck Gymnasium in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, where I **visited** the Ruhr area to **learn** about the socio-political choices that led to the re-evaluation of industrial landscapes. I **represented** my school at the Italian Annual Philosophy Forum to **debate** on the ideological changes of left- and right-wing parties from a philosophical and sociological perspective. I was **invited** to Deutsche Schule Rom for a celebratory event in German organised by Goethe Institut along with the German Embassy in Rome, Deutsche Schule Rom, ZfA and DAAD.

EXPERIENCE

News Writer

The Tab | September 2022 - December 2022

As a freelance, I **collaborated** with other young journalists to find and suggest engaging stories from London universities that responded to readers' style and needs. I covered **breaking news** from Goldsmiths, University of London.

Trainee - Writer, host and audio producer

CanaleCento La Radio | October 2017 - May 2019

In the early months of the job, I **worked alongside** senior hosts and journalists, **strengthening** my knowledge through their advice. I **wrote** and **hosted** a programme that successfully reached a younger audience. I **established strong bonds** with colleagues and superiors, as well as guests, press offices and local authorities. I **proposed** new formats for the afternoon fringes of the schedule and technical changes that **facilitated** the work and **enhanced** the audiovisual features of both recorded and live shows. I **curated** off-platform content.

Founder and host

Radio Pello | December 2013 - July 2016

I **founded** this web radio when I was 12 to help my peers understand the world, and started broadcasting from my bedroom on the online platform *Spreaker*. I **reached** more than 17,000 streams with contents created in the first two years. I was **invited** by *Spreaker Italy's Country Manager* to *Medimex Music Festival*, where I **interviewed** musical guests and critics. My endeavor was often **acknowledged** by **national** radio stations.