

# Curriculum Vitae

## Stefano De Francesco

Date of birth: 05.05.1994

Nationality: Italian

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## Education

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- October 2019 – July 2021      **Sigmund Freud University-Milan, Italy**  
*MSc in Developmental Clinical Psychology*
- Master thesis: “**Etiological and comorbidity factors of internalizing and externalizing symptoms in a non-clinical sample of children and adolescents: a twin study.**”
  - Final grade: 1.08 (109/110).
- October 2016 – September 2019      **Vita-Salute San Raffaele University**  
*BSc in Science and Technique of Psychology*
- Bachelor thesis: “Perinatal bereavement: consequences on parents and on child born from a subsequent pregnancy”.
  - Final grade: 109/110.
- September 2008 – July 2013      **Liceo Classico Statale G.B. Vico, Nocera Inferiore (SA)**  
*Classic High school diploma (87/100)*
- October 2023 – present      **PhD in Psychology**  
*Sigmund Freud PrivatUniversität Wien FreudPlatz 1, A-1020 Wien*

## Additional Education

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- May 28 2023 – 1 June 1 2023      **Summer School “Introduction to structural equation modeling (SEM) with R – La Sapienza University, Rome**
- Topics included: structural equation modeling (SEM), path analysis; measurement models with derivation of the matrices and parameters to be estimated; reading, interpretation and presentation of results in the form of a scientific paper.
  - Software used: R, RStudio
- June 6 2022 – June 16 2022      **2022 International Statistical Genetics Workshop, Virtual Course – University of Colorado, Boulder**  
*Statistical genetic methods for human complex traits*
- Topics included: structural equation modeling, path analysis, maximum likelihood, univariate twin models, sex limitation, GxE interaction, segregation variance, polygenic scores, assumptions in twin models and effects of violating those assumptions, genetic nurture and G-E covariance, multivariate genetic analyses and longitudinal models.
  - Software used: R, RStudio, OpenMx
- October 2013 – June 2015      **University of Naples - Federico II**  
*Aerospace engineering course*
- Exams taken: Mathematical Analysis, Physics principles 1 and 2, Algebra and Geometry.
- January 2023 – present      **Studi Cognitivi - Milan**  
*Four-Year Postgraduate Specialization School in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT)*

## Research and Professional experience

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October 2021 –  
October 2022

**Child Psychopathology Unit, IRCCS E. Medea – Associazione la Nostra Famiglia, Bosisio Parini, Italy**  
*Post-graduate research internship*

- Research assistant in multiple research projects aimed at investigating etiopathogenetic mechanisms and risk factors of neurodevelopmental disorders (Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, externalizing psychopathology).
- Bibliographic research and writing of scientific articles.

*Postgraduate clinical internship*

- Assistant psychologist during psychological interviews, behavioral observation sessions, behavioral rehabilitation and clinical cases discussions.
- Neuropsychological and cognitive assessment of patients with typical and atypical development.

March 2020 –  
present

**Child and Youth Lab, Sigmund Freud University - Milan, Italy**

*Research Assistant*

Participation in twin studies investigating the genetic and environmental contributions to the comorbidity of internalizing and externalizing symptoms and to the co-occurrence between internalizing problems and somatic complaints.

November 2020 –  
April 2021

**Centre for Behavioral Sciences and Mental Health - Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS)**

*Curricular research internship*

- Research activity at the Italian Twin Registry (ITR): study and application of twin study designs.
- Study of Structural Equation Modeling (SEM)
- Use of the statistical software Mx for model-fitting analyses.

November 2022 –  
present

**Sigmund Freud University-Milan, Italy**

*Teaching assistant*

- Collaboration in teaching activities within the courses of Developmental Psychopathology and Exercises in Experimental Psychology 1, and member of the respective examination boards.
- Bachelor and Master Thesis supervisor

January 2023–  
October 2023

**University of Milano-Bicocca – Department of Human Sciences for Education "Riccardo Massa"**

*Research Fellow - MUSA project: Multilayered Urban Sustainability Action.*

- Research activities aimed at investigating youth's participation in decision-making processes.
- Facilitation of focus groups
- Construction, administration and validation of questionnaires
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis of data

February 2023

**University of Padova**

*Licensed psychologist.*

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## Publications

- [International peer reviewed journals](#)

**De Francesco, S.**, Scaini, S., Alessandri, G., Medda, E., Camoni, L., Stazi, M. A., & Fagnani, C. (2023). Age-related variations of genetic and environmental contributions to the covariation of fear, distress and externalizing symptoms: a twin study in childhood and adolescence. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10578-023-01498-w>

Rosi, E., Crippa, A., Pozzi, M., **De Francesco, S.**, Fioravanti, M., Mauri, M., ... & Nobile, M. (2023). Exposure to environmental pollutants and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: an overview of systematic reviews and meta-analyses. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 1-17.

Scaini, S., Michelini, G., **De Francesco, S.**, Fagnani, C., Medda, E., Stazi, M. A., & Battaglia, M. (2022). Adolescent pain, anxiety, and depressive problems: a twin study of their co-occurrence and the relationship to substance use. *Pain*, 163(3), e488-e494. doi: 10.1097/j.pain.0000000000002400

**De Francesco, S.**, Morello, L., Fioravanti, M., Cassaro, C., Grazioli, S., Busti Ceccarelli, S., ... & Crippa, A. (2023). A multimodal approach can identify specific motor profiles in autism and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *Autism Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2989>

- [Book chapters](#)

**De Francesco, S.**, Scaini, S. (2022). Twin Pair Studies Interlinking Genetics, Environment, and Anxiety Domains with Anger. In: Martin, C., Preedy, V.R., Patel, V.B. (eds) *Handbook of Anger, Aggression, and Violence*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98711-4\\_5-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-98711-4_5-1)

- [Italian journals](#)

Giglio, G., Angelini, G., **De Francesco, S.**, Mira Catò, B., Marra, R., & Leoni, M. (2021). La mindfulness applicata agli adulti con Disturbo dello Spettro Autistico: una revisione sistematica. *Giornale Italiano dei Disturbi del Neurosviluppo (GIDiN)*, 6(1), 34-51

## Contributions in international conferences

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### Poster

**De Francesco, S.**, Scaini, S., Medda, E., Camoni, L., Stazi, M. A., & Fagnani, C. (2021) "*Etiological and comorbidity factors of internalizing and externalizing symptoms in a non-clinical sample of children and adolescents: a twin study*". 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society Twin Studies (4-6 June 2021, Beijing, China) - 19<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Twin Studies (11-14 November 2021, Budapest, Hungary).

- [Abstract](#)

**De Francesco, S.**, Morello, L., Fioravanti, M.C., Cassaro, C., Busti Ceccarelli, S., Nobile, M., Molteni, M., Crippa, A. *A multimodal approach can identify specific motor profiles in autism and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder*. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting (3-6 May 2023, Stockholm, Sweden).

## Reviewing Activity

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- Children and Youth Services Review Journal

## Skills

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- **Languages:** Italian (mother tongue), English (advanced).
- **Statistical tools:** RStudio (advanced), IBM SPSS (advanced), JASP Stats (intermediate), Mx (intermediate).