

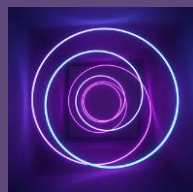
CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Panayiotis D. Kontakos

UCLan Cyprus

Department of Business, Management and Tourism

September 2026



Dr Panayiotis Kontakos

Academic CV | Chair, Department of Business, Management & Tourism

UCLan Cyprus, School of Business & Law

Email: pkontakos@windowslive.com | LinkedIn | ResearchGate | Google Scholar | ORCID: 0000-0002-2715-3133

Academic Profile

Practitioner academic in International Business and Management with 30 years of combined professional and academic experience, including 16 years of senior executive experience in financial institutions across South-East Europe and neighbouring regions, and more than a decade within British higher education. Currently Assistant Professor in International Business and Chair of the Department of Business, Management & Tourism at UCLan Cyprus, the Cyprus campus of the University of Central Lancashire.

My academic profile combines research, teaching, academic leadership, innovation and enterprise, income-generation activity, external engagement and substantial professional experience. My research focuses on International Business and Economics, with particular emphasis on foreign direct investment (FDI), sustainable FDI, sustainable development, Blue Growth/Blue Economy, entrepreneurship, international business risk and regional economic transformation. My work pays particular attention to the Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Europe and neighbouring regional contexts.

Since joining UCLan Cyprus in 2015, I have contributed extensively to the development and delivery of the MBA, MBA Distance Learning, MSc Business Management and wider Business-related provision. I have held significant leadership and administrative responsibilities, including Deputy Head of the School of Business and Management, MBA and MBA Distance Learning Course Leader, Chair of the Innovation and Enterprise Sub-Committee, member of the Rector's Senior Academic Management Team, elected member of Senate and Council, and member of UK Programme Boards.

My academic contribution is strengthened by a substantial practitioner background in banking, risk management, corporate governance, international strategy, project management and engagement with international financial organisations. This practitioner-academic profile informs my research, teaching, student mentoring, curriculum development, professional engagement and contribution to the strategic priorities of UCLan Cyprus.

Current Academic Appointment, Leadership and Institutional Roles

Period	Role / Contribution
September 2026-present	Chair of the Department of Business, Management & Tourism
September 2015-present	Assistant Professor in International Business, School of Business and Management, UCLan Cyprus, Pyla, Cyprus.
2022-2026	Deputy Head of the School of Business and Management, UCLan Cyprus.
2015-2025	Director / Course Leader, MBA Programme.
2015-2025	Director / Course Leader, MBA Distance Learning Programme; first online programme launched at UCLan Cyprus.
2015-2017	Director / Course Leader, MSc Business Management Programme.
2021-2025	Chair, Innovation and Enterprise (I&E) Sub-Committee of the Research and Innovation Committee, UCLan Cyprus.
2022-present	Member, Rector's Senior Academic Management Team and Senior Management Team.
2022-present	Chair, Academic Misconduct Committee, School of Business and Management.
2021-2024	Elected Member, Senate of UCLan Cyprus.

2018-2021	Elected Member, Council of UCLan Cyprus.
2017-2019; 2019-present	Former Co-Director and current member, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development, Alliance and Research (CEDAR), Cyprus.
2015-2018	Member, Research and Innovation Mentoring Team; member, Academic Standards and Quality Committee.
2015-present	Member, CY-UK Programme Boards for undergraduate and postgraduate provision.

Education and Professional Qualifications

Qualification / Area	Details
PhD	Global Entrepreneurship and Foreign Direct Investment; PhD awarded July 2012.
Postdoctoral Research	International business, entrepreneurship and foreign investment determinants.
Postgraduate Studies	MPhil, MSc and Master in Humanities (MH) studies; additional international professional and executive education programmes.
Fellowship	Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA), UK; aligned with the UK Professional Standards Framework.
Risk and Finance	Certified Financial Risk and Regulation Certificate (FRR) by GARP; Energy Risk Professional (ERP) by GARP; International Banking Risk and Regulation (IBRR) training/certification.
Executive / Academic Development	Macroeconomic Diagnostics, IMF Institute for Capacity Development; Harvard Business School online management-related professional development; open and distance learning / ICT training.

Research Profile and Areas of Expertise

- International Business and Economics, with particular emphasis on foreign direct investment (FDI), investment determinants, entry modes and regional investment dynamics.
- Responsible and sustainable international investment, including ESG-oriented investment, intergenerational equity and sustainable international business.
- Eastern Mediterranean investment dynamics, with particular attention to Cyprus, Greece, Turkey, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt and neighbouring regional contexts.
- Diaspora investment, cross-border entrepreneurship, institutional barriers, cultural alignment and regional interdependence.
- Blue Growth / Blue Economy, including coastal economies, offshore energy, marine resources, small-scale fisheries and sustainable regional development.
- International business risk, operational risk, financial risk, global banking, governance and strategic risk management.

Publication Profile

- 165 research and scholarly outputs in international scientific conferences, journals, books, book chapters, policy reports, edited volumes and professional dissemination outlets, including 111 peer-reviewed publications.
- Peer-reviewed outputs include 3 monographs, 17 journal articles, 6 book chapters, 64 conference proceedings, 17 reports, 3 edited e-books and 1 policy paper.
- During my employment with UCLan Cyprus, I have produced 125 outputs, including 73 peer-reviewed publications, contributing to the publication activity of the School of Business and Management and the wider University.

- Recent outputs include peer-reviewed monographs, Scopus-indexed International Business journal articles, a forthcoming Springer Nature book chapter, and peer-reviewed international conference proceedings.
- Strong single-author record, including 114 sole-authored outputs, with substantial independent work on FDI, sustainable international investment, Blue Economy, regional development and economic transformation.
- Research combines scholarly contribution with policy and practitioner relevance in International Business, FDI, entrepreneurship, energy, sustainability and risk.

Selected Publications: Monographs and Edited Volumes

- Kontakos, P. (2026). *Foreign Direct Investment in the Eastern Mediterranean: Sustainability and Cultural Alignment*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. ISBN 978-1-0364-6798-2, 435 pp.
- Kontakos, P. (2025). *Global Investments, Sustainable Returns: Navigating Sustainable FDI in a Changing World*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. ISBN 978-1-0364-4731-1, 346 pp.
- Kontakos, P. (2013). *Foreign Direct Investment in Turkey: Greek Entrepreneurship and Investments in the Banking Sector*. Thessaloniki: University of Macedonia Press. ISBN 978-960-98740-5-2. [in Greek]
- Bitzenis, A. and Kontakos, P. (2021), *Book of Proceedings of the International Conference on International Business, ICIB 2019*. Thessaloniki: Laboratory for the Study and Research of International Relations and European Integration, ISBN 978-618-5255-17-6.
- Bitzenis, A. and Kontakos, P. (2019), *Book of Proceedings of the International Conference on International Business, ICIB 2017 & 2018*. Thessaloniki: Laboratory for the Study and Research of International Relations and European Integration. ISSN 2241-5645, 814 pp.
- Bitzenis, A. and Kontakos, P. (2016), *Book of Proceedings of the International Conference on International Business, ICIB 2015 & 2016*. Thessaloniki: Laboratory for the Study and Research of International Relations and European Integration. ISBN 978-618-5255-01-5, 364 pp.

Selected Publications: Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- Kontakos, P. (2026, forthcoming). From Capital to Conscience: Embedding Sustainability in FDI Education. In J. Hermans, L.V. Trevisan, S.A. Cosma, W.L. Filho and N. Kalogeras (eds.), *Innovating Business and Education for Sustainable Development*. Cham: Springer, World Sustainability Series.
- Kontakos, P. and Stavrou, S. (2025). Israeli and Jewish Diaspora Investment in Cyprus: FDI Determinants, Entry Modes, and Institutional Challenges. *Journal of East-West Business*, 1-29. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10669868.2025.2595351>
- Kontakos, P. (2025). Regional Perspectives on Sustainable FDI: Trends, Challenges, and Strategic Pathways in Developed, Emerging, and Developing Economies. *Novi Ekonomist Journal of Economic Theory and Practice*, 19(38), 51-56. <https://doi.org/10.69781/NOEK202538175>
- Karayianni, E., Kontakos, P., Bitzenis, A. and Sergi, A. (2023). Cypriot Diaspora Direct Investment Patterns in times of Financial Crisis. *Journal of East-West Business*, 29(3), 285-306. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10669868.2023.2198514>
- Kontakos, P. (2023). Economic Challenges in a Globally Transitional Era: Contemporary Perspectives. *Novi Ekonomist Journal of Economic Theory and Practice*, 17(2), 41-48.
- Poutziouris, P. and Kontakos, P. (2019). *Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policies, Country Assessment Notes: Cyprus, 2018*, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- Kontakos, P. (2018). Blue Economy Entrepreneurship in Offshore Energy in Greece and Cyprus. *Journal of Economy & Business*, 12, 193-202.
- Kontakos, P. and Georgiou, A. (2018). Investment Incentives and Attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): Evidence from Cyprus. *Journal of Science and Business Development Ways*, 3(81), 157-161.
- Kontakos, P. and Zhelyazkova, V. (2015). *Energy infrastructure projects of common interest in the SEE, Turkey and Eastern Mediterranean*. In Energy Systems and Management. Istanbul: Springer International Publishing, pp. 261-267.
- Kontakos, P. (2012). The foreign direct investment into perspective: evidence from M&A in the Turkish banking sector. In *Mergers and Acquisitions as the Pillar of Foreign Direct Investment*, Chapter 13, ed. A. Bitzenis, V. Vlachos, and P. Papadimitriou, New York: Palgrave Macmillan. DOI: 10.1057/9781137031556_13.

Selected Publications: Conference Proceedings and Policy-Relevant Outputs

- Kontakos, P. (2026, forthcoming). Sustainable FDI and Regional Interdependence in the Eastern Mediterranean: Cross-Border Collaboration, Green Infrastructure, and Cultural Alignment. *Proceedings of the 14th International Scientific Symposium EkonBiz*.
- Kontakos, P. (2025). Global Investments, Sustainable Returns: Rethinking FDI Through the Lens of Sustainability and Intergenerational Equity. *Proceedings of the IBE-ReGloMi Conference*, Zuyd University of Applied Sciences, Maastricht, Netherlands.
- Kontakos, P. (2025). Regional Perspectives on Sustainable FDI: Trends, Challenges, and Strategic Pathways in Developed, Emerging, and Developing Economies. *Proceedings of the EkonBiz 2025 Conference*, University of East Sarajevo.
- Kontakos, P. (2024). Sustainable Foreign Direct Investments: Key Trends in 2024. *Proceedings of the Nepal Global South Summit - GSFN Annual Conference 2024*.
- Kontakos, P. and Bitzenis, A. (2024). Motives of Foreign Direct Investments in Cyprus: Preliminary Insights from 52 Foreign Companies. *Proceedings of the 41st Business & Economics Society International Conference*.
- Kontakos, P. (2024). Risk Management in Sustainable Foreign Direct Investments. *Proceedings of ICIB 2024, Trends in Sustainable International Business*, Zuyd University of Applied Sciences, Maastricht, Netherlands.
- Kontakos, P. (2024). Mechanisms and Tools for Financing Sustainable Investments. *Proceedings of ICIB 2024, Trends in Sustainable International Business*, Zuyd University of Applied Sciences, Maastricht, Netherlands.
- Georgopali, A., and Kontakos, P. (2024). Gender Equality in Leadership: HR's Role in Shaping Women's Career Roadmaps in the Pharmaceutical Industry. *Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Research in Human Resource Management*, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1-3 November 2024, Diamond Scientific Publishing.
- Kontakos, P. (2023). Economic Realities and Reflections of a World in Transition. *Proceedings of the XXII International Scientific Conference*, University of National and World Economy, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- Kontakos, P. (2022). Blue Economy Entrepreneurship: Supporting the transition of Mediterranean small-scale fisheries to a sustainable blue economy through education. *Proceedings of the Global Sustainable Futures Conference GSFN 2022*.
- Kontakos, P. (2021). Blue Growth and Entrepreneurship: Opportunities and Challenges in Cyprus. *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on International Business*.
- Papageorgiou, M. and Kontakos, P. (2021). Blue entrepreneurship, innovation and blue biotechnology: cultivating microalgae for a sustainable economy. *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on International Business*.
- Kontakos, P. and Papageorgiou, M. (2021). Blue Entrepreneurship and Development: The long-standing maritime milestone of Hellenism. *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on International Business*.
- Kontakos, P. (2022). Blue Economy and Development in Cyprus and Greece. *Economia / Economic Review*, Issue 1012.
- Kontakos, P. (2021). Cyprus, Climate Change and the European Green Deal. *Economia Group / Economic Review*, Issue 1012.
- Kontakos, P. (2019). A Circular Economy Roadmap for Cyprus by 2020. *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on International Business*.
- Papageorgiou, M., Kontakos, P. (2018). Globalization and Aquaculture: Challenges and opportunities in the case of Cyprus. *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on International Business*, May 2018, Thessaloniki.
- Kontakos, P. (2015). Inward FDI in the United Arab Emirates and the impact of global crisis. *Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on International Business*.
- Kontakos, P. (2015). Towards consolidating Greek dominance in future global seaborne energy trade: the LNG tanker shipping industry in 2014. *Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on International Business*.

Research Projects, Income Generation and International Collaboration

Project / Collaboration	Role and Evidence
SPRING	Funded and completed Erasmus+ KA2 research project, 2018-2020. Role: Researcher / Teacher / Trainer. Total project value: €999,874; UCLan Cyprus share: €86,996.

All Agri	Alliance for Sustainable Agricultural Knowledge, EU proposal submitted March 2026. Role: Local Coordinator / Researcher. Total proposed budget: €1,194,910; UCLan Cyprus share: €72,010; decision pending.
WISE-Food	Women's Innovation and Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Agri-Food through Higher Education, EU proposal submitted March 2026. Role: Local Coordinator / WP Leader / Researcher. Total proposed budget: €250,000; UCLan Cyprus share: €49,505; decision pending.
DeGreen	Bridging Educational Gaps for a Sustainable Future, EU proposal submitted March 2026. Role: Local Coordinator / WP Leader / Researcher. Total proposed budget: €250,000; UCLan Cyprus share: €46,020; decision pending.
COST - SmartSIGHTS	European Union COST Action proposal, October 2025. Role: Secondary Proposer; international consortium with 55 proposers; evaluated with score 12/13; planned for resubmission.
Wider research collaboration	Research participation/collaboration in European and international projects in entrepreneurship, innovation, sustainable international investment, business ethics, energy economics and the Turkish economy.
Erasmus+ and mobility	Teaching and collaboration links with institutions in the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Latvia, Serbia, Romania, Uzbekistan, India, Egypt, Jordan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and other international partners.

International Research and Institutional Networks

- Established research collaborations with academic institutions and industry leaders through international conferences, Erasmus+ activity, joint publications and project initiatives.
- Keynote and invited-speaker engagements in international academic events, strengthening external visibility and the institutional reputation of UCLan Cyprus.
- Research and policy engagement includes work with OECD-related entrepreneurship policy assessment, the Thucydides Strategic Studies Chair, and European institutional expert roles.
- International academic collaboration has supported research dissemination, Erasmus+ collaboration, international learning opportunities for students, external engagement and the development of future project opportunities.

Teaching Portfolio

- Teaching experience in International Business, Management, Strategy, Entrepreneurship, Operations Management, Supply Chains, Digitalisation, Sustainability and Research Methods.
- Total teaching experience of approximately 3,460 hours over the last decade across undergraduate, postgraduate and distance-learning education.
- Module Leader in 15 modules across MBA, MBA Distance Learning, MSc Business Management and BA Business Administration programmes.
- Selected modules include International Strategic Management; Operations Management, Supply Chains and Digitalisation; Management Environment; Project Management; Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Dissertation / Business Research modules.
- Teaching evaluations consistently rated very highly by undergraduate and postgraduate students, supported by Module Feedback Questionnaires, Student-Staff Liaison Committee feedback and student appreciation letters.

- Research-informed teaching integrates contemporary developments in foreign direct investment, sustainable international investment, Blue Economy, international banking, global risk management and regional economic transformation.

Teaching Methods, Student Engagement and Learning Innovation

- Student-centred pedagogy incorporating lectures, seminars, interactive workshops, simulations, field trips, entrepreneurship camps, online certifications, digital learning platforms, Bloomberg/Reuters/Statista-type resources and applied assessments.
- Organised more than 25 local field trips, 6 international field trips and 5 MBA experiential retreats since 2015, linking classroom learning with professional practice, market intelligence and international exposure.
- International field trip destinations included Dubai, Dublin, Belgrade, Dubai Expo 2020, Salzburg and Sofia.
- Coordinated a wide range of guest lectures with professionals and academics, including Erasmus+ visitors, industry specialists and external practitioners.
- Mentored students for competitions including the CFA Research Challenge, where a UCLan Cyprus team achieved second-best team in Cyprus in 2018.
- Use of professional certifications and industry-related resources from GARP, IOR, CFA, PMI/NASBA and United Nations business ethics resources to enhance employability and applied learning.
- Integration of digital resources and professional learning tools to support blended, online and practice-oriented learning across undergraduate, postgraduate and distance-learning provision.

Supervision and Student Research Development

- Supervisor / Director of Studies / Internal Examiner for six doctoral dissertations across UK/Cyprus contexts.
- Supervisor of more than 54 master's dissertations, primarily in MBA, MBA Distance Learning and MSc Business Management programmes.
- Dissertation Liaison / Coordinator across MBA, MBA Online and MSc Business Management provision.
- Seven distinction-level master's dissertations supervised resulted in 13 joint publications in refereed international scientific conferences and related outlets.
- Research mentoring emphasises professionally relevant topics connecting academic theory with real business challenges in FDI, banking, strategy, entrepreneurship, sustainability, risk and management practice.

Programme Leadership, Curriculum Development and Quality Assurance

- Led the launch of the first online programme at UCLan Cyprus, the MBA Distance Learning, which was successfully accredited in 2016/17.
- Developed teaching materials for all 10 MBA Distance Learning modules during the launch phase; later contributed to revalidation through new materials in Operations Management, Project Management, International Strategic Management and Sustainability.
- Led the successful CYQAA accreditation of the new MBA Distance Learning programme and successful re-accreditations of the MBA on-campus programme as Course Leader.
- Contributed to the successful re-accreditation of the MBA Distance Learning programme and to new programme/module development in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Economics.
- Provided sustained leadership of a consistently popular MBA portfolio, including active alumni community development and postgraduate student engagement.
- Experience in British higher education quality processes, UK programme boards, academic standards, curriculum design, assessment, student feedback and continuous improvement.

Professional / Practitioner Experience

- Sixteen years of senior executive professional experience in financial institutions across Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Cyprus, Ukraine and Turkey before entering full-time academia.
- Service as Deputy Chief Risk Officer (CRO) in a large financial institution.
- Core responsibilities included corporate governance, enterprise risk management, asset management, project management, international strategy, mergers and acquisitions, communication with international financial organisations and human resource management/training.

- Professional engagement with international financial organisations including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the World Bank.
- External expert experience with the European Court of Auditors on bank resolution and risk-control issues and with the Council of Europe on economic cooperation matters.
- Professional background informs applied teaching, MBA mentoring, executive education potential, industry engagement and practitioner-oriented management research.

Academic Service, External Engagement and Memberships

- Chair and Founder, Sustainable Economic Development (SED) Research Cluster, UCLan Cyprus.
- Former Co-Director and current member, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development, Alliance and Research (CEDAR), Cyprus.
- Member, Parallel Parliament of Cyprus for Entrepreneurship (2020-2023), promoting entrepreneurship in higher education.
- Collaborated with the OECD on the assessment of entrepreneurship policies in Cyprus.
- Media and public engagement includes more than 30 radio and television interviews during 2018–2023 with outlets including AMNA News Agency 104.9 FM, Radio Politis 107.6 FM, Radio Proto 99.3 FM and SKAI, focusing on economic, business, investment and regional development issues.
- Research fellow / collaborator with VUZF Innovation Research Unit (Sofia), Research Centre for Shadow Economy (Greece), and Thucydides - Hellenic National Defence General Staff Chair in Strategic Studies (Greece).
- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK); member of Global Association of Risk Professionals (GARP), Institute of Operational Risk (IOR), Academy of International Business (AIB), Hellenic Association for Energy Economics and University of Glasgow Alumni network.
- Editorial / review service for international journals and conferences including *Interdisciplinary Environmental Review*, *VUZF Review*, *Journal of East-West Business*, *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, *Sustainability*, *Energies*, B&ESI, ICIB and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

International Conferences, Keynotes and Awards

- Presented more than 75 peer-reviewed papers at international scientific conferences across my academic career, including 38 peer-reviewed articles presented during my employment with UCLan Cyprus.
- Participated in 33 research/scientific conferences during my employment with UCLan Cyprus.
- Keynote speaker at international scientific events including EkonBiz, the Global Sustainable Futures Network, the University of National and World Economy, and other international conferences.
- Recognition award from the American University in the Emirates (AUE) for academic contribution and commitment to strengthening international academic collaboration, awarded by Professor Muthanna Abdul Razzaq, President of AUE.
- Recognition award from the Thucydides - Hellenic National Defence General Staff Chair in Strategic Studies for strategic policy reporting on the Turkish economy.
- Best Conference Paper / Recognition Award, Nepal Global South Summit – GSFN Annual Conference 2024, for work on sustainable foreign direct investments.
- Best Conference Paper / Recognition Award, Global Sustainable Futures Conference GSFN 2022, for work on Blue Economy entrepreneurship and Mediterranean small-scale fisheries.
- Recognition Award for outstanding contribution at the 27th Business & Economics Society International Conference (B&ESI 2015).

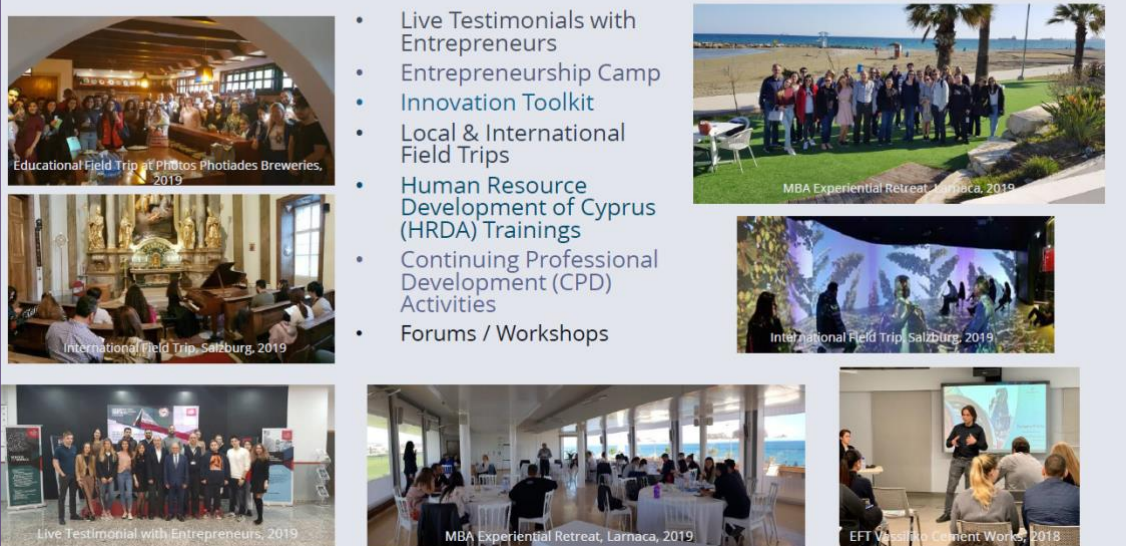
Digital Learning, Languages and Additional Skills

- Experienced with Blackboard Learn and online / blended delivery, including asynchronous and synchronous distance-learning design.
- Certified in open and distance education and ICT for higher education contexts.
- Use of digital resources and learning technologies including online simulations, professional certification platforms, IT labs, SPSS, Reuters, Bloomberg-type applications and business data platforms.
- Languages: Greek (native); English (fluent professional and academic working language); French (basic); Ancient Greek (reading knowledge).

Extra-curricular activities



Extra-curricular activities



Curriculum Vitae