

Faculty of the BSc (Hons) Psychology, Psychotherapy and Counselling programme
University of Greater Manchester

Head of the Psychology Department

Dr. Antonia Svensson Dianellou holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology and a BSc (Hons) in Psychology from Goldsmiths University of London (Unit for School and Family Studies), an MSc in Health Psychology from the University of Surrey, UK. She also has a postgraduate diploma in Dance Movement Psychotherapy from the University of Hertfordshire, UK. Dr Svensson has been Head of the Department of Psychology and Associate Dean of New York College since 2015. She previously worked as a researcher of intergenerational relationships at the National School of Public Health in Athens and at Anglia University in Cambridge. She has therapeutic experience working with children, families who have experienced domestic abuse and refugee populations, in Greece and the UK. In addition to teaching and conducting research, she oversees the operation of the NYC Student Counseling Service and coordinates internship placements for psychology students at New York College.

Local Tutors

Ms. Chryssanthi Andronoglou (PhD candidate)

Chryssanthi has a BSc Psychology, MSc in Clinical Neuropsychology from the Medical School- Kapodistrian University of Athens, MSc in Developmental Neuropsychology from the University of Essex. Chryssanthi is currently studying for her PhD with the University of Nicosia, and is a licensed Psychologist, Developmental and Clinical Neuropsychologist in private practice, and an experienced lecturer focusing on Neuropsychology, Therapy, Intervention and Special Needs. She teaches Statistics & Experimental Design and Research Methods with SPSS, for which she has developed a relevant practice manual. She also teaches biological psychology classes and supervises research projects. She is a Member of the International Neuropsychological Society and Member of the Greek Society of Neuropsychologists.

Ms. Nefeli Koskina

Nefeli has a BSc in Psychology from the University of Crete, Postgraduate diploma in Practice-based Play Therapy from Canterbury Christchurch University, PGDip. in person centred counselling and MA in Counselling Psychology from the University of Athens. Nefeli works in Private Practice as a Play Therapist working with children and adolescents, and as a Counselling Psychologist with individual adult clients. She is the author of a book on Developmental Psychopathology, with a focus on autism, ADHD, conduct and anxiety disorders in children. Until recently she worked for the Institute of Education and Lifelong Learning (I.NE.ΔI.BI.M.), affiliated to the Ministry of Education as a “Trainer”, leading parent groups in schools, offering guidance and empowering

parents. In addition, she has published journal articles and presented at conferences on eating disorders, attachment status and resilience in children. She teaches developmental psychology and counselling classes.

Ms. Sofia Mertysi

Sofia has a Masters in Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapies from the University of Bolton, UK and a BA in Pedagogy, Philosophy and Psychology, from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. During her Bachelor degree she completed her teacher training at the 4th Gymnasium of Zografou, with a focus on psychopedagogy and teaching using constructivist approaches. Sofia previously worked as a mental health counsellor, trainer and manager at Euroergasiaki educational and training centre. She has also worked as a mental health counsellor and IASIS centre for psychosocial rehabilitation of adults with health issues and in the New York College student counselling service. Sofia joined the NYC faculty in 2023 and she teaches a variety of undergraduate courses in areas such as the psychology of mental health, social psychology, applications of psychology and applications of counselling skills.

Mr. Dimitris Panagiotopoulos

Dimitris has an MA (Hons) in Philosophy from the University of St Andrews, Scotland, and MSc in Counselling Studies at University of Abertay Dundee, Scotland. He also holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Consciousness and Transpersonal Psychology, and is currently undergoing further training in this field, which is one of his main areas of interest and research. Dimitris has been teaching at NYC for a number of years and is a core member of the NYC faculty. He teaches a wide variety of courses, covering the fields of counselling theories, social psychology, cognitive psychology and developmental psychology. His passion for teaching, as well as the individual attention he gives to his students make him one of the most popular instructors within the Psychology Department. In 2018 he won a faculty award for Teaching Excellence, for the second time.

Ms. Chrysavgi Panagiotou (PhD candidate)

Chrysavgi has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Panteion University. Additionally, she holds a postgraduate diploma in Cognitive Systems from the Open University of Cyprus as well as a postgraduate degree in Clinical Neuropsychology from the International University of Valencia. Chrysavgi has conducted research on time perception and speech analysis in both healthy and clinical populations. She is currently collaborating in research and clinical work with the Neuropsychology and Language Disorders unit of Eginitio hospital. She recently began her PhD in Multisensory Learning at Panteion University. Chrysavgi joined the NYC faculty in 2025. She teaches classes in psychology and research methods.

Mr. Georgios Papageorgiou (PhD candidate)

George is a Speech and Language Therapist and Neuropsychologist. He holds an undergraduate degree in speech and language therapy and an MSc in Clinical Neuropsychology – Cognitive Neuroscience; from the Department of Psychology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He is currently in the final stage of completing his doctoral research entitled “An investigation of perception and production of motion in aphasia due to stroke” in the Department of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. His doctoral research is funded by ELIDEK and is being conducted under the supervision of Dr Constantin Potagas. Mr Papageorgiou has been employed at ELEPAP, a rehabilitation centre for the disabled, since 2019. He has been teaching language development, cognitive psychology, biopsychology and neuropsychology since 2018. George teaches undergraduate classes in cognitive and biopsychology.

Dr. Ntaniella Roumpini Pylarinou

Ntaniella is a Chartered Forensic Psychologist (British Psychological Society). She completed her BSc in Psychology and her MSc in Investigative Psychology at the University of Huddersfield, UK. Ntaniella completed her PhD in 2021 at the University of Huddersfield and her thesis examined Stalking: Victimization, Perpetration and Stalking Myth Acceptance in Greece and the United Kingdom. She was an invited speaker at the District Safeguarding Officers annual event for the Methodist Church to give a seminar on Stalking and has created training material for them with regards to stalking. Ntaniella has also worked as a researcher on different projects within the University of Huddersfield on topics relating to crime and criminal behaviour. She has published articles related to the field of Investigative Psychology. Her other research interests include different types of online harassment such as cyberbullying and cyberstalking, cross-cultural studies, revenge porn, coercive control, modern slavery, and sex trafficking. Dr Pylarinou joined NYC in 2021 and was previously a part-time Lecturer at the University of Huddersfield, UK. At NYC she teaches a range of different psychology classes, research methods in Psychology and supervises research projects at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

Dr. Alexandra Thanellou

Alexandra has completed her scientific training in Experimental Psychology/Behavioral Neuroscience and holds a Master's degree and a Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of Vermont. She has also completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute of Systems Neuroscience – University of Hamburg. Her research includes animal models of Fetal-Alcohol Syndrome and ADHD, and human models of fear and anxiety, cognitive flexibility, and emotional regulation. She has published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at international conferences on the areas of animal/human models of neurodevelopmental disorders, brain imaging, psychopharmacology and genetics, as well as in translational research and psychotherapy. Alexandra has also

worked as a lecturer and academic advisor for various colleges and universities around the globe. She also holds a Master's of Education in Counselling Psychology & Psychotherapy from OISE at the University of Toronto and works as a psychotherapist in private practice. She teaches undergraduate courses in the fields of general, biological and cognitive psychology.

Ms. Christina Tsaliki (PhD candidate)

Christina has an undergraduate degree in Philosophy, Education and Psychology, and a postgraduate diploma in Counselling Psychology with a concentration on education, health and work, both from the University of Athens. Christina has conducted research on counselling caregivers of people with degenerative dementias and is a contributing editor of the book 'Supraconscious-The Genius Within You: How to Experience Your Infinite Potential and Master Ultimate Performances Every Single Moment on Stage and in Life' (published in 2020). Christina works with children, adolescents and parents with mental health issues and learning disabilities at the EDRA-Social Cooperative, providing support and counselling. Christina joined the NYC faculty in 2022. She recently began her PhD in Positive Psychology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She teaches classes in key studies in psychology, applied psychology and counselling skills.

Mr. Dimitris Tsiakos

Dimitris has a BSc in Psychology from the University of Crete, and numerous other degrees including an MSc in Basic and Applied Cognitive Science and a Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Supervision from the University of Derby. Dimitris is the owner and Clinical Director of the Center for Contemporary Psychotherapy & Psychoanalysis in Palaio Faliro. He is an experienced psychotherapist, trainer and clinical supervisor, practicing individual Cognitive Analytic Therapist and group psychotherapist. He has completed training in group therapy at the Yalom Institute of Psychotherapy in the USA. Dimitris joined the NYC faculty in 2015. He teaches the undergraduate courses Essentials of Group Psychotherapy and Psychological Testing, and is also involved in the clinical supervision of postgraduate students.

Dr. Vasiliki Varela

Vicky has a BSc (Hons) in Psychology at the University of East London, MSc in Social Psychology at the London School of Economics (LSE). In 2007, Vicky completed her Ph.D. at University College London's Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, researching episodic memory retrieval in young eyewitnesses. She completed her post-doctoral training at the prestigious University of Cambridge (in Developmental Psychology) and has since been working as a university lecturer on the subjects of Developmental, Cognitive, Forensic Psychology and Neuropsychology, as well as Research Methods and Statistics. Her research interests include: cognitive neuroscience, decision-making,

models, systems and pathologies of memory, attentional processes, language acquisition and disorders, applications of psychology in forensic settings and music perception. She teaches a wide range of courses at undergraduate and Masters level, specializing in cognitive, biopsychology and research methods, and undertakes PhD research supervision.

Dr. Elisabeth Julie Vargo

Julie completed her Ph.D. at University of Kingston in London in 2016. The title of her doctoral thesis was “Exploring Contemporary Drug Use through Mixed Methodologies”. She is a research expert in psychological-social research studies, experienced in Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Research Methods. Dr Vargo also holds an MSc in Clinical and Community Psychology and a Bachelors in Organisational and Occupational Psychology, both from Sapienza University of Rome in Italy. She is a research collaborator for the Center for Open Science, involved in a mass replication project aimed to improve replicability in since 2020. Dr Vargo is Associate Editor of *Collabra: Psychology* (a methodology and research practice team) and member of the Italian Reproducibility Network. Her research interests include Health Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Sports and Exercise Psychology. Julie joined the NYC faculty in 2021 and teaches undergraduate research methods classes, contemporary issues in psychology and supervises research projects.

