

**INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON  
“INCLUSIVE EDUCATION”  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF MUNICIPALITY OF  
ANCIENT OLYMPIA AND WESTERN REGION OF  
GREECE**

**SCHOOL PROGRAMME**

Inclusion theory and best practices  
through a transdisciplinary context

2 - 6 May 2025

Place: International  
Olympic Academy,  
Ancient Olympia, Greece

Arrival and Orientation  
at Ancient Olympia  
1 May 2025

## Day 1, 2 May 2025

### Foundations of Inclusion

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**08.00-08.45** Breakfast

**09.00-10.00** Welcome Speech and introduction of participants, instructors/mentors  
Welcome Speech of Municipality of Ancient Olympia  
Welcome Speech of the Scientific Committee: Prof Anastasia Vlachou and Prof Angeliki Gena  
Welcome speech of the international guests: Dr. Ines Alves, Dr. Maria Malott

**10.00-11.00** Keynote Address: "Inclusive Education: A Journey of Transformation"  
**Dr. Ines Alves**

**11.00-11.15** Coffee Break

**11.15-12.00** Icebreaker activity: "Building Bridges" – a creative group activity symbolizing inclusivity - **Sofia Karakantza**

### Afternoon: Exploring the Fo of Inclusion

**12.00-13.00** Seminar: "The Principles and Benefits of Inclusive Education"  
**Prof. Anastasia Vlachou**

**13.00-14.00** Workshop: "Identifying Barriers to Inclusion and Overcoming Them"  
**Prof. Anastasia Vlachou**

**14.00-15.00** Lunch

**15.00-16.00** Seminar: "Breaking ableism and disablism in mainstream education"  
**Prof. Panayiota Karagianni**

**16.00-16.15** Coffee Break

**16.15-17.30** Workshop: Identifying ableist and disablist views, behaviors policies and practices  
**Prof. Panayiota Karagianni**

Interactive session: "Community Perspectives on Inclusion in Education" monitored by Prof. Panayiota Karagianni

**17.30-19.00** Free time and guide around the International Olympic Academy

**19.00-20.00** Dinner / A Taste of Greek Tradition

## Day 2, 3 May 2025, Inclusive Strategies and Instructional Methodologies

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**08.00-08.45** Breakfast

### **Morning: Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms**

**09.00-10.00** Seminar: “Universal Design for Learning (UDL)”  
**Prof. Anastasia Vlachou**

**10.00-12.00** Workshop: “Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in Practice”  
**Prof. Anastasia Vlachou**

**12.00-12.15** Coffee Break

**12.15-14.00** Hands-on session: “Adapting Materials for D/SEN Students”  
**Dr. Lia Tsermidou**

**14.00-15.00** Lunch

### **Afternoon: Creativity and Inclusion**

**15.00-16.00** Workshop: “The Role of Art in Inclusive Education”  
**Sofia Karakantza**

**16.00-16.15** Coffee Break

**16.15-18.00** Workshop “Creating Inclusive Art Projects” – participants collaborate to design art activities that support diverse learners - **Sofia Karakantza**

**18.00-19.30** Free & Sports Time

**19.30-20.30** Dinner

**21.00** **Evening: Stories Under the Stars / Stories Under the same Sky** Storytelling session: “Myths of Ancient Olympia and their Modern Relevance” & “The Constellations couples in the sky - Stories and Star watching” Prof Apostolia Galani, Eirini Chatzara

## Day 3, 4 May 2025, Merging Epistemologies to achieve optimal outcomes for inclusive education

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**08.00-08.45** Breakfast

**09.00-10.15** Keynote Address: “How a Government program created a social revolution through public murals in Mexico” **Dr. Maria Malott**

**10.15-11.30** Seminar: From Behavior Analysis to Systemic Behavior Analysis: current practices and future directions, **Prof. Angeliki Gena**

**11:30-12:00** Coffee Break

**12.00-14.00** Workshop: Parent-training practices based on Systemic Behavior Analysis, **Prof. Angeliki Gena & Dr. Areti Stefanaki**

**14:00-15:00** Lunch

**15.00-16.00** Seminar: Assessment, Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and Individualized Inclusion Plan, **Dr. Petros Galanis**

**16.00-16.15** Coffee break

**16.15-17.15** Hands on: Practice on the development of Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and Individualized Inclusion Plan, **Dr. Petros Galanis**

**17.15-19.00** **Free & Sports Time**

**19.00-20.00** **Dinner**

**20.30** Attend a traditional Greek dance performance at the premises of International Olympic Academy

## Day 4, 5 May 2025, Supporting Students with Autism and other Developmental Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms

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**08.00-08.45** Breakfast

**Understanding and Enhancing Important Areas of Cognitive, Language, Emotional, and Social Development in Students with Developmental Disabilities**

**9.00-09.45** Seminar: Important Areas of Cognitive and Language Development,  
**Prof. Angeliki Gena**

**09.45-11.15** Workshop: Basic methods that enhance the cognitive development in students with developmental disabilities, **Dr. Petros Galanis**

**11.30-13.15** **Cultural Immersion in Ancient Olympia**  
Guided tour of the archeological site of Ancient Olympia and museum.

**13.15-14.00** Seminar: Important Areas of Emotional and Social Development,  
**Prof. Angeliki Gena**

**14.00-15.00** Lunch

**15.00-16:00** Hands on: Methods that enhance the emotional and social development of students with developmental disabilities  
**Prof. Angeliki Gena & Dr. Areti Stefanaki**

**16.00-16.15** **Coffee Break**

**16.15-17.15** Experiential Workshop: School Family Collaboration  
**Prof. Angeliki Gena & Dr. Areti Stefanaki**

**17.15-19.00** **Inclusive Theater strategies**

Practical workshop: “Drama for Inclusion” – using theater games to build empathy and teamwork.

Discussion: “How Theater Empowers Inclusive Education”  
**Sophia Karakantza**

**19:00- 20.00** Dinner / Creating networking

## Day 5, 6 May 2025, Building a Legacy – Action Plans and Farewell

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**08.00-08.45** Breakfast

### Morning: Crafting the Future

**9.00 -10.00** Panel: Action Plans and Inclusive education  
**Prof. Angeliki Gena, Prof. Anastasia Vlachou, Prof. Panayiota Karagianni and Dr. Lia Tsermidou**

**10.00-12.30** Workshop: “Developing Action Plans for Inclusive Classrooms”  
Participants share strategies and tools they’ll implement in their contexts.  
**Dr. Lia Tsermidou**

**11.00-11.15** Coffee Break

**11.15-12.30** **Ceremony and Final Reflections**  
Participants share final reflections: “What Inclusion Means to Me”.  
Hand over participation certificates & photos

**12.30-13.30** Lunch

**13.30** **Departure from IOA**

**14.00** **Afternoon: Farewell Cultural Exploration at Zacharo**  
Enjoy the seaside and seafood of Zacharo

Group activity: “Cultural Symbols of Inclusion” – participants create symbolic artifacts inspired by inclusivity.

**15.30-17.00** Farewell dinner at fish tavern at Zacharo

**17.00** Return to Athens.

## Bios of the speakers and the mentors

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**Prof. Anastasia Vlachou**  
National & Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Professor of Special and Inclusive Education at the Department of Educational Studies, at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. PhD in Inclusive education for students with developmental disabilities from University of Sheffield, U.K., Masters on Educational Psychology and Counselling from McGill University, Canada and Bachelor on Psychology from University of Ioannina, Greece. Prof. Vlachou has contributed actively in Disabilities Studies and Inclusive Education in research, teaching, advocacy and funded projects. During her 30 years' experience and developed expertise, she developed curricula on disability studies and taught extensively at all levels of education. In recognition of her work and impact in the field, she was appointed alternate national representative at the European Agency for Special Need and Inclusive Education. She is heavily published in high impact journals (more than 150 articles), extensively referenced in the field (more than 3100 citations) and her books are included in recommended book lists on inclusive education and disability.



**Prof. Angeliki Gena**  
National & Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Professor at the School of Philosophy, Department of Educational Studies at the NKUA. PhD on Learning Processes from the City University of New York and doctoral dissertation at the Princeton Child Development Institute, Princeton, New Jersey, USA. Since 2012 she has designed and supervises a graduate program in Special Education. She was director of the Alpine Learning Group in New Jersey, a center for children with autism.

Since 2016, she has been a director of the Laboratory of Special Education and Family Counselling at NKUA (research on Behavior Analysis and early intervention in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families). She is a founding member and currently president of the Board of the Institute of Systemic Behavior Analysis – early intervention clinic for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). She has over 20 years of experience in teaching and training of specialists on advanced techniques in special pedagogy. Participates in 31 Research programs in ASD and inclusive education. Author of numerous publications: Books, book chapters, peer- reviewed articles addressing the inclusion of children with ASD.



**Dr. Ines Alves**  
University of Glasgow

Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Inclusive Education. PhD in Education, The University of Manchester, UK; MA in Special Education (Inclusion and Disability Studies), Institute of Education, London, UK.

Director for Postgraduate Taught Programmes (PGT, Postgraduate Certificates, Diplomas and Master) at the School of Education of the University of Glasgow.

Founder and member of the Editorial Board of The European Journal of Inclusive Education.



**Dr. Maria Malott**  
Association for Behaviour  
Analysis International  
(ABAI), USA

Ph.D in Behavior Analysis from Western Michigan University.

Since 1993 CEO of Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). She has used organizational behavior management to improve every aspect of the operation of ABAI, which now serves more than 9,000 members and is the parent organization for nearly 100 affiliated chapters.

Dr. Malott has served as an affiliate faculty member at five universities and has served on five editorial boards and is the author of a book on organizational change, published in Spanish and English, and co-author of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th editions of Elementary Principles of Behavior. She published over 35 peer review publications and over 100 newsletter articles. She has made over 300 presentations in 22 countries, including lectures and seminars in 37 universities around the world.



**Dr. Lia Tsermidou**  
National &  
Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

PhD in Special and Inclusive Education from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Her research interests revolve around Inclusive Education (theory and praxis), whilst she has extensive research experience in issues related to disability and inclusion and more specifically: in support, assessment and evaluation of inclusive schools, teachers' education and the development and differentiation of educational material.

She is an active researcher and academic having contributed papers to international and national conferences as well as publications in the field of Inclusive Education and Disability Studies.



**Dr. Petros Galanis**  
National & Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

M.Ed. Special Education from the University of Manchester, UK and Ph.D from NKUA, Greece. He is certified Autism Coordinator, having accomplished three-year specialization program of the Greek Society for Autistic Persons/ the Greek Ministry of Education. For 19 years, Petros was acting as a Special education teacher in public SEN primary schools and at Diagnostic, Assessment, and Support Centers of the Ministry of Education in Athens, working with children with ASD and providing assessment and diagnosis to pupils with Special Educational Needs.

His expertise also includes development and coordination of a 9-month training program in Special Education, staff training at the Institute of Systemic Behavior Analysis regarding the implementation of ABA interventions in ASD and the support of the inclusion of children with ASD in mainstream schools (since 2010).

His works have been published in many journals and international conference proceedings.





**Dr. Areti Stefanaki**  
National & Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Areti Stefanaki holds a Ph.D. in Special Education from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece and a Master degree (MSc.) on Special Education (Learning Disabilities) from University of Ioannina, Greece. Since 2009, she has been working as a special educator supporting children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and diverse learning needs in both public SEN secondary schools and therapeutic settings for children and adolescents. She also teaches undergraduate students on Special Education at the Department of Educational Studies, School of Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Her research interests primarily focus on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attachment Theory, Behavior Analysis and parent training models. She has been a member of the Research Team in Research Project funded by the EEC (2020). Her work has been published in journals and international conference proceedings.



**Prof. Panayiota  
Karagianni** Aristotle  
University of Thessaloniki

Professor at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, focusing on Disability Studies. She directed the first master's course on Disability Studies in Greece in 2017, which shaped many professionals in the field and her public work has advanced disability studies outside the university. With a focus on disability rights and social justice, she has made significant contributions to the field through her teaching and research. She has organized two International key Conferences such as "Disability Studies: Deconstructing Disablism" and "Disabled Lives Matter".

Prof. Karagianni has published books and articles addressing critical issues related to disability rights and policies. A major focus of her work is on the effects of economic and social crises on disability rights, with her most notable publication being "Disability in the Time of Crisis in Greece".

She has collaborated with numerous researchers and organizations, both nationally and internationally, and actively participates in programs aimed at empowering disabled people. Her recent e-book, "Disability Studies and Inclusive Pedagogy" (2022), offers an innovative approach to the theoretical framework of disability within society and education. Prof. Karagianni's academic and research work continues to shape inclusive policies and transform societal attitudes toward disability, advocating for a more just and accessible world for all.



**Prof. Apostolia Galani**  
National & Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Professor at the Department of Pedagogy and Primary Education at NKUA. She holds a doctoral degree in Didactics of Geography and Master's degree in Special Education - Specializations: (i) Pedagogy and Didactics of learners with SEN (ii) Pedagogy and Didactics of Deaf Students. Lia worked for more than 5 years in the Department of Special Education at the Pedagogical Institute of Greece.

She has managed WB funded educational projects, among which delivering asynchronous training to 2000 teachers and training on inclusive education to 500 teachers in Kazakhstan. She is the author of the educational material for elementary and secondary school Geography and Biology for learners with SEN.



**Sofia Karakantza**  
Director

Sofia Karakantza is a director with a significant career in Greek theater and artistic performances. Combining literature, music, and visual elements, she creates multidimensional productions that offer unique experiences to the audience.

She has directed numerous performances, with notable works including: "Common Sense" (1994), a play by Giorgos Maniotis, presented at the National Theatre of Northern Greece; "Alice in Wonderland" (1996), an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic, also at the National Theatre of Northern Greece; "You: The Elements" (2018) by Vasilis Amanatidis at the Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art as part of the 53rd Dimitria Festival; "Expecting" (2024), a play by Giorgos Veltsos, which she directed and presented at the Foyer National Theatre of Northern Greece.

Among her more recent collaborations, one of the most significant is with poet and writer Vasilis Amanatidis. In 2019, they presented the video performance "Plankton (Duckling)", based on his work. Sofia Karakantza is known for her experimental approach, her boldness in blending different forms of art, and her continuous search for new ways of expression through theater and performance art. Her productions stand out for their originality and artistic daring, always offering something fresh and innovative to the audience.



**Prof Evangelia  
Mavrikaki** National &  
Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Professor at the Faculty of Primary Education of the NKUA, teaching Research Methodology in Education in postgraduate courses for pre-service and in-service secondary teachers. Evangelia was educator in the project of in-service teachers' in-school training "Introduction and management of Innovation in the Educational Community" of the Greek Ministry of Education, which was under the supervision of the Institute of Educational Policy and has actively participated in EPEAEK "Design, organization and application of special training program for the academic and professional development of in-service elementary teachers".

She is a scientific responsible for the e-learning project "Health education in School and in Vulnerable Groups" of the NKUA and the main author of the relevant educational material provided to students.

## Bios of Organizers



**Ana Maria Tutea** - Savvy Business sLTD

Manager of Savvy Business sLTD with 25 years of experience working with international organizations and international donors (EU, EBRD, EIB, World Bank) and state and private entities. Management of multimillion international contracts and multi-cultural regional teams in various fields including sustainability development, education, capacity building, professional development and extensive training programs in more than 30 countries of Central Asia, Caucasus, Southeastern Europe, EU, Morocco and Uganda.



**Giorgi Turdzeladze** - Savvy Business sLTD

Certified PMP® from PMI, USA with 20 years of professional experience.

He has 20 years of professional experience and a track record of over 40 international projects in various economic fields, including Education. He has managed more than 60 programs on capacity building, training, workshops and managed more than 120 experts worldwide.



**Ada Mamaladze** - Savvy Business sLTD

Operations Manager at Savvy Business with over 30 years' experience in business operations with a focus on market analysis and penetration strategy and business development of the international projects involving multi- cultural and multi-disciplinary teams of experts. Sound experience in organizing trainings and seminars both within the framework of funded projects and company initiatives in countries of EU, Caucasus and Central Asia.



**Natalia Tutea** - Savvy Business sLTD

Natalia works at Savvy Business for recruitment and human resources development and event organizer. Her expertise is related to the coordination and organization of the company's events and training activities, study tours and conferences in EU and Central Asia countries.



**Nino Zhorzholadze** - Savvy Business sLTD

Local coordinator of Savvy Business in Georgia. She has organized three summer / winter excellence schools with more than 100 participants within the WB Education project on Internationalization of Higher Education in Georgia. Apart of her legal background, she has excellent skills for dissemination and awareness activities, as well as digital marketing and social media.