

Fevronia K. Soumakis, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Queens College, CUNY
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Flushing, NY 11367
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Brooklyn, NY 11209
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. History and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, 2015
Dissertation: "A Sacred Paideia: The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, Immigration, and Education in New York City, 1959-1979" Awarded Distinction
- M.Phil. History and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, 2013
- M.A. History and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, 2006
- B.A. Biological Sciences; Minor: Modern Greek Studies, Rutgers University, NJ, 1994

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2024-2025 Research Fellow, Hellenic American Project, Queens College, CUNY, NY
- 2019-2024 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Queens College, CUNY, NY
Modern Greek Program, European Languages and Literatures
- Fall 2019 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Stevens Institute of Technology, NJ
History Department
- 2015-2019 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Teachers College, Columbia University, NY
History and Education Program, Arts and Humanities

RESEARCH INTERESTS

History and Education; Twentieth Century Immigration and Diaspora Studies; Gender Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volumes

- 2020 Fevronia K. Soumakis and Theodore G. Zervas. *Educating Greek Americans: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Pathways*. Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.

Book Chapters

- 2023 "Celebrating the 150 Years of the Greek Revolution in Greek Orthodox Schools in the United States." In *The Greek Revolution and the Greek Diaspora in the United States*, ed. Maria Kaliasmbou, pp. 74-85. New York and London: Routledge.
- 2022 Fevronia K. Soumakis and Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei "Ethnic Language Education: A Comparative Study of Greek and Italian Americans in New York City." In *Redirecting Ethnic Singularity: Italian Americans and Greek Americans in Conversation*, ed. Yiorgos Anagnostou, Yiorgos Kalogeras, and Theodora Patrona, pp. 141-181. New York: Fordham University Press.

- 2020 “Greek Orthodox Education: Challenges and Adaptations in New York City Schools.” In *Educating Greek Americans: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Pathways*, ed. Fevronia K. Soumakis and Theodore G. Zervas, pp. 9-40. Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2016 “The Arts of Education in Orthodox Perspective.” In *Orthodoxy and the Arts*, ed. John A. McGuckin. Studies in Orthodox Theology, vol. 10, pp. 20-35. New York: Theotokos Press.
- 2013 “Orthodox Women’s Participation in the World Conference of Churches: The Long Road from Agapia to Volos, 1976- 2008.” In *Women and the Eastern Orthodox Church*, ed. John A. McGuckin. Studies in Orthodox Theology, vol. 1, pp. 32-45. New York: Theotokos Press.

Book Reviews

- 2024 Review of *Greek Music in America*, by Tina Bucuvalas, ed. *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, vol. 36, pp. 184-186.
- 2022 Review of *Sweet Greeks: First-Generation Immigrant Confectioners in the Heartland*, by Ann Flesor Beck. *The Historian*, vol. 84, no. 2, pp. 319-320.
- 2022 Review of *The Forgotten Heroes of the Balkan Wars*, by Peter S. Giakoumis. *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, vol. 40, no. 2, pp. 469-473.
- 2021 Review of *The Greek Orthodox Church in America: A Modern History*, by Alexander Kitroeff. *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, vol. 39, no. 1, pp. 259-263.
- 2017 Review of *Homebound: Diaspora Spaces and Selves in Greek American Return Narratives*, by Evangelia Kindinger. *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, vol. 35, no. 2, pp. 583-586.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- 2025 ‘To Love the Poor’: A History of Greek American Women, Education, and Philanthropy in the Twentieth Century. Monograph in preparation for submission to various publishers.
- 2025 “The Social and Political Activism of Katy Vlavianos and the Ladies Philoptochos Society in New York City, 1930s-1940s.” Article in preparation for submission to the *History of Education Quarterly*.

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus Education Fellowship
- 2024 President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching at Queens College, CUNY
- 2024 Queens College Library Fellowship
- 2022 Queens College Library Fellowship
- 2021 Tsakopoulos Hellenic Collection Library Research Fellowship
- 2019 Queens College Library Fellowship

WEB-BASED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 “Katy Vlavianos and the Ladies Philoptochos Society Digital Exhibit.”
<https://fevroniasoumakis.wordpress.com/>
 Web archived by the US Library of Congress in Women’s and Gender Studies Archive

- 2021 “Reflecting on Education on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.” *Ergon: Greek/American Arts and Letters*, <https://ergon.scienzine.com/article/essays/reflecting-on-education-on-martin-luther-king-jr-day>
- 2019 “Greek American Letters,” <https://greekamericanletters.wordpress.com/>

MEDIA

- 2024 Interview, «Το Περιοδικό- Εθνικός Κήρυκας» September 28
- 2024 COSMOS FM Radio Interview, “‘Never Forget’ Cyprus Photo Exhibit of the Hellenic American Project, Queens College, CUNY” June 23
- 2024 “Next Generation Diaspora Studies Scholars,” February 8
<https://ergon.scienzine.com/article/blog/fevronia-soumakis>
- 2020 “Greek Education in the US during the Coronavirus Pandemic,” *The National Herald Magazine* (in Greek), Sept 19-20

SELECT PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- 2025 “‘To Love the Poor’: Orphanages and the Greek American Community in the United States during the Early Twentieth Century.” Panel organizer, “Rethinking the Early Greek Immigration Experience in the United States,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, NY, NY, January 3-6
- 2024 “Greek American Women’s Activism in the 20th Century.” Queens College, CUNY, Virtual, October 28
- 2024 “Global Greek Diaspora Studies Today: Prospects and New Directions,” Special session, Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium, Princeton, NJ, October 17-20
- 2024 “‘Cyprus Week’ and the Politics of Education in New York City during the 1970s.” Symposium on “Cyprus and the 1974 Invasion: Views from the Diaspora,” University of Illinois of Chicago, September 26-27
- 2024 “Documenting and Teaching the History of Greeks in the United States,” 10th Annual Summer University on “The Greek Language, Culture and MME,” Brookline, MA, May 28-June 2
- 2024 “Greek Education in the United States: Bridging the Past, Empowering the Future,” Hellenic University Club, Wilmington, DE, March 17
- 2024 Invited guest speaker for course “The Greek Diaspora in the United States,” taught by Dr. Maria Kaliambou, Yale University, CT, February 19
- 2023 “Notes from the Field: Teaching Modern Greek Literature in Translation as an Intensive Writing Course.” 10th Biennial MGSA Workshop in Pedagogy: Translation across the Curriculum, Ann Arbor, MI, University of Michigan, November 10-11

- 2023 "A History of St. Basil's Academy," American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 3-16
- 2023 "Community Activism and the Ladies Philoptochos Society of New York City, 1930s-1940s," Stony Brook University Center for Hellenic Studies, Virtual, April 5
- 2023 "Greek American Women, Education, and Philanthropy in New York City, 1930s-1940s." Panel organizer, "Greeks in America: Forging Communities and Diasporic Networks during the First Half of the Twentieth Century," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January 5-8
- 2021 "Teaching History in the Age of COVID and Mass Social Movements: A Global Perspective." Panel organizer. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Virtual, April 8-12
- 2021 "Celebrating the 150 Years of the Greek Revolution in Greek Orthodox Schools." Symposium on "The Greek Revolution and Greek Diaspora in North America," Yale University, Virtual, October 16
- 2020 "Greek American Education in NYC: Mapping the Greek Diaspora," Poster session. American Historical Association Annual Meeting, NY, NY, January 3-6
- 2019 "Mapping Greek Americans in New York City," Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium, Sacramento, CA, November 7-10
- 2018 "New Directions in Faith-Based Education," History of Education Society Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, October 31- November 4
- 2017 "St. Basil's Academy: A Symbol of Greek American Faith, Philanthropy, and Education," Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium, Stockton State University, NJ, November 2-5

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses, Queens College, CUNY

The Greek American Community (Spring 2024)
 Modern Greek Literature in Translation (Fall/Spring, 2019-2024; Online Fall/Spring 2020, 2021)
 Writing about European Literature and Culture (Online Spring 2020-2022)

Undergraduate Course, Stevens Institute, Hoboken, NJ

Religion in America (Fall 2019)

Graduate Courses, Teachers College, Columbia University

History of Education in the United States (Fall/Spring 2015-2019)
 History of Education in New York City (Spring 2018)
 Religion and Education (Spring 2018)
 Historiography of American Education (Fall 2016-2018)
 History and Theory of Higher Education in the United States (Fall 2012)

Committee Member: Doctoral Dissertations, Teachers College, Columbia University

- 2021 E. Strome, *Advanced Instruction: The German Model at Johns Hopkins University*.
- 2020 J. Boyle, *From Scripture to Schoolhouse: St. Philip's Church and Education in Harlem, 1950-1970*.
- 2020 A. Smith, *Prison Education in New York State, 1894-1919*.
- 2019 V. Huang, *Between Protest, Compromise, and Education for Radical Change: Black Power Schools in Harlem in the Late 1960s*.

Supervisor: Master of Arts Theses, Teachers College, Columbia University

- 2018 D. Lester, "W.E.B. Du Bois and The Brownies' Book: The Dynamics of Faith' and the 'Ultimate Concern' of Black Education."
- 2018 B. Lucas, "A Black History Curriculum for Early Childhood Education."
- 2018 C. Virgin, "A Historiography of Black Education in the Southern United States."
- 2018 T. Sandoval, "The History of Sex Education in New Jersey, 1980-2000."
- 2018 A. Deering, "Learning Disabilities in the Newspaper, 1963-1975."
- 2018 J. Fleming, "Making A Public Purpose: Public Lectures, Playgrounds, and Evening Schools in Turn of the 20th Century New York City."

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review

Associate Editor, *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, 2025-2027
 Journal Manuscript Reviewer, *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, 2020, 2024
 Conference Proposal Reviewer, History of Education Society (HES), 2022, 2024
 Conference Proposal Reviewer, American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2018, 2021, 2022

To Profession

Secretary, Modern Greek Studies Association, 2023-2026
 Transnational Studies Committee, Modern Greek Studies Association, 2018-2026
 Program Chair, Division F, History and Education, AERA, 2020-2021
 Mentoring Chair, Division F, History and Education, AERA, 2019-2020

To Department

Affiliate, Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Queens College, CUNY, 2022-2024
 Editor, Modern Greek Program Newsletter, Queens College, CUNY, 2021-2023
 Coordinator, Colloquium Lecture Series, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2017-2018

To Community

Member, Education Council, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, 2019-present

RESEARCH TOOLS AND PLATFORMS

Blackboard; Canvas; Omeka; WordPress; StoryMap JS

LANGUAGES

Modern Greek: Advanced reading, writing, speaking

French: Research language

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

American Historical Association (AHA)

History of Education Society (HES)

Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA)