

### Short Biographical Note



Maria Mitsiaki is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities at Democritus University of Thrace, specializing in the “Teaching of Greek as a Second Language.” She studied Greek language and literature at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (A.U.Th.) and received her PhD in Applied Linguistics from the same university, focusing on Greek as both a first and a second/foreign language.

She has taught courses in theoretical and applied linguistics at A.U.Th. and D.U.Th. She has also taught Greek as a foreign/second language to adult learners, and Greek as a first and second language in public junior and senior high schools in Greece.

Her research interests include the teaching of Modern Greek as a second and as a first language, content and language integrated approaches (academic literacies), language teaching through digital technologies, pedagogical lexicography, curriculum development, and language assessment.

She has served as Director of the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program “Specialization in ICT and Special Education–Psychopedagogy of Inclusion” and is currently Director of the Laboratory of Linguistics +MorPhoSe. Since August 2023, she has been a member of the Board of the Institute of Educational Policy (I.E.P.). She also serves as a regular member on the Governing Committee of the Public Onassis Schools and on the General Council of Libraries of Greece, and as an alternate member on the Governing Committee of Model and Experimental Schools.

She has been Principal Investigator in national and European projects (H.F.R.I., Erasmus+ KA2) and participates in other research initiatives (EMERGE alliance). She is co-author of the book *100 Basic Concepts in Linguistics*, has co-edited two collective volumes, has co-translated into Greek April McMahon’s *Understanding Language Change*, has published more than 80 papers in international and Greek academic journals, edited volumes, and conference proceedings, and has delivered over 100 lectures and presentations at international conferences and academic events.

She authored the national *Curriculum for Greek as a Second Language* in Cyprus (2020), coordinated by the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute; she is co-author of the *Curriculum for Greek as a Heritage Language in the United States* (2022); she participated in drafting the *Greek Language Curriculum for Junior High School* in Greece (2011); she is the author of three dictionaries and academic lead and co-author of the school textbooks *Greek at School: Level A2* and *Pame Ellinika* for teaching Greek as a second language in Cyprus. Finally, she has extensive experience in teacher training, with approximately 1,000 hours of seminars organized by A.U.Th., D.U.Th., the Ministry of Education (Pedagogical Institute, I.E.P., Regional Training Centers, schools), the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute, and other institutions.