

Meet the Academic – Dr Antonia Betzou

Introduction

My name is Antonia Betzou and I'm a teaching fellow in WMG. I'm teaching materials engineering in WMG, and my research focuses on physical properties of metals.

What route did you take into your current role?

So I completed my A levels in Greece. I'm from Greece and the main topics were physics, maths, chemistry and biology. So I was fascinated by engineers in Formula One and my dream was to be an engineer. My biggest inspiration was my mother and she is a scientist and she was a teacher and a PHD student. While she had the kid me and I admire her for her strength and courage and passion to fulfil her ambitions.

How has the reality of your job measured up to your expectations?

Yeah, actually my job is very close to my expectations and I'm teaching students that most of them are working in automotive industry and most of the projects that we are involved in is in automotive industry.

Can you give some examples of your day to day responsibilities?

So my day-to-day tasks are giving lectures face to face or online, record lectures, teaching in labs, supervising students, marking doing research, and at the end of the day a bit of yoga time.

What skills are required for your role?

So you need to understand your student needs. You need to transmit your knowledge in a way that you engage your students. You need to make your lectures interesting and keep questioning your students. As for research you need to keep working and never give up.

What advice would you give to someone aspiring to go into a STEM career?

So my advice is never give up. Don't be afraid of failure. The success is around the corner.

What would be your dream research project if you had unlimited funds?

My research focuses on microgravity measurements, so my samples at the moment are in space in the International Space Station. So if I had unlimited funds, I would be trained and I would be in space doing my measurements.