

Dr Anna Nicolaou is a Tenured Teaching Personnel (English Language) at the Language Centre of Cyprus University of Technology (CUT). She is also the Deputy Coordinator of the Learning Development Network of the CUT and the Director of Confucius Institute at CUT. She holds a Ph.D. from Trinity College Dublin in which she focused on the affordances of Virtual Exchange for developing global competence and active citizenship in content-based language learning. She also holds a Master's degree in English Language Studies and Methods from the University of Warwick, and a Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. Dr Nicolaou teaches English for Specific Academic Purposes at undergraduate level as well as Second Language Acquisition and Research Methods in Applied Linguistics at postgraduate level. Her research interests include intercultural education, virtual exchange, emerging technologies, transversal skills, and technology enhanced language learning. She has published scientific articles in internationally acclaimed journals and has participated in research programs as Principal Investigator or Researcher. Dr Nicolaou was the Principal Investigator of the KA3 VALIANT project (Virtual Innovation and Support Networks). VALIANT's objective was to test the efficiency of Virtual Innovation and Support Networks as an approach which will contribute to overcoming teachers' sense of isolation and low motivation in rural areas and isolated contexts and also to developing teachers' and student teachers' ability to operate effectively in online international networks of professional collaboration. Dr Nicolaou is currently the Principal Investigator of the Erasmus DigiTREE project which facilitates intercultural exchange between countries in the EU and Sub-Saharan Africa, fostering the development of media literacy and mutual understanding through virtual exchanges wherein youth must work collaboratively, using popular social media and digital platforms. She is also a Management Committee Member of ENIS Cost Action CA20115, a European Network on International Student Mobility: Connecting Research and Practice (ENIS), and Task Liaison in the EU+ Accelerate, European University of Technology Alliance focusing on equity, diversity and inclusiveness, digital transformation, green transition, and fostering interculturality and multilingualism.

Website on the university's central platform:

<https://www.cut.ac.cy/faculties/languagecentre/staff/anna.nicolaou/>