

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (Call ID: 194/2025)
Post/s of Part-Time Research Support Officer II

Project DAI - “Developing an AI-assisted Italian Language Teaching and Learning System”
Funded by the ERASMUS COOPERATION PARTNERSHIP KA220-HED Programme

And any other projects undertaken by the Department of Languages and Humanities Education, Faculty of Education.

1. Applications are invited for a Research Support Officer (RSO) to carry out duties in relation to the DAI project. The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the Department of Languages and Humanities Education, Faculty of Education.
2. Applicants must be in possession of a Master’s degree in Language Pedagogy, Applied Linguistics, or a closely related field, but must have the following credentials:
 - University-Level Teaching: Proven experience as a Lecturer/Tutor at the tertiary level (e.g., teaching Masters in Teaching and Learning students), specializing in Foreign Language Pedagogy and Classroom Material Design (preferably Italian).
 - Expertise in Digital and Innovative Pedagogy: Demonstrated ability to teach and implement emerging educational technologies. This includes practical expertise with generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR) integration for lesson planning, pedagogical design, and enhancing learning through gamification and immersive learning.
 - Active Research/Project Involvement: Significant engagement in a large-scale, collaborative international project (e.g., Erasmus+) focusing on relevant educational challenges.
 - Advanced Research Focus: Current involvement in post-graduate research (e.g., Ph.D. candidacy) with a focus on the motivational impact of AI or VR/Immersive Learning in Foreign Language Acquisition.

The University of Malta is an Equal Opportunity employer.

2. The selected candidate must be living in Malta for the period of employment.

3. The post is for a period up to 36 months and will entail a total of 316 hours.
4. The initial remuneration per hour (inclusive of any cost-of-living adjustments) is €14.22.
5. Candidates must upload their covering letter, curriculum vitae, and certificates (certificates should be submitted in English) and contact details of at least two referees through this form <https://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/workatum-projects> by not later than **Monday, 8th December 2025**.

Late applications will not be considered.

6. Further information may be obtained from <http://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/recruitment> and should you have any queries, please send us an email on projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt

Office of the University,
Msida, 2nd December 2025



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Further Information

1. The project aims to improve Italian as a foreign language instruction through the integration of AI. Its core objectives are to:
 - Provide students with a personalized, AI-based training package;
 - Equip teachers with the digital and AI skills needed for effective integration of these technologies;
 - Offer a comprehensive resource library for both teachers and learners; and
 - Gather a learner corpus from the online course for research purposes.

This initiative seeks to transform teaching practices by leveraging AI's potential for tailored education.

Further information may be obtained from Chev. Prof. Mario Pace at mario.pace@um.edu.mt. The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the Department of Languages and Humanities Education, Faculty of Education.
2. The main duties and responsibilities of the appointee will consist of carrying out research duties including:
 - a. Attend meetings with DAI project partners to discuss overall project progress and specific tasks;
 - b. Participate in developing the training course concept and specifications, collaborating to define objectives, structure, and essential elements guiding the course's design and implementation;
 - c. Contribute to discussions on teacher training content, course design, and methodology;
 - d. Lead the design and implementation of a Teacher Training Course programme aimed at equipping educators with the digital and AI skills needed for effective integration of these technologies;
 - e. Provide students with a personalized, AI-based training package;



- f. Collaborate on the creation of the course videos, providing teachers with instructions and best practices for integrating AI into classrooms;
 - g. Offer a comprehensive resource library for both teachers and learners;
 - h. Gather a learner corpus from the online course for research purposes;
 - i. Actively participate in dissemination efforts by raising awareness of the importance of AI in the teaching of languages through articles, presentations, and collaboration with educational stakeholders, including organising a final event in Malta to present project outputs;
 - j. Producing project deliverables within the time frames specified in the project description; and
 - k. Undertake any additional tasks as requested by the project coordinator, such as liaising with associated schools, organising dissemination events, and managing project documentation.
3. The appointee will be expected to work at such places and during such hours as may be determined by the University authorities.
4. The selection procedure will involve:
- a. scrutiny of qualifications and experience claimed and supported by testimonials and/or certificates (copies to be included with the application);
 - b. shortlisting; and
 - c. an interview and / or extended interview.
5. The post is for a period up to 36 months, which will be subject to a probationary period and to the provisions of the Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University of Malta which are now or which may hereafter be in force.

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Msida, 2nd December 2025

