



Exploring Adult Literacy in a contemporary context

24th March 2023, 14:00-15:00 CET



In collaboration with



EPALE NSS Malta is proud to host the second in a series of EPALE Malta Webinars for 2023 on Friday the 24th of March 2023, from 14:00-15:00 CET. Organised by EPALE NSS Malta in collaboration with: MCAST, National Literacy Agency and University of Malta.

In this session, we have the honour of hosting representatives of the [National Literacy Agency](#), [MCAST](#) and the [University of Malta](#) to discuss the impact of literacy in Malta:

“Exploring Adult Literacy in a contemporary context”

Literacy is one of the key competences in the European Framework for Key Competences for Lifelong learning. This is defined as the ability to identify, understand, express, create and interpret concepts, feelings and opinions in both oral and written forms using different media. Individuals with low levels of literacy are more likely to experience difficulties in their daily lives with a possible impact on health outcomes, employability and other daily aspects. This webinar will discuss key facets of literacy with a focus on adults, and the role of adult education in this process. Critical literacy is also another important topic particularly in the digital world context.

The Session Programme

14:00- 14:00 Welcome from EPALE NSS Malta
14.10-14.15 Introduction by Moderator - Ramon Mangion

14.15-14:55

Open discussion by the panel focusing on the following topics:

- An understanding of Literacy
- The importance of Literacy in our daily lives
- Local Challenges within the current world context
- The role of Adult education
- Initiatives by Local Entities - MCAST, University of Malta, National Literacy Agency
- Critical Literacy

14.55-15.00 Closing Remarks

For more information, kindly follow this link to the [EPALE Event post with a registration link.](#)

EPALE NSS Malta Presenter



Natasha Fabri

EPALE NSS Malta Project Officer

Lifelong Learning, [Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Employability](#) in Malta.

Project Officer at the Directorate for Lifelong Learning responsible for the EPALE Project. Natasha has been actively involved in adult learning for over 20 years, specifically in the English language learning sector.

Our speakers



[Mr Ramon Mangion](#)

Director [MCAST](#) / EPALE NSS Malta Ambassador

Ramon Mangion is the Director for Education & Training Programmes and Learning Support at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology. He joined MCAST in 2010, following a brief period in the private sector working in tourism & hospitality, EU funding, accreditation, and the development of training programmes for industry. He was involved in curriculum development for key MCAST, and national projects related to national vocational qualifications, home-grown curricula, and work-based learning. He worked on piloting the ECVET credit system, EQAVET, and the National Quality Assurance Framework for Further and Higher Education. He has lectured in various adult education settings. He also contributed as external verifier for SEC and SEAC vocational subjects in secondary schools. In 2016, he won the award for the most engaged EPALE Ambassador and has continued to contribute as EPALE Ambassador since then.



Dr. Lara Ann Vella

Coordinator of the Language Policy in Education Unit at the [National Literacy Agency](#)

In her role she coordinates research projects within the Agency on language use and literacy practices and works with parents and educators on the promotion of multilingualism in schools and families. She holds a Master's Degree in Applied Language Studies from the University of Malta and a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Lancaster University. Her research interests involve language ideologies and language, bilingualism and language policies in education.



Prof. Peter Mayo

Professor Peter Mayo is Professor and holds the UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education at the [University of Malta](#). He has produced 24 books, only eight being edited, and over 150 articles in either refereed journals or as chapters in books

One of these was translated and published in seven other languages. He is founding editor of the journal, Postcolonial Directions in Education, from which he has just retired after ten years as co-editor, and currently edits Convergence. An International Adult Education Journal. He edits three book series for Brill, Palgrave-Macmillan and Bloomsbury Academic.

In 2019, he was inducted into the International Adult Continuing Education Hall of Fame.



[Dr Mario Cardona](#)

Deputy Principal VPET(Arts and Social Sciences) [MCAST](#)

Dr Mario Cardona graduated with a B.Ed. (Hons.) in History and Early and Middle Years from the University of Malta. He subsequently focused on adult education and training, and community development, with a Laurea from Roma Tre University, a M.Ed. from the University of Malta and a PhD from the University of Edinburgh. He has an academic and professional interest in adult education and training, community education and development, co-operatives, VET, visual and performing arts, and issues related to education and social justice. He participates in European policy fora and has published books and papers related to his area of expertise. He carries out voluntary work in a rural co-operative at Manikata and in a community-based music school at Qormi.