

Elsa Ferreira

International affairs / Relations Manager / Events in Education, Tourism & Fashion / Multilingual & Entrepreneurial

ferreiraelsa@hotmail.com

Summary

What I bring to the table:

With my experience in international relations management and events organization in, especially, Higher Education, I am an asset to any organization that wants to expand or deepen relations internationally. I am what the Dutch call "the spin in the web". I am energized by connecting people and organizations to further business goals. Excellent communication skills, internationalization, organization, and coordination are my strong suits.

Because of my international work experience, I can easily bridge cultural differences. I am passionate about cultural differences and I feel very enriched by travelling and meeting different people, as I am very social and extrovert. I enjoy public speaking in five languages (Portuguese, English, Italian, Dutch and Spanish), and switch effortlessly between them, easily communicating objectives and meaning across a cultural spectrum.

What I am looking for:

I am always looking forward to develop myself and at the moment I am interested in taking the next step in my career trajectory, therefore I am now searching for a new role that truly plays to my strengths.

My background and skills make me a strong candidate for any position that involves international relations, communication, entertainment and hospitality.

Words that define me:

Communicative, Organised, Engaging, International, Flexible, Resourceful, Pro-active, Entrepreneurial, Creative, Extrovert, Positive, Independent, Traveller, Social

How you can reach me:

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0031-628687816

Experience

Regional Account Manager for Latin/Central America and Portugal & Work Field Officer - ASIS at Avans Hogeschool

February 2012 - Present (4 years 5 months)

I am currently employed, among others, as the Relations Manager for Latin America and Portugal at the School of International Studies at the Avans University of Applied Sciences, in Breda.

In this position, over the course of only two years, I enabled active student exchanges with 10 Universities across Latin America, organised and participated in innumerable official visits and events, delivered presentations and received foreign students and official visitors, serving as a cicerone and representing both my university and the country.

Moreover, I've been involved in other major international projects: conduct a feasibility study for the start up of a new specialisation; the start up of a Living Lab in Belo Horizonte (Brazil), which have their main focus in Brazil and have the participation not only of AVANS but also of NUFFIC and of local government. Active participation in international networks activities such as NIBS and CLADEA.

Founder at Taalsmakelijk

December 2011 - Present (4 years 7 months)

Taasmakelijk! - teaching a language surrounded by its food and culture.

Cross Cultural Workshops (in cooperation with Inspired by Culture)

Cooking language courses

Cooking blog

Portuguese Language Teacher at Volksuniversiteit Breda

September 2012 - April 2014 (1 year 8 months)

Start up course; create teaching materials; teach Portuguese as a foreign language.

Steering Committee Member at Breda Expats

May 2008 - January 2011 (2 years 9 months)

Steering Committee member and co-founder – Organization of events and networking meetings; entertain, welcome and guide the new-comers; recruits more members and sponsors; maintenance of website.

Academy for Media Entertainment at NHTV University of Applied Sciences

January 2008 - January 2011 (3 years 1 month)

Coordination of Graduation Events as both client and supervisor.

Volunteer at De Stilte

2011 - 2011 (less than a year)

Host dancers from various international companies during the Stilte International Festival

Giorgio Armani Donna Design Team assistant at Giorgio Armani Spa. Milano

January 2006 - December 2006 (1 year)

PA and creative team assistance Giorgio Armani Donna creative offices - co-organize fittings and catwalk events; receive and entertain guests; co-assist in international communication; PA Silvana Armani

Language teacher and course coordinator at Sprachenzentrum der Universität Wien

May 2005 - January 2006 (9 months)

Portuguese Language and Culture Course Coordination and Teaching – Design and start up the course and create all materials; teach all levels.

Portuguese Language Teacher at Multimethod Languages School Srl.

June 2004 - June 2005 (1 year 1 month)

Portuguese Language and Culture Teacher –private courses for RCS Milano employees and Corriere della Sera newspaper.

Information Assistant at AICEP Milan - Portuguese Tourism and Commerce Office

August 2004 - April 2005 (9 months)

Facilitate touristic information; co-organize participation in Tourism Fairs (International Tourism Fair - BIT); organise various other events; participation in diplomatic events.

Customer Service Representative at ASUS

January 2004 - August 2004 (8 months)

Skills & Expertise

Social Networking

English

Social Media

Teaching

Management

Dutch

Training

Event Management

Spanish

Coaching

Social Media Marketing

Public Relations

Higher Education

Liaison

Project Management

Event Planning

Public Speaking

Italian

Portuguese
Latin American culture
Intercultural Communication
Relation Management

Education

Codarts, Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Rotterdam

Certificate, Dance Therapy/Therapist, 2015 - 2015

Grade: Certificate

SintLucas

Diploma, Product Presentatie, 2011 - 2011

Canterbury, Warnborough College

Certificate, Event Management, 2009 - 2010

Instituto Pedro Nunes

Certificate in Business start-up and management, Business Management, 2005 - 2005

Università degli Studi di Milano

"Informatica Umanistica", 2003 - 2003

“Istituto d’Istruzione Secondaria Superiore M. Raeli”

Worked as Language Assistant within the European Union Comenius exchange program, Educational Training, 2002 - 2003

Universidade de Coimbra

Bachelor, English and German - languages and literature, 1998 - 2002

Interests

Tango; Modern Dance; Interior Design and Fashion; Art House Cinema; Cooking and Food Design; Blogging; Reading.

Volunteer Experience

Assist in events organisation at Universidade de Aveiro; De Stilte dance company

Languages

English	(Full professional proficiency)
Portuguese	(Native or bilingual proficiency)
Italian	(Full professional proficiency)
Dutch	(Professional working proficiency)
Spanish	(Professional working proficiency)
French	(Elementary proficiency)
German	(Elementary proficiency)

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7 people have recommended Elsa

"In her role as International account manager, Elsa showed great commitment for her work that she carried out with great enthusiasm and drive. Her international background and her command of several key languages made her a valuable asset for our organization. The language skills were strengthened by her communicative and networking skills in all relevant business environments. Amongst others this resulted in a very productive cooperation with Brazilian and Portuguese universities. It has been a real pleasure working with Elsa and our school benefitted a lot in establishing and maintaining new international contacts. "

— **Nies Rijnders**, *Dean, Avans Hogeschool*, managed Elsa at Avans Hogeschool

"Elsa has a talent for languages that is unmatched by others. She is able to switch effortlessly between five languages, and her English is so good that sometimes I forget she is native Portuguese! I speak to her like I would any other native English speaker. She also has an unmistakable knack for matching people and interests - she has a talent for connecting people whose work together makes a real difference. "

— **Jennifer Smits-Kilgus**, *Lecturer, Avans Hogeschool*, worked directly with Elsa at Avans Hogeschool

"I've worked with Elsa on bilateral and multilateral activities through the Network of International Business Schools (www.nibsweb.org). Her fluency in several languages including near-perfect English and her mother tongue Portuguese, is immense – and combined with her intelligence, strategic planning and problem-solving ability, makes her a very valuable asset to any internationally-oriented institution or project. Pervading all of this is her strength of personality – an extraordinarily wise, humane and good humoured individual who is unsurpassed at engaging with people, putting them at ease, and creating valuable partnerships and collaborations."

— **Ian Charles**, *President, Network of International Business Schools*, was with another company when working with Elsa at Avans Hogeschool

"Elsa organised cooking workshops at the International School Breda several times. These workshops were always well prepared and planned. Much more important to me is that it is a pleasure to work with Elsa and that she has all that it takes to work in an international environment. Elsa embodies intercultural awareness

and communicates effectively in an organisation with 40plus nationalities. Moreover: Else has a great sense of humour and has the skill to connect people. "

— **Ger Rombouts**, *Head of School, International School Breda*, was with another company when working with Elsa at Taalsmakelijk

"Elsa and I gave several intercultural workshops together. Elsa is a very pleasant person to work with. She is not only very knowledgeable about working in intercultural business settings. She is also one of the few people who really understands cultural differences and who knows how to deal with them effectively. Through the real life examples she is able to share she knows how to engage a group from the beginning to the end."

— **Anneke van der Voort-Kruk**, *Cross Cultural Trainer / Owner, Inspired by Culture*, worked directly with Elsa at Taalsmakelijk

"I worked with Elsa at NHTV University of Applied Sciences on a number of events, including graduation ceremonies, and always valued her contributions. A skilled communicator and planner, Elsa is also a creative problem solver and can be relied upon to deliver high quality work. Elsa is always professional, friendly and approachable. I have no hesitation about recommending Elsa."

— **Anna Voinova**, *Lecturer, NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences*, worked with Elsa at NHTV University of Applied Sciences

"Elsa is a proactive professional wearing a smile under every situation. She is very helpful and I am sure will certainly be a valuable asset to every organization she decides to work with."

— **Dr. Javed-Vasileios Khan**, managed Elsa indirectly at NHTV University of Applied Sciences

[Contact Elsa on LinkedIn](#)