

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Dimitrios A. Vasilakis

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Contact Details

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Greece

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Current Position

Assistant Professor (tenure track) of
Philosophy of Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages
at the Philosophy Department of the University of Ioannina (Greece)

Websites

<https://uoi.academia.edu/DVasilakis>
<https://philosophy.uoi.gr/en/didaskontes/dimitrios-vasilakis/>

Area of Specialization (AOS):

Ancient Greek Philosophy, esp. Late Antiquity:
Neoplatonism (Pagan and Christian)

Areas of Competence (AOC):

Greek Patristics, Medieval Philosophy (Byzantine)
and Modern Greek Philosophy

Personal details

Born in 1986 in Athens.
Married; father of one daughter.

**Education and
Previous Positions held**

Universität Erfurt

2022-2023 Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter for a DFG Project on the Reception of Dionysius the Areopagite (Project number 469331324; Philosophische Fakultät, Lehrstuhl für Kultergeschichte des orthodoxen Christentums)

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

2020-2022 Adjunct Lecturer (Department of Philosophy: Teaching Fellow)

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU Munich)

[2018-2019 Parental leave]

2016-2017 Post-Doc/ Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter of the DFG Project "Natur in politischen Ordnungsentwürfen: Antike – Mittelalter – Frühe Neuzeit" (FOR 1986) (Teilprojekt 2) (Winter and Summer Semester)

2015-2016 Werkvertrag for research assistance (Winter Semester)

2015 Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter (for teaching - Summer Semester)

2014-2015 Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft (for tutorials - Winter Semester)

King's College London (KCL)

2011-2014 PhD in Philosophy

PhD thesis: *Neoplatonic Love: The Metaphysics of Eros in Plotinus, Proclus and the Pseudo-Dionysius* (: Pass without corrections; [https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/dimitrios-vasilakis\(1cc3c059-afb7-4606-9e25-24fe6efd6eb1\)/theses.html](https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/dimitrios-vasilakis(1cc3c059-afb7-4606-9e25-24fe6efd6eb1)/theses.html))

Primary Supervisor: Prof. Peter Adamson

Secondary Supervisors: Prof. M.M. McCabe

Dr Raphael Woolf

Dr Shaul Tor

CV: D.A. VASILAKIS

- Examiners: Prof. John Dillon (Dublin)
Prof. Pavlos Kalligas (Athens)
- 2013 Visitor for the Summer Semester at LMU, MuSAΦ: Munich School of Ancient Philosophy
- 2010-2011 Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
Dissertation: *The ontological status of Eros in Plotinus' treatise III.5: "On love"*
Supervisor: Prof. Peter Adamson
Examiner: Dr Raphael Woolf
- 2010 June Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice: Introduction to Learning & Teaching in Higher Education. King's Learning Institute
- 2009-2010 Master of Arts, (MA) in the History of Philosophy
Dissertation: "Aspects of Nature and of its relation to Craft in Plotinus with specific reference to the Aristotelian background"
Primary Supervisor: Prof. Peter Adamson
- [2008-2009 Compulsory military service]
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2004-2008 BA (Ptychion) from the Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy, Psychology (ΦΠΨ); School of Philosophy

Publications

I. Book

Vasilakis, Dimitrios A. 2021: *Eros in Neoplatonism and its Reception in Christian Philosophy: Exploring Love in Plotinus, Proclus and Dionysius the Areopagite*, Bloomsbury Academic, London, NY, Oxford, New Delhi, Sydney.

- A book review was published by S. Klitenic-Wear in *The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition*, 15:1 (2021), 117-119.

Vasilakis, D.A. 2023: *Dionysius the Areopagite between Faith and Scepticism: Aspects of His Reception in Twentieth-Century Orthodoxy*, Universität Erfurt (Erfurter Vorträge zur Kulturgeschichte des Orthodoxen Christentums, 22), Erfurt.

[ISSN 1618-7555 / ISBN 978-3-949369-03-2]

II. Articles

Peer-reviewed

Vasilakis, D.A. 2024: "Towards a Dialectical Relation between Form and Content: Reading Plotinus' *Enn.*III.5.[50] via the *Phaedrus*?", *The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition*, 18:1 (April 2024), 64-87.

-, 2021: "Love as Descent: Comparing the Models of Proclus and Dionysius through Eriugena", *Religions*, 12:9 (2021): no.726 (pp.1-13: <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel12090726>).

-, 2019a: "Neoplatonic Providence and Descent: a Test-Case from Proclus' *Alcibiades Commentary*", *The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition*, 13:2 (2019), 153-171.

-, 2019b: "Hellenism and Christianity: Petros Vrailas-Armenis on the Constituents of Modern Greek Identity", *Akropolis*, 3 (2019), 88-108.

-, 2017: "Dionysius *versus* Proclus on Undefined Providence and its Byzantine Echoes in Nicholas of Methone", *Studia Patristica*, vol.XCVI/22 (2017), 407-418.

-, 2016: "Maximus as a Philosophical Interpreter of Dionysius: the Case of Christ as Manic Lover", *Θεολογία*, 87:2 (April-June 2016), 103-112.

-, 2015: "Love and myth in Plotinus' *Enneads* III.5", *Diotima. Review of Philosophical Research*, 43 (2015), 68-75.

-, 2014: "Platonic Hermeneutics from the Socratic View-point in Plato's *Meno*", *Πλάτων: Περιοδικὸ τῆς Ἐταιρείας Ἑλλήνων Φιλολόγων*, 59 (2013-2014), 156-166.

In collective volumes

Vasilakis, D.A. 2023: "The Hermeneutics of Dionysius the Areopagite's Platonic Writing Style", in E. Anagnostou-Laoutides and Ken Parry (eds), *Later Platonists and Their Heirs among Christians, Jews, and Muslims*, Brill, Leiden-Boston, pp.111-130.

-, 2021a: "A Neo-Platonic Dialogue on the Ethics of Love", in K. Grødum, H.F. Hägg, J. Kaufman & T.T. Tollefsen (eds), *Love – Ancient Perspectives: The Metochi*

Seminar, Cappelen Damm Akademisk, NOASP (Nordic Open Access Scholarly Publishing), Oslo, pp.81-99.

Βασιλάκης, Δ.Α. 2021b: «Θεανθρωπισμός χριστιανικός και παγανιστικός: συγκριτική εξέταση δύο αντιπροσωπευτικών παραδειγμάτων» (“Christian and Pagan God-manhood: comparison of two representative examples”), in Κ.Χ. Καραγκούνης, π. Δ. Κουτσούρης, Σ.Γ. Κωσταρά, Μ.Κ. Μαντζανάς (επιμ.), *1ο Διεπιστημονικό Συνέδριο Α.Ε.Α.Α. «Χριστιανισμός και Ανθρωπισμός», 6-8 Νοεμβρίου 2019, Πρακτικά (Proceedings)*, εκδ. Παπαζήση, Athens, pp.39-52.

Vasilakis, D.A. 2019: “On the Meaning of Hierarchy in Dionysius the Areopagite”, in P.G. Pavlos, L.F. Janby, E.K. Emilsson and T.T. Tollefsen (eds), *Platonism and Christian Thought in Late Antiquity*, Routledge, London and New York, pp.181-200. A revised and updated version of this paper appeared in Greek: “Η έννοια της ιεραρχίας στον Διονύσιο Αρεοπαγίτη”, in Μ.Γ. Μουζάλα (ed.), *Αρχαία Φιλοσοφικά Θέματα στην Πατερική και Βυζαντινή Φιλοσοφία [Ancient Philosophical Themes in Patristic and Byzantine Philosophy]*, Papazisis, Athens, 2023, pp.175-210.

-, 2017: “Platonic Eros, Moral Egoism, and Proclus”, in D.D. Butorac and D.A. Layne (eds), *Proclus and his Legacy*, De Gruyter (‘Millennium Studies’ series, vol.65), Berlin-Boston, pp.45-52.

III. Book-Reviews

Vasilakis, D.A. 2021: “Plotinus, Love and Metaphysics”: Review of Bertozzi (A.) *Plotinus on Love. An Introduction to his Metaphysics through the Concept of Eros*, Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2021. *The Classical Review*, 72:1 (2021), 121-123.

-, 2019: Review of S. Mitralaxis, G. Steiris et al. (eds), *Maximus the Confessor as a European Philosopher*, Cascade, Eugene, Oregon, 2017. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, 93:3 (2019), 579a-583b.

Βασιλάκης, Δ.Α.: Βιβλιοκρισία για το: G. Karamanolis, *The Philosophy of Early Christianity*, Acumen, Durham, 2013. *Κριτικά* 13 (2014): <<http://www.philosophica.gr/critica/2014-13.html>>.

Scholarships, Awards and Prizes

2023 The Research Project Proposal "Gender and Sex in the Philosophy of Late Antiquity and Early Christianity" was chosen to be financed by the K.A. Tsagadas Foundation Trust (NKUA). The research team is comprised by Prof. G. Steiris (NKUA), Assoc. Prof. E. An-

agnostou-Laoutides (Macquarie University) and Ass. Prof. D.A. Vasilakis (University of Ioannina).

- 2022 Award for excellence in teaching by the NKUA, Philosophy Dept.
- 2020-2021 Initialisierungsstipendium (Initialization Scholarship) from the University of Erfurt, Germany (Summer and Winter Semesters)
- 2010-2013 AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council) scholarship for PhD study
- 2011-2012 Holder of KCL Graduate School Conference Grants, Arts & Humanities Small Grants for Research Students, Philosophy Department Bursary (for Conferences)
- 2010-2013 "A.G. Leventis Foundation" annual Grants
- 2009-2014 Academy of Athens Scholarship and Scholarship by the Foundation "Lilian Voudouris" for Postgraduate studies.
- 2013 "Honourable mention for a GTA excellence in teaching award" (KCL Philosophy Dept.; see below)
- 2012 King's (KCL)-AHRC Research & Training Support Grant
- 2011 "Honourable mention for an excellence in teaching award" (KCL Philosophy Dept.; see below)
- 2009 "Andreadis Prize" by the University of Athens (for graduation with the highest mark in the faculty: "Excellent"-09.70/10.00-grade A+)
- 2004-2008 Annual Scholarships and Prizes by the I.K.Y. (State Scholarship Foundation) due to excellent marks (9.40; 9.90; 9.60; 9.90)

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops

As participant

Abstract peer-reviewed

- June 2025 "Firm or Flexible? The Sun of Justice according to Dionysius the Areopagite", 22nd Annual International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS) Conference, Athens (Panel on "Firm and Flexible Reality in the Neoplatonic Tradition")
- Nov. 2024 "Post-humanism as Theanthropism: on the Dialectics of the Two Versions of 'divine and human eros'", in PHAICON 2024 (Post-

- Humanism and Artificial Intelligence International Scientific Conference), Athens
- Jan. 2023 "Dionysian Apophaticism in 20th Century Orthodox Discourse: A Way out from the Western Secular Impasse?", 2nd IOTA (International Orthodox Theological Association) Mega-Conference, Volos (Greece)
- July 2022 "The Dionysian notion of hierarchy in Palamas' oeuvre", in the conference on "St Gregory Palamas and Hesychasm: Past and contemporary challenges and perspectives", Holy Metropolis of Trimythountos, Cyprus
- June 2022 "From Love to Descent through providence; or from Proclus to Eriugena through Dionysius", 19th Annual ISNS Conference 2022, Athens
- June 2021 "Dionysius' Christ versus Proclus' Socrates: how to provide (or polemicize) in an unmixed way", 18th Annual ISNS Conference 2021 (Panel on "Platonism and Christian Thought in Late Antiquity and Byzantium: Rivals, alliances, or merely a continuum?"), online (via Zoom)
- June 2021 "Love and Platonic Descent: some consequences in Proclus and Dionysius", in the online Conference "The Reception of Plato from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages", Macquarie University, Sydney and National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
- Febr. 2021 Presentation of my book on *Eros in Neoplatonism and Its Reception in Christian Philosophy* at the 1st Online Edinburgh Byzantine Book Festival (<https://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology/news-events/events-archive/2020/1st-online-edinburgh-byzantine-book-festival>)
- Dec. 2016 "Neoplatonic Descent: A Proclean Example with a Dionysian Counterpart" in the Workshop "Platonism and Christian Thought in Late Antiquity", Oslo
- August 2015 "Dionysius versus Proclus on Undefined Providence" in the XVII. International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford
- August 2013 "Aspects of the erotic way of life in Proclus" in the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy, Athens
- June 2013 "Petros Brailas-Armenis and the constituents of Modern-Greek identity" in the Conference: "Reflections on Identity", Berlin

- Dec. 2012 “The Platonic question of egoism and the Proclean ideal lover”, in the Conference “Arxai: Proclus Diadochus of Constantinople and his Abrahamic Interpreters”, Istanbul
- Oct. 2012 “Platonic Eros, moral egoism and Proclus” in the International Plato Society first regional Meeting, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- June 2012 “Love and Myth in Plotinus Enneads, III.5” in the X Conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS), Cagliari, Sardinia
- January 2012 “Love and Myth in Plotinus *Enneads*, III.5” in Master-Class KNAW/OIKOS “Expanding the Canon of Ancient Philosophy”, Amsterdam

Invited

- Oct. 2024 “The Sun of Justice in Dionysius the Areopagite”, in the Colloque franco-hellénique “L’œil et le soleil: Réflexions sur la lumière et le feu dans la pensée de l’antiquité”, Ioannina (Philosophy Department and CNRS Léon Robin)
- Oct. 2024 “The reception of Dionysian ‘hierarchy’ in Gregory Palamas’ work”, in the conference on “Order and Hierarchy in Late Antique and Byzantine Thought”, (Institute for South-East European Studies, Romanian Academy and New Europe College), Bucharest
- April 2024 «Από τη δυστοπία στην ευτροπία: μερικά πλατωνικά παραδείγματα» (“From dystopia to eutopia: some Platonic examples”), in the Conference on «Ηθικές δυστοπίες στη Φιλοσοφία και στη Λογοτεχνία» (“Ethical Dystopias in Philosophy and Literature”), Ioannina, (Departments of Philosophy and Philology, University of Ioannina)
- Jan. 2023 “Dionysius the Areopagite between Faith and Scepticism: His Reception in the Twentieth Century”, Maimonides Lecture on Scepticism, MCAS (Maimonides Centre for Advance Studies), Universität Hamburg
- July 2022 “Reading the *Symposium* through *Alcibiades I*: Proclus on the problem of egoism”, International Workshop “In the Mood for Love: Socrates' Legacy on *Eros*”, University of Crete (Rethymno), hybrid event

- July 2022 Two lectures for the Summer School/Study in Greece “Ancient Cities, Empires and the Modern World”, NKUA, Athens
- June 2022 “Towards a Dialectical Relation between Form and Content: Reading Plotinus’ *Enn.*III.5.[50] via the *Phaedrus?*”, Workshop on Intellect and Soul in Alexandrian Neoplatonism (within the frame of the Project “Between Athens and Alexandria: Platonism, 3rd-7th c. CE”), IMS (Institute for Mediterranean Studies), Rethymno
- May 2022 “Eros in Neoplatonism and Dionysius the Areopagite”, online discussion of my 2021 book, hosted by the Dionysius Circle (<https://dionysiuscircle.org/>)
- April 2022 «Πλατωνικός έρωσ και νεοπλατωνισμός» (“Platonic Eros and Neoplatonism”), 2nd Open Lecture Cycle of the NKUA Philosophy Dept. («Αφορμές Διαλόγου»), online
- Jan. 2022 “The Reception of the *Corpus Areopagiticum* in the 20th Century Orthodox World: Ambiguities and Particularities”, Graduate Colloquium on the Cultural History of Orthodox Christianity (Online, Universität Erfurt).
- Dec. 2021 Two Guest Lectures (on Plotinus and Dionysius the Areopagite) in the context of Prof. G. Steiris’ Postgraduate Module on Renaissance Philosophy (M.A. in Philosophy course of the Dept. of Philosophy at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens).
- Dec. 2020 One Guest Lecture on Plotinus in the context of Prof. G. Steiris’ Postgraduate Module on Renaissance Philosophy (MA in Philosophy, Dept. of Philosophy, NKUA).
- June 2020 Presentation of the intended Research Project: “Dionysius the Areopagite’s Reception among Key Thinkers of the 20th century Orthodox World (V. Lossky, Fr. Sophrony, Chr. Yannaras, J. Zizioulas)” at the Online Graduiertenkolloquium zur Kulturgeschichte des Orthodoxen Christentums (Universität Erfurt).
- Oct. 2019 “Two Themes from the Work of Prof. Mark Edwards”, IV Colloquium Adamantianum, The Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism, University of Cambridge
- May 2015 “Platonic Eros, Moral Egoism and Proclus”, Metochi Study Centre (University of Agder), in Mytilini/Lesvos

- August 2013 Selected by KCL to participate in the Cornell Reading Group on Aristotle's *Eudemian Ethics*, book IV, held at the University of Cornell, Ithaca, NY
- June 2012 "Modern Greek identity and philosophy in the work of Petros Brailas-Armenis (1812-1884)" in the workshop "An Immortal Debate: Philosophy", KCL, Centre for Hellenic Studies, London
- July 2011 Translation and comments in collaboration with Adam Crager (of *Parva Naturalia*, 458b25-459a22) at the Princeton University-University of Crete Summer Workshop in Ancient Philosophy

**As (co-)organizer
and convener of**

- May 2024 Research Project: Sex and Gender in Late Antiquity and Early Christianity: Round Table and announcement of the forthcoming issue in the *Conatus Journal of Philosophy*, Athens (NKUA)
- Oct. 2017 Conference on "Philosophy in Byzantium: The Order of Nature and Order of Humankind" (Oct. 5-6, MuSAΦ, LMU, Munich; co-organized with Peter Adamson and Jonathan Greig)
- May 2012 talk by D. Vasilakis "Neoplatonic Love and Plotinus", Goodenough College London
- March 2012 talk by R. Woolf, "Platonic Love and the Individual", Goodenough College London
- Dec. 2011 talk by P. Adamson, "The Reception of Greek Philosophy in the Islamic World," Goodenough College London

Teaching Experience

Postgraduate (PG) Courses

University of Ioannina in collaboration with the University of Crete
(Departments of Philosophy, Pedagoggy and Socias Sciences: ΔΔΠΙΜΣ
Greek Philosophy - Philosophy of Sciences)

- 2025 Spring Modern Greek Philosophy (Topic: "Themes and Figures" ΔΕΦ 202)

- 2024 Fall Issues Concerning Philosophical Historiography (Topic: “From Aristotle to Bernard Williams” ΔΕΦ 302)
- 2024 Spring Greek Philosophy and European Culture (Topic: “The Neoplatonic Reception of the *Symposium*” ΔΕΦ 402)

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

MA Philosophy:

“History of Philosophy and Ideas (Greek Philosophy)”

- 2024 Fall Ancient Philosophy (taught in English)

Undergraduate (UG) Courses

University of Ioannina

- 2025 Spring Ancient Greek Philosophy III (ΦΣ-Υ602)
- 2024 Fall Ancient Greek Philosophy II (ΦΣ-Υ301)
- 2024 Spring Byzantine Philosophy (ΦΣ-ΕΦ602) [also in 2025 Spring]
- 2024 Spring Special Topics in the Philosophy of the Middle Ages (ΦΣ-ΕΦ817)
- 2023 Fall Special Topics in Ancient Greek Philosophy V: Philosophy of Late Antiquity (ΦΣ-ΕΦ701: Plotinus, *Enneads* V.1.[10])
- 2023 Fall Philosophy of the Middle Ages (ΦΣ-ΕΦ517)
- 2023 Fall Workshop on Research Methodology I: Basic Principles of Research in Philosophy (ΦΣ-Υ105) [also in 2024 Fall]

NKUA

- 2022 Spring Ancient Greek Philosophy I: Presocratic Period (73ΦΛΣ226)
- 2022 Spring Ancient Greek Philosophy V: Political Philosophy (73ΦΛΣ229)
- 2021 Spring Introduction to Ancient Greek Philosophy (66ΦΣ20)
- 2020 Fall Philosophy of Nature (73ΦΣ124) [also in 2021 Fall]
- 2020-'21 Fall Greek Philosophy of the Diaspora (73ΦΣ125)

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität

- 2015 Spring Seminar und Lektürekurs on Plato's *Symposium* (in German).

2014-'15 Fall Tutorials for Essaykurs on Freedom and Determinism (in German)

King's College London

2013 Fall Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) for Greek Philosophy
2013 Spring Neoplatonism (GTA)
2012 Fall Greek Philosophy: themes from Plato (GTA)
2012 Spring Greek Philosophy: themes from Aristotle (Teaching Tutor)
2011 Fall Greek Philosophy Revision Sessions (for the federal system)
2011 Spring Various topics of Ancient Greek Philosophy (Tutor)

Other Academic Activities

I have served as

- Primary Supervisor of a PhD
- Secondary Advisor (within the three members committee) of a PhD
- Advisor of an MA Thesis on Plato and Aristotle (2024)
- External Examiner of a D.Phil. thesis on Dionysius the Areopagite at the University of Oxford (the online viva took place on 17 March 2021/24 June 2022); examiner (within the seven members committee) of a PhD on Proclus at the University of Ioannina (viva 22 February 2024); examiner of a PhD on Aquinas-Ockham-Hobbes at the University of Crete (viva 24 April 2024); examiner of a PhD on Plato's Ethics (Univ. of Ioannina, viva 15 July 2024); examiner of a PhD on E. Fromm (on love and his ancient antecedents, Univ. of Ioannina, viva 25 July 2024).
- Reviewer of the Journals *Religions*, *Philosophies*, *Phasis*, *Akropolis*, *Public Realm* and of an ISNS publication.

Languages

English (fluent), *German* (advanced), *French* (reading), *Latin* (reading), *Ancient and Medieval Greek* (proficiency), *Modern Greek* (mother tongue)