

Kirki Kefalea

Academic Position: Professor of Comparative Religious Literature

Social Theology and the Study of Religion.

School of Theology

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Telephone: +30 210 7275817

E-mail: kkefalea@soctheol.uoa.gr



1994 PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Saarland (Germany): *Das Land der Griechen: Studien zur Griechenlandrezeption in der modernen europäischen Erzählliteratur*. Würzburg, Königshausen & Neumann, 1995. (*The Land of the Greeks. Studies of the perception of Greece in contemporary European novel*). Scholarship from the Foundation of Friedrich Ebert (“Magna cum Laude”)

1991 Studies in French Language and Literature: Licence de Lettres Modernes (“Assez Bien”) at the University of Saarland (Germany)

1989 Studies in French Language and Literature: Diplome d’ Etudes Universitaires Generales (D.E.U.G.) at the Institut Francais d’ Athenes

1990 Studies in German Language and Literature at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Administrative work:

2022-2023: Director of the MA Programmes of the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion.

2021-2022: Director of the Sector of the Study of Religion, Philosophy and Sociology.

2015-2020: Vice President of the Department of Social Theology and Religion.

Research areas:

- a) Comparative Literature
- b) History of European Literature – History of Modern Greek Literature
- c) The perception of Greece in modern European Literature (“Imagology”)
- d) The relation between Literature and Religion
- e) The influence of the Bible in modern European and modern Greek Literature

Graduate Courses:

- Comparative Religious Literature
- Religious Issues in Modern Greek Literature
- The *Apocalypse of St. John* in 20th Century Literature
- Methodology of Academic Research

Post-Graduate Courses:

- Introduction of Modern Greek Literature
- Bible and Literature
- Comparative Religious Literature



Courses in English Language:

Participation to the course entitled “Contemporary Greece: History, Arts and Letters” for the incoming Erasmus students of the School of Philosophy of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Teaching experience in other academic Institutions:

Teaching at the Hellenic Open University in 2007-2008, 2017-2020 in the thematic field “History of European Literature”.

Publications

1. *Das Land der Griechen. Studien zur Griechenlandrezeption in der modernen europäischen Erzählliteratur.* Königshausen und Neumann, Würzburg 1995, (*The Land of the Greeks. Studies of the perception of Greece in modern European novel*)
2. *Οργή Θεού. Οι ελληνικές εκδοχές της «Ελεονώρας» του Μπύργκερ*, Νεφέλη, Αθήνα 1999 (*The anger's God. The Greek versions of "Eleonor" of Bürger*)
3. «Μη μου άπτου»: η εικόνα της Μαγδαληνής στη νεοελληνική ποίηση, Ίνδικτος 2004, Gutenberg 2015 (*"Nolimetangere": The image of Mary Magdalene in Modern Greek Poetry*)
4. *Μεταμορφώσεις της Σελήνης. Ανθολογία ποιημάτων για το φεγγάρι.* Gutenberg, Αθήνα 2013 (*The transformations of the Moon: Anthology of poems about the Moon*)
5. «Κραταιά ως θάνατος αγάπη...»: Το Άσμα Ασμάτων στη νεοελληνική λογοτεχνία, Gutenberg 2015 (*"Love as strong as Death ...": The Song of Songs in Modern Greek Literature*)
6. *Τοπία της ψυχής. Μελέτες για τη νεότερη λογοτεχνία*, Αρμός 2018 (*Landscapes of the soul. Studies for the modern Literature*)

Translations – Editions

1. *Η ελληνική εμπειρία του John Fowles.* Ολκός 1996. (*The Greek Experience of John Fowles*)
2. *Αριάδνη ή Η λησμονιά* του Michel Deon, Χατζηνικολή 1999 (*Ariane or the forgetfulness a play by Michel Deon*)
3. *Η ελληνική εμπειρία: Κείμενα του Διεθνούς Λογοτεχνικού Συμποσίου των Δελφών*, 2004, Νεφέλη 2006 (*The Greek Experience: Texts of the International Symposium of Delphi in 2004*)
4. *Γνωριμία με την Ελλάδα* του Ζακ Λακαριέρ, Χατζηνικολή 2008 (*Knowing Greece of Jacques Lacarriere*)

- In October 1996 I was awarded for my book *Das Land der Griechen. Studien zur Griechenlandrezeption in der modernen europäischen Erzählliteratur*, the "Laurence Durrell Literary Prize" of Antibes (France).
- In 1998 I wrote the screenplay for the Documentary Film on John Fowles, "The return of the Magus" (directed by Mike Pierce).
<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3434507/>

International Collaborations (mentioned indicatively)

- Seminar Course entitled "Identities & Politics in the 21st century", in the framework of the required course "Sociology of Religion", of the Assistant Professor Dr. Nikolaos Denaxas, with Dr. Nancy Snow, Professor Emeritus of California State University and Fellowship of Panteio University and Dr. Eirini Kotsovili, Assistant Professor of the Department of Global Humanities of Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.
- Organization of the Hellenic-Canadian Symposium in Collaboration at NKUA with the Department of Global Humanities of Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, Canada) and the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion (NKUA). The title of the Symposium was "The Stranger" (ΟΞένοϛ), which took place at the School of Theology of Athens with the participation of Greek and Canadian students and scholars (28/05/2023).
- Lecture at the Department of Global Humanities of Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada (27/01/2023). The title of my Lecture was "Contemporary modern Greek woman writing: the example of Katerina Anghelaki-Rooke".
- Participation at the International Conference of the School of Theology of NKUA entitled "Christian Asia Minor 19th-20th century". The title of my Lecture was "The collective memory and the refugee issue in the literary work of Yorgos Ioannou" (November 2022).
- Participation at the Symposium of the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion of NKUA entitled "Theology meets other Sciences and Arts". The title of my paper was "The Revelation of St John in modern Greek poetry". Central Building of University of Athens (Athens, 28/5/2022).
- Participation at the International Conference of the Department of German Language and Literature (in collaboration with the University of Vechta) on "Die Aegais in Literatur, Geschichte, Kultur, Mythos". The title of my paper was, "Die Aegais-Erfahrung in der zeitgenössischen europäischen Erzählliteratur am Beispiel von John Fowles, Jacques Lacarriere und Klaus Hönig". University of Athens (21-23/11/2019).
- Participation at the World Meeting of the German Foundation Friedrich-Ebert, as former scholar, together with other former scholars from all over the world in Berlin on the subject "International Discussion about challenges for Germany in Europe" (15-19/11/2017).

- Cooperation for the International Conference entitled “The Holocaust: diachronic and interdisciplinary approaches”, organized by the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion in collaboration with UNIC, Goethe Institut, Cervantes Institut, and the Embassies of Israel, Romania and Poland (3-5/10/2017).
- Organization of the visit and Lecture of Professor Dorothy Figuiera, University of Georgia (USA), entitled “The ‘Problem’ of Religion and the Need for an Ethical Component in Reading the Other” at University of Athens (Mai 2017).
- Participation in the Horizon European Projects as member of the research group with coordinator Professor Sotirios Despotis, Department of Social Theology and the study of Religion, University of Athens (February 2017).
- Participation at the Memorandum of “European Academy of Religion”, as representative Faculty Member of School of the School of Theology, Bologna (Italy), organized under the auspices of European Union (December 2016).
- Participation at the International Conference on the “Song of Songs in the Jewish and Christian Literature”, organized by the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion, School of Theology, University of Athens (Dourouteio Cultural Centre, 19/10/2016). The title of my lecture, “The Song of Songs in Modern Greek Poetry”.
- Participation at the 21st Conference of International Association of General and Comparative Literature as representative Faculty Member of School of Theology of University of Athens (Vienna 21-27/7/2016), - Participation at a scientific colloquium in a research group on “Literature, Religion and Ethics”.
- Lectured at the Metropolitan State University of Denver (Colorado, USA), in October 2015: the title of my lecture “Contemporary female poetry in Greece: the poetic work of Katerina Angelaki-Rooke”.
- Collaboration with MacFarland Publishing House (USA), in January 2015, for the publication of the book, *John Fowles in Film and Video*. I contributed to the with a chapter entitled “John Fowles, The return of the Magus”, dedicated to the Documentary film “The return of the Magus” (1998), in which I wrote the script (1998).
- Participation at the European Thematic Network “Framework for the Humanities and the Arts” (Field area: Theology); Coordinator: University of Groningen, Netherlands (2010-2011)
- Participation at the World Conference of the International Association of Comparative Literature, held in Seoul (South Korea), as representative Faculty Member of the School of Theology, University of Athens(15-21/8/2010).
- Member of the International Association of General and Comparative Literature- Member of the Greek Association of General and Comparative Literature since 2015.

International Relations

- 2020- Deanship Member of International Relations of School of Theology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
- 2020- Member of International Relations Committee of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

ERASMUS & CIVIS collaborations

- Since July 2024 I was awarded of Civis Hub2 Co-Chair Coordinator (Society, Culture and Heritage) of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
- Lectures I gave at the Church Theology School of Cyprus (Nicosia) in the framework of the Erasmus Mobility Agreement Programme (10/04/2024).
- Lectures I gave at the Institute fur Orthodoxe Theologie at Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München (Germany) in the framework of Erasmus Mobility Agreement Programme (11/11/2021 & 12/11/2021).
- Since 2019 I'm representative of my Department for CivisProgramme (European Civic Alliance).
- From 2005 I'm responsible for Erasmus Programme of my Department for the Universities of Strasbourg (France), Innsbruck (Austria) and, since 2019, for the Church Theology School (Cyprus) and the University of Malta.

In addition to the above, I wish to mention the **Educational Trip to Skiathos island** "Exploring the world of Alexandros Papadiamantis", which I organized (12-15/05/2022), in collaboration with the Deanship of the School of Theology (University of Athens) and the Municipality of Skiathos island, with the participation of Greek and foreign students of University of Athens. Scientific responsible: Kirki Kefalea.

The spin-off of the educational visit established links with the local community (MoU between NKUA and Municipality of Skiathos island, 2024).