

Dimitri(o)s Kastanas

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Cambridge, UK

Education

University of Cambridge

PhD in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

UK

Oct 2023 - Current

University of Cambridge

MPhil, Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

Grade: Distinction

UK

Oct 2020 - Jul 2021

University of Patras

BSc, Greek Literature and Linguistics

Grade: Honours

Greece

Oct 2014 - Jul 2019

Work Experience

Ormi-Arista

Educator

Greece

Sept 2022 - Jul 2023

- Working with primary and secondary students teaching Greek Language, Ancient Greek and Modern Literature, Latin and essay writing.

Hellenic Army

Infantry Soldier

Greece

Sept 2021 - Sept 2022

- Upgraded from soldier to lance corporal due to my dedication, ethics and discipline.

YES internet, Digital Marketing and Web development services

Digital Marketing - Internship

Greece

Jan 2020 - Jul 2020

- Internship in the field of digital marketing after one month of training in the framework of OAED-Google Greece cooperation.

Yello Creative (Maria Manolopoulou)

Digital Marketing - Internship

Greece

Apr 2018 - Jun 2018

- Internship in the field: "Language use in advertising".

My-Name Tutoring Services

Private Tutor

Greece

Jan 2018 - Jun 2020

- Worked one-on-one with primary and secondary school students in subjects including Greek Language, First Reading and Writing.

Summer Schools

LERU Doctoral Summer School on Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models, University of Copenhagen

Summer School Participant

Copenhagen, Denmark

June 2025

- Gained interdisciplinary training on AI applications and theory, with hands-on group work grounded in participants' own research domains.
- Explored ethical, legal, and practical implications of AI, with a focus on using technology purposefully and responsibly to benefit society.

Cognitive Neuroimaging Skills Training in Cambridge, University of Cambridge

Summer School Participant

Cambridge, UK

Sept 2024

- Courses: Python, MRI, fMRI, EEG/MEG, TMS, Brain Network Analysis

2nd Crete Summer School of Linguistics, University of Crete

Greece

Summer School Participant

Jul 2018

- Courses: Language and Animal Communication in Evolution (Shigeru Miyagawa), Introduction to Syntax (Sabine Iatridou), Introduction to Semantics (Rajesh Bhatt), Introduction to Sign Language Linguistics (Josep Quer), Ellipsis (Jim McCloskey & Tim Stowell)

Awards & Grants

Wolfson Travel & Research Grant	2025
Wolfson College & Mary Hesse PhD Studentship, University of Cambridge	2023 - 2026
Onassis Foundation Scholarship for PhD Studies	2023 - 2026
Marie & George Vergottis Scholarship, University of Cambridge	2020 - 2021
Onassis Foundation Scholarship for Master's Studies	2020 - 2021
Jenning's Prize, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge	2021
Valedictorian of class of 2019, University of Patras	2019

Proceeding Papers

- Kastanas, D., Hawkins, R., Katsos, N.. A Bayesian perspective on pragmatic communication in autism. 11th Experimental Pragmatics Conference 2025. [poster]
- Kastanas, D., Hawkins, R., Katsos, N.. When do speakers make implicit meanings explicit in referential communication: the critical role of uncertainty introduced by visual access, competitors and alternatives. 11th Experimental Pragmatics Conference 2025. [poster]
- Kastanas, D., Katsos, N.. Semantic properties take priority over function words in referential communication . International Conference of Greek Linguistics (ICGL) 17. [talk]
- Kastanas, D., Katsos, N.. The effect of uncertainty on speakers' referential expressions and use of implicit meaning. Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLAP) 2024.[poster]
- Kastanas, D., Katsos, N.. Put yourself in someone's else's shoes: the case for autistic and neurotypical speakers. Wolfson College Research Event 2024. [poster]
- Kastanas, D., Katsos, N. Towards a re-evaluation of egocentric behaviour in perspective-taking; the role of stimuli selection. Language Sciences Annual Symposium 2024. [poster]

Talks

- *Referential communication in Autistic adults: the case of visual access, implied meanings and semantic properties.* Talk presented at the University of Cambridge, Experimental Pragmatics Workshop, 2025.
- *A novel task for testing explicit and implicit meanings in referential communication: evidence from autistic adults.* Talk presented at Language Abilities in Children with Autism (LACA), 2025.
- *Referential and pragmatic communication in autistic adults: is perspective-taking really the problem?.* Talk presented at the University College London, Experimental Pragmatics Workshop, 2024.
- *Resolving referential ambiguity: visual access and competing semantic properties.* Talk presented at the Cambridge Processing and Acquisition of Language Laboratory (CAMPAL), University of Cambridge, 2023.

Professional Service

Conference Proceedings

- Editor for International Conference of Greek Linguistics (ICGL) 17 Proceedings, 2025
- Reviewer for Wolfson Research Event (2024 & 2025)

Conference Service

- Co-organiser for Experimental Pragmatics Workshop, 2025
- Co-organiser for International Conference of Greek Linguistics (ICGL) 17, 2025
- Co-organiser for Experimental Pragmatics XPRAG, 2025

Tools & Frameworks

- **Programming Languages:** Python, R, JavaScript
- **Experimental Techniques:** Web-based Experiments
- **Frameworks:** Resource Rationality, Active Inference, Rational Speech Act
- **Other:** Microsoft Office, GitHub