

Maria Nefeli Nikiforos, M.Sc.

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Education

- 2021 – Present **PhD Candidate, Ionian University, Department of Informatics**
Thesis: *Vocational Education in the Tourism Sector with Machine Learning Techniques*
Supervisor: Professor Adamantia Pateli
Supervisory Committee: Associate Professor Katia Lida Kermanidis, Assistant Professor Vilemini Sosoni
- 2019 – 2021 **M.Sc., Ionian University, Department of Informatics, Research Directions in Information Technology**
Grade: **«Excellent» 9.62/10**
Thesis: *Deep learning techniques in social web text classification*
Grade: **«Excellent» 10/10**
Supervisor: Associate Professor Katia Lida Kermanidis
- 2015 – 2019 **B.Sc., Ionian University, Department of Informatics,**
Grade: **«Excellent» 9.15/10**
Thesis: *Development of A Supervised Part-Of-Speech Tagger for the Greek Language of the Social Web*
Grade: **«Excellent» 10/10**
Supervisor: Associate Professor Katia Lida Kermanidis
- 2015 **General High School Diploma, 4th General Lyceum of Corfu**
Grade: **«Excellent» 19.1/20**

Honors & Awards

- 2023 **2021 Best Paper Award**, MDPI, Computation. All papers published from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 in Computation were considered for the award. After a thorough evaluation of the originality and significance of the papers, citations, and downloads, two winners were selected, one of them being the paper: “Deep Learning for Fake News Detection in a Pairwise Textual Input Schema”, <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/computation/awards/1820>, [5].
- 2021 **Valedictorian - Distinguished Student Award**, Ionian University, Department of Informatics. During the academic year 2020-2021 she received the highest grade among the graduates of the department, 9.62/10 «Excellent».

Honors & Awards (continued)

- **Valedictorian - Distinguished Student Award**, State Scholarship Foundation (IKY). The highest grade among the graduates in 2019 without exceeding the minimum period of studies.

- 2019 ■ **Valedictorian - Distinguished Student Award**, Ionian University, Department of Informatics. During the academic year 2018-2019 she received the highest grade among the graduates of the department, 9.15/10 «Excellent».
- **Scholarship monetary award for academic excellence**, Rotary Club Corfu Kapodistrias, Greece.

- 2014 ■ **Distinction** in «Euroscola» competition and participation in the summit of the European Parliament, Strasbourg, France.

Employment History

- March 2023 – November 2023 ■ **Researcher**, Ionian University.
Development of digital tools for Research Project «Supporting Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Maturation Actions for the Utilization of Research Activity and New Products and Services developed at the Ionian University», Operational Program «Education and Lifelong Learning», NSRF 2014-2020.
Prof. responsible for the project: Katia Lida Kermanidis

- April 2022 – Present ■ **System Administrator**, Department of Tourism, Ionian University.
Technical Management of Information & Computer Resources of the Dpt. of Tourism, and teaching educational labs & courses

- December 2021 – Present ■ **PhD Candidate & Researcher**, Department of Informatics, Ionian University.
Research area: *Vocational Education & Training, and Language Learning*

- July 2021 – October 2021 ■ **Researcher**, Ionian University, Region of the Ionian Islands.
Development of an architectural solution and digital infrastructure platform, and a mobile application subsystem for R&D project: «Traditional Corfu Music Preservation through Digital Innovation».
Prof. responsible for the project: Panagiotis Kourouthanassis

Employment History (continued)

- December 2020 – March 2021 **Research project scholar**, Department of Archives, Library Science and Museology, Ionian University.
Postgraduate student scholarship. Data collection & processing, development of a classification system, and documentation of rescue excavations for Research Project: «SoSaMe: A prototype method of diagnosis, documentation and demonstration -analysis of rescue excavations».
Prof. responsible for the project: Stavros Vlizon
- September 2017 – September 2018 **Reservations Assistant**, Crystal Travel Corfu DMC, Greece.
Secretarial support, customer service, reservations management, business contracts drafting, website & social media management, multimedia content creation, information system & database management (seasonal: June-Sept. 2018 & Sept.-Oct. 2017)




Teaching Experience

- November 2023 **Lectures, course «Social Media in Tourism»** (6 hours of lectures) from 09/11/2023 to 30/11/2023. Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. K. L. Kermanidis. Interdepartmental Graduate Program «Digital Technologies in Hospitality and Tourism Management», Ionian University, Department of Informatics & Department of Tourism
- October 2020 - February 2021 **Teaching lab lessons, course «Humanistic Informatics»**. Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. K. L. Kermanidis. Undergraduate Program, Ionian University, Department of Informatics
- October 2019 - February 2020 **C programming labs, course «Introduction to Programming»**. Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. T. Andronikos. Undergraduate Program, Ionian University, Department of Informatics

Volunteering

- July – October 2019 **Web Developer & Designer**, Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting, Ionian University, under the supervision of Associate Professor and Head of Department Sotirios Livas
Website: dflti.ionio.gr
- Redesign and optimization of the structure and organization of the department's website
- Creation of an interactive, user-friendly, interface
- Updating website's content, creation of multimedia content

Volunteering (continued)

- September 2018  **Conference Organization**, 12th Mediterranean Conference on Information Systems (MCIS 2018), September 28-30, 2018, Ionian University, Department of Informatics, Corfu, Greece
- September 2016 – Present  **Web Content Editor**, Be there! Corfu Animation Festival Website: betherefest.gr
- July – August 2016  **Music Workshop for children**, «Mantzaros» Philharmonic Society - Dance School SteptoStep, Corfu, Greece

Research Publications

Academic Journals

- 1** Nikiforos, M. N., Deliveri, K., Kermanidis, K. L., & Pateli, A. (2023). Vocational Domain Identification with Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing on Wikipedia Text: Error Analysis and Class Balancing. *Computers*, 12(6), 111.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/computers12060111>
- 2** Tzimiris, S., Nikiforos, M. N., Nikiforos, S., & Kermanidis, K. L. (2023). Challenges and opportunities of emergency remote teaching: Linguistic analysis on school directors' interviews. *European Journal of Engineering and Technology Research*, 53–60.
- 3** Karagiannis, S., Magkos, E., Chalavazis, G., & Nikiforos, M. N. (2022). Analysis and Evaluation of Capture the Flag Challenges in Secure Mobile Application Development. *International Journal on Integrating Technology in Education*, 11(2).
<https://doi.org/10.5121/ijite.2022.11202>
- 4** Nikiforos, M. N., Voutos, Y., Drougani, A., Mylonas, P., & Kermanidis, K. L. (2021). The Modern Greek Language on the Social Web: A Survey of Data Sets and Mining Applications. *Data*, 6(5), 52. <https://doi.org/10.3390/data6050052>
- 5** Mouratidis, D., Nikiforos, M. N., & Kermanidis, K. L. (2021). Deep Learning for Fake News Detection in a Pairwise Textual Input Schema. *Computation*, 9(2), 20.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/computation9020020>

Conference Proceedings

- 1** Nikiforos, M. N., Deliveri, K., Kermanidis, K. L., & Pateli, A. (2022). Machine Learning on Wikipedia Text for the Automatic Identification of Vocational Domains of Significance for Displaced Communities, In *2022 17th International Workshop on Semantic and Social Media Adaptation & Personalization (SMAP)*, Corfu, Greece, IEEE.
<https://doi.org/10.1109/SMAP56125.2022.9941803>
- 2** Angelis, I., Alvanou, A. G., Avgoustis, N., Vergis, S., Zervopoulos, A., Malakopoulou, M., Bezas, K., Nikiforos, M. N., Papamichail, A., Styliadou, A., Exarchos, T. P., & Vlamos, P. (2021). Mobile Application for Monitoring and Preventing Cognitive Decline Through Lifestyle Intervention (P. Vlamos, Ed.). In P. Vlamos (Ed.), *GeNeDis 2020. Advances in experimental medicine and biology*, Cham, Springer.
https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78775-2_11
- 3** Nikiforos, M. N., Malakopoulou, M., & Exarchos, T. (2021). Development of a Diagnostic Tool for Balance Disorders Based on Machine Learning Techniques (P. Vlamos, Ed.). In P. Vlamos (Ed.), *GeNeDis 2020. Advances in experimental medicine and biology*, Cham, Springer. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78775-2_7

- 4 Xipolitopoulos, C., **Nikiforos, M. N.**, & Exarchos, T. (2021). Machine Learning for Autistic Spectrum Disorder Risk Screening (P. Vlamos, Ed.). In P. Vlamos (Ed.), *GeNeDis 2020. Advances in experimental medicine and biology*, Cham, Springer.
https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78775-2_10
- 5 Xipolitopoulos, C., **Nikiforos, M. N.**, Malakopoulou, M., & Pateli, A. (2020). Success Factors for Crowd-funding Campaigns with Machine Learning Techniques, In *ICTO 2020, Smart Technologies for an Inclusive World*.
- 6 **Nikiforos, M. N.**, Malakopoulou, M., Styliidou, A., Alvanou, A.-G., Karyotis, V., & Kourouthanassis, P. (2020). Enhancing Collaborative Filtering Recommendations for Web-based Learning Platforms with Genetic Algorithms, In *15th International Workshop on Semantic and Social Media Adaptation & Personalization*, Zakynthos, Greece, IEEE.
<https://doi.org/10.1109/SMAP49528.2020.9248472>
- 7 **Nikiforos, M. N.**, Vergis, S., Styliidou, A., Augoustis, N., Kermanidis, K. L., & Maragoudakis, M. (2020). Fake News Detection Regarding the Hong Kong Events from Tweets (I. Maglogiannis, L. Iliadis, & E. Pimenidis, Eds.). In I. Maglogiannis, L. Iliadis, & E. Pimenidis (Eds.), *Artificial Intelligence Applications and Innovations. AIAI 2020 IFIP WG 12.5 International Workshops. AIAI 2020. IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology*, Cham. Springer.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-49190-1_16
- 8 **Nikiforos, M. N.**, & Kermanidis, K. L. (2020). A Supervised Part-Of-Speech Tagger for the Greek Language of the Social Web, In *Proceedings of The 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference*, Marseille, France, European Language Resources Association.
- 9 Kastampolidou, K., **Nikiforos, M. N.**, & Andronikos, T. (2020). A Brief Survey of the Prisoners' Dilemma Game and Its Potential Use in Biology (P. Vlamos, Ed.). In P. Vlamos (Ed.), *GeNeDis 2018. Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*, Cham, Springer.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-32622-7_29

Reviews

Reviewer





- 📖 **Data, MDPI**
- 📖 **Electronics, MDPI**
- 📖 **Informatics, MDPI**
- 📖 **Computer, Oxford University Press**
- 📖 **Computer Science, PeerJ**
- 📖 **Bioinformatics and Biology Insights, SAGE**
- 📖 **Multimedia Systems, Springer Nature**
- 📖 **npj Mental Health Research, Springer Nature**
- 📖 **Scientific Reports, Springer Nature**

Skills

Languages 📖 **Greek**, Native language
English, Certificate of Proficiency in English, University of Michigan
French, B2 DELF Junior, Institut De Français








Coding & Databases 📖 **C, C++, Java, Python, PHP, SQL, MySQL, PL/SQL**

Skills (continued)


- Web Development  HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Joomla, WordPress, Drupal
- Tools  RapidMiner, Weka, Matlab, GNU Octave, Mendeley, LaTeX, Microsoft Office, Access, Visio
- Other skills  Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Natural Language Processing
- Interpersonal skills  Leadership, Teamwork, Public Speaking, Project Management, Problem Solving, Research, Analytical Skills

Miscellaneous Experience

Conferences

- 2023  **19th International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS 2023)**, Session chairing & conference attendance, June 2-5 2023, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece
- 2022  **17th International Workshop on Semantic and Social Media Adaptation & Personalization (SMAP)**, Publication presentation & conference attendance, Nov. 3-4 2022, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece
- 2020  **15th International Workshop on Semantic and Social Media Adaptation & Personalization (SMAP)**, Publication presentation & conference attendance, Oct. 29-30 2020, Ionian University, Zakynthos, Greece
-  **4th World Congress on Genetics, Geriatrics and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research, GeNeDis 2020**, Publication presentation & conference attendance, Oct. 8-11 2020, University of Crete, Ionian University, Heraklion, Crete, Greece
-  **16th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Applications and Innovations - AIAI 2020**, Publication presentation & conference attendance, June 5-7 2020, Chalkidiki, Greece
- 2018  **12th Mediterranean Conference on Information Systems (MCIS 2018)**, Conference attendance, Sept. 28-30 2018, Ionian University, Department of Informatics, Corfu, Greece
- 2016  **2nd World Congress on Genetics, Geriatrics and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research, GeNeDis 2016**, Conference attendance, Sept. 28-30 2016, University of Peloponnese, Ionian University, Sparta, Greece

Seminars & Summer Schools

- 2020  **Summer School on Machine Learning and Big Data with Quantum Computing (SMBQ2020)**, online event, lectures & hands-on sessions on Building a Chatbot & IBM's Qiskit, Sept. 7-8 2020, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade do Porto, Porto, Portugal

Miscellaneous Experience (continued)

- 2019 **■** **Bibliography Management Seminar: Program for organizing and managing bibliographic citations Mendeley**, Nov. 18 2019, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece
- 2017 – 2018 **■** **Innovation Design Thinking**, Attendance of educational program, Corfu Tech Lab, Central Municipal Historic Library of Corfu, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Greece, Ionian University, Department of Informatics
- Workshop titled **Presentation of business ideas (pitching)**, Speaker: representative of the Hellenic Student Association of Entrepreneurship ThinkBiz - December 7, 2017, CorfuTechLab

 - Lecture titled **Development and Evaluation of Business Models**, Speaker: representative of the Hellenic Student Association of Entrepreneurship ThinkBiz - December 8, 2017, CorfuTechLab

 - Lecture titled **Sharing Economy and the Role of ICT: Crowdsourcing and Crowdfunding Services**, Speaker: Angeliki Mellou, Co-founder of Crowdfunding Pitchstor - March 21, 2018, CorfuTechLab

 - Workshop titled **Enhancing the creativity of students in the Department of Informatics of Ionian University by applying the LEGO® Serious Play® Method**, Speaker: Stefanos Azariadis, Certified LEGO Serious Play Facilitator, Better Future - April 18, 2018, CorfuTechLab

 - Lecture titled **Digital Business Strategy: Utilizing Emerging Information Technologies Aiming at Digital Transformation**, Speaker: Professor Paul Pavlou from Temple University, USA – September 28, 2018, CorfuTechLab
- 2016 **■** **Grow Greek Tourism Online**, Digital skills seminar, Google, SETE, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Education, Corfu, Greece
- 2014 **■** **Euroscola**, Summit, European Parliament, Strasbourg, France

Music

- 2014 – 2019 **■** **French horn**, «Mantzaros» Philharmonic Society
- 2013 – 2014 **■** **Diploma of Higher Music Theory**, Grade: «Excellent», Conservatory of Corfu
- 2005 – 2013 **■** **Vocals and Contemporary singing**, Conservatory of Corfu
- 2004 – 2016 **■** **Classic guitar**, Level: 8, Conservatory of Corfu