

Irene Nakou

Professor

Department of Early Childhood Education

University of Thessaly

Volos, Greece

Curriculum Vitae**Short CV**

Irene Nakou is Professor in museum and history education at the University of Thessaly in Greece, Head of the University of Thessaly ‘Museum Education and Research Laboratory’, and Co-Editor of the online international journal *Museumedu*.

She has studied Sculpture (one year) at the School of Fine Arts in Athens, and Archaeological Guiding at the School of the Greek Tourism Organization. She has a degree in History and Archaeology and a degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Athens, and earned a PhD in Museum and History Education from the Institute of Education, University of London.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Nakou, I. (2009). *Museums, histories and History*. Athens: Nissos. [Greek edition]
- Nakou, I. (2001). *Museums: We All, Objects and Culture*. Athens: Nissos. [Greek edition]
- Nakou, I. (2000). *Children and History: Historical Thinking, Knowledge and Interpretation*. Athens: Metaixmio. [Greek edition]

Collective Books:

- Nakou, I. & Gazi, A. (2015). *Oral History in Museums and Education*. Athens: Nissos. [Greek edition with an Introduction in English]
- Nakou, I. & Barca, I. (2010). *Contemporary Public Debates over History Education. Sixth book of the International Review of History Education Series*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Bemis, B. & Nakou, I. (2010) *Museums and Education*. Athens: Nissos. [Greek edition]
- Kokkinos, G. & Nakou, I. (2006). *Approaching History Education in the Beginning of the 21st Century*. Athens: Metaixmio. [Greek edition]

She is also author of many educational books and co-editor of educational videos.

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CV

Present position

Irene Nakou is Professor in museum and history education at the Department of Early Childhood Education, University of Thessaly, Greece, Director of the ‘Museum Education and Research Laboratory’ and Co-Editor of the online international journal *MuseumEdu*.

Studies

She has studied Sculpture (one year) at the School of Fine Arts in Athens, and Archaeological Guiding at the School of the Greek Tourist Organization. She has a degree in History and Archaeology and a degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Athens, and earned a PhD in Museum and History Education from the Institute of Education University of London, for her thesis: *Pupils Historical Thinking within a Museum Environment*.

Teaching experience

Irene Nakou taught high school history and ancient and modern Greek language and literature in Athens for 15 years.

Since 1999, she has taught Museology, Museum Education, History Education and Material Culture Theory in the following Departments:

Undergraduate courses

- Department of Early Childhood Education, University of Athens.
- Department of Early Childhood Education of the University of Thessaly.
- Department of Theoretical Studies at the School of Fine Arts in Athens.

Postgraduate courses

- Department of Early Childhood Education, University of Athens;
- Department of Early Childhood Education, University of Thessaly;
- Department of Primary Education, University of Thessaly;
- Postgraduate Studies Programme “Museology” of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki and the University of West Macedonia;
- Department of Ecology, Charokopio University in Athens.

Irene Nakou has also taught relevant subjects in seminars addressing teachers, nursery school teachers and tourist guides.

She has supervised, and is supervising, many undergraduate and postgraduate (MA)

dissertations, PhD theses, and she has been examiner of many MA dissertations and PhD theses.

Other academic / scholarly activities

Irene Nakou has participated as elector in many academic electorates at the University of Athens, the University of Thessaly, the University of Patras, the University of the Aegean, the University of Thrace, and the University of Ioannina in Greece.

She is member of the Editorial Panel of the International Review of History Education Series (IRHE), and co-editor of one of the IRHE Series volume (6th).

She has been reviewer of manuscripts for many Greek and International scientific Journals, Collective Books and Conferences.

Museological work

Together with the architect Demetris Diamantopoulos, Irene Nakou conducted the preliminary and the final museological study for the *Museum of the Olive Tree and the Olive Oil* in Sparta Greece (1998-2001), which was organized by the Cultural Technological Foundation of the National Bank of Industrial Development (ETBA), and realized by the Cultural Foundation of the Piraeus Bank (PIOP) and the Municipality of the City of Sparta.

As a museologist, member of the team of the Architects K. Moraitis and D. Diamantopoulos, she took part in the international Competition for the planning of the New Acropolis Museum (2000-2001).

She was external examiner for the evaluation of the museological study conducted by the museologists M. Ferris, S. Revell and M. Chrissafi on the development of the Cultural Centre of the Foundation of Meizonos Hellenism (IME) and the planning of a new museum, in Athens (2000).

Museum-education work

Since 1997 Irene Nakou has been working with Amy Bartow-Melia, Deputy Associate Director for Public Programs, of the National Museum of American History, Kenneth E. Behring Center, Smithsonian Institution (Washington), in the planning of educational programmes for children and in organizing relevant exhibitions, especially for the London International Gallery of Children's Art and the Children International Art Organization (CIAO), of which they are both members.

In 1999-2000 and 2002-2003 Irene Nakou participated in the planning of 3 exhibitions for the Greek Parliament, and the realization of relevant museum educational material and activities for school-groups.

She has also participated in the planning and realization of educational programmes organized by Centre of History and Archives (DIKI) of the Municipality of the City of Volos, Thessaly, Greece (2005-2006), and in the promotion of the Educational Workshops of the Art Gallery of the Municipality of Larissa, Thessaly Greece (2006).

She has also planned and realized several museum educational projects for school-groups, students, teachers, and the general public in many museums, in the context of the Museum Education and Research Laboratory educational activities.

Membership

Irene Nakou is a member of :

The International Council of Museums (ICOM); The International Research Association for History and Social Sciences Education (IRAHSSSE); The International Society for History Didactics; The Childrens' International Art Outreach (CIAO); The Modern Greek Studies Society "Mnemon"; The Greek Museologists Society.

Research projects

Irene Nakou worked full-time for two years (1997-1999) in the University of Athens research project "Muslim Children Education". She was coordinator of the Project's 'Action 3', and her research work mainly focused on the planning and editing of educational materials to be used by the Minority Schools in Thrace.

She conducted 2 research studies at the Foundation of Meizonos Hellenism (IME) in Athens, authorized by the Director of the Development Works of the Foundation, the architect and museologist Michael Polkinghorne: a) of the educational policy of the Cultural Centre and the Museum of IME; and b) of the structure and function of the Cultural Centre, the Research Department and the Archive Department of IME.

With the museologist M. Mouliou, she conducted research into City Museums around the world, authorized by the Centre for History and Archives of the Municipality of the City of Volos (2006).

Since 2005 she has conducted and directed several research projects, into museum and history education, in the context of the 'Museum Research and Education Laboratory' of the University of Thessaly.

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