Member's Profile: Adriana Contaldo

Adriana Contaldo is currently a first year PhD student in "Languages, Literatures and Cultures and their Applications" at the University del Salento (Department of Humanities). Her research project aims at analysing gender dynamics, identities and performances in Shakespeare's works. In 2006 she obtained a Bachelor's degree in "Euro-Mediterranean Languages and Literatures" at the University of Salento, with a dissertation in History of the English Language on "The Influence of French on the Development of English Legal Discourse". In 2008 she obtained a Master's degree in "Modern Euro-American Languages and Literatures" at the University of Salento in Shakespearean Studies discussing a dissertation on "Shakespeare's Heroines – Negotiating Gender Relationships in Shakespeare's Earlier Drama". In 2009 she obtained a Master's Degree (Master of Arts) in "English Renaissance Literature" at the University of Leeds with a dissertation on "Tragic Heroines in Early Modern Drama". After achieving her qualified teacher status in 2013, she started working as a permanent secondary school teacher in 2017. She has been teaching English language and literature ever since, experience which has allowed her to keep cultivating her interest in these fields of study. The PhD that she started in December 2021 will give her the chance to further explore them by carrying out academic research on Shakespeare and early modern culture.