

# Kirki Kefalea

Academic Position: Professor of Comparative Religious Literature  
Social Theology and the Study of Religion.  
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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- : Director of Postgraduate Studies 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 (*"Noli me tangere": 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)**

1. Member of the International Comparative Literature Association - Member of the Greek Comparative Literature Association – Elected Member of the Committee from 2015 to 2018
2. Participation in the World Conference of the International Comparative Literature Association, held in Seoul (South Korea), as representative Faculty Member of the School of Theology, University of Athens (15-21/8/2010)
3. Participation in the European Thematic Network “Framework for the Humanities and the Arts” (Field: Theology); Coordinator: University of Groningen, Netherlands (2010-2011)
4. Collaboration with Mac Farland Publishing House (USA), in January 2015, for the publication of the book, *John Fowles in Film and Video*. I contributed to the book with a chapter entitled “John Fowles, The return of the Magus”, dedicated to the Documentary film “The return of the Magus”, for which I wrote the script (1998).
5. Lectured at the Metropolitan State University of Denver (Colorado, USA), in October 2015: title of my lecture: “Contemporary female poetry in Greece: the poetic work of Katerina Angelaki-Rook”.
6. Participation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of International Association of General and Comparative Literature as representative Faculty Member of the School of Theology, University of Athens (Vienna 21-27/7/2016), - Participation in a scientific colloquium in a research group on “Literature, Religion and Ethics”.
7. Participation in 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, Athens, 19/10/2016). Title of my lecture: “The *Song of Songs* in Modern Greek Poetry”.
8. Participation in the Memorandum of “European Academy of Religion”, as representative Faculty Member of the School of Theology, Bologna (Italy) organized under the auspices of European Union (December 2016).
9. 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).

10. 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” (May 2017)
11. 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).
12. Participation in the World Meeting of the German Foundation Friedrich-Ebert, as former scholar, together with other former scholars from all over the world, held in Berlin on the subject “International Discussion about challenges for Germany in Europe” (15-19/11/2017).
13. Participation in the International Conference of the Department of German Language and Literature (in collaboration with the University of Vechta) on “Die Ägäis in Literatur, Geschichte, Kultur, Mythos”. The title of my paper: “Die Ägäis-Erfahrung in der zeitgenössischen europäischen Erzählliteratur am Beispiel von John Fowles, Jacques Lacarrière und Klaus Höning”. (University of Athens, 21-23/11/2019).
14. Lectured at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich on “The Bible in Modern Greek Literature” at the Institut für Othodoxe Theologie, in the framework of Mobility Agreement Staff Mobility for Teaching (Munich 10-11/11/2021).
15. Participation in a Meeting of the Department of Social Theology and the Study of Religion entitled “Theology meets other Sciences and Arts”. The title of my paper: “The Revelation of St John in Modern Greek poetry”. Central Building of University of Athens (Athens, 28/5/2022).

### **ERASMUS & CIVIS**

Since 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)

Since 2019 I’m representative of my Department for Civis Programme (European Civic Alliance)

### **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.

**Educational Trip to Skiathos island** “Exploring the world of Alexandros Papadiamantis”, 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 (12-15/5/2022).