

## Speaker Profile

Speaker: Marco Cassandro  
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Marco Cassandro has been teaching Italian as a second language at the University for Foreigners of Siena since 1992. He also teaches on many refresher courses for Italian teachers abroad. He graduated in the *History of the Italian Language* at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1991 and holds a PhD in *Didactics of Italian as a Second Language* from the University for Foreigners of Siena in 2001.

His interests are in the areas of teaching Italian L2 for special purposes, textual databases and the building of on-line and self-study courseware. From 1987 to 1990, he participated in a project promoted by the Italian Ministry of Cultural for the creation of a multimedia system (audio/video/computer) for Italian for special purposes self-learning and the implementation of a textual database as well as an on line dictionary for the language of music.

He is one of the authors of the courseware *Avventura Italiana* for [www.italicon.it](http://www.italicon.it) and since 2002 he has collaborated with the Center of Excellence at the University for Foreigners of Siena, for the implementation of an audio visual textual database on Italian L2 learners. In 2006 he was an on line tutor for the bachelor of arts consortium *ITALICON*. Since April 2007 he has been collaborating on an Italian as second language for special purposes course for employees of UNICREDIT BANK in Romania. His most recent publication is as one of the co-authors of the essay "L'italiano della medicina: ipotesi per un sillabo d'italiano L2", AA.VV, *Per Luca Serianni*, Salerno editrice, 2007, pp. 119-130.