

Curriculum Vitae

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Present Positions

9/2015-?: Department of History and Classics, **Hellenic Open University** in Athens. Teaching of the undergraduate e-course *Public and Private Life in Ancient Greece and Byzantium*.

Fall Semester 2007-?: Department of History, **College Year in Athens/DIKEMES**. Teaching of two undergraduates course *Comparative Religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam* and *The Orthodox Church* (**in English**).

Recent Positions

9/2016-2/2017: Department of Education, **University of Crete**. Teaching undergraduates *Ancient History* and **2/2013-7/2013:** Department of History and Archaeology, **University of Crete**. Teaching one undergraduate course *Biography in the Graeco-Roman World* and a seminar *The Religions of Late Antiquity*.

9/2004-7/2011: Department of History and Classics, **Hellenic Open University** in Athens. Teaching of the undergraduate e-course *Introduction to the Greek Civilisation*.

9/2011-2/2012: Historical Advisor for **BBC1** documentary *In the Footsteps of St. Paul*, presenter David Suchet, (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/proginfo/2012/52/david-suchet-st-paul.html>).

Studies

10/1999-8/2003: *PhD* in *Ancient History* at **University College London** in London, England. The title of my thesis was *Early Christian Attitudes to War, Violence and Military Service* and my supervisor was Professor John A. North.

2/1997-9/1999: *MA* in *Ancient History* at the **University of Crete**, in Rethymno, Greece (grade 8 out of 10).

8/1997: Attendance of Danish Language and Culture Classes at the **University of Copenhagen** in Copenhagen, Denmark, with an Erasmus programme.

9/1991-2/1996: *BA in History and Archaeology* at the **University of Crete**, (grade 7.59 out of 10).

6/1991: Graduation from State School, (grade 18.9 out of 20).

Research

8/2018: Research on *Early Christian Fear* at the **Fondation Hardt pour l'étude de l'antiquité classique** in Geneva, Switzerland.

8/2016: Research on *Early Christians at night time* at the **Fondation Hardt**.

10/2004-9/2006: *Post Doc in Ancient History* at the **University of Thessaly** in Volos, Greece. The title of my post doc was *Pious Uses of Wealth in Early Christianity: Bribery and Charity* and my supervisor was Professor Dimitris J. Kyrtatas.

8/1995: Participation in a *Research Programme* at the **Historical Archive of Kyklades** in Hermoupolis, Syros, Greece, under the supervision of the Professor of the University of Crete Christos Loukos.

9/1994: Participation in the *Excavation* of the **Early Christian Basilica of Eleytherna** in Rethymno, under the supervision of the Professor of the University of Crete Petros Themelis.

Scholarships and Grants

1/2005-6/2006: **State Scholarships Foundation (IKY)** for my postdoctoral research.

9/2002-7/2003: **Alexandros Onassis Foundation** for the completion of my thesis.

9/1999-7/2002: **State Scholarships Foundation (IKY)** for my doctoral studies.

8/1997: **University of Copenhagen** to study in Copenhagen.

9/1992-7/1993: **Nautical Home** for the second year of my BA.

9/1991-7/1992: **Pateras Foundation** for being accepted for a BA in History and Archaeology.

4/2016-5/2016: Erasmus Hellenic Open University and University of Zaragoza for lecturing for a week at the **University of Zaragoza** in Spain.

Foreign Languages

6/1999: Academic **IELTS**, (grade 7.5 out of 9).

8/1997: Attendance of **Danish** Language Course at the University of Copenhagen.

3/1996-6/1996: Attendance of **Spanish** Language Course at the University of Crete.

3/1993: Certificate of **Proficiency** in English, University of Oxford, (grade B).

12/1992: Certificate of **Proficiency** in English, University of Cambridge, (grade pass).

10/1989: **Certificato** di conoscenza della lingua Italiana, Scuola Leonardo da Vinci, (grade A).

6/1989: **First Certificate** in English, University of Cambridge, (grade A).

5/1988: Advanced **Proficiency** in English, University of Michigan, (grade pass).

Academic Publications

Books (4)

- *Early Christian Attitudes to War, Violence and Military Service*, **Gorgias Press**, Piscataway NJ 2013, (in English).
- *Epilepsy in Antiquity*, **Hellenic Association Against Epilepsy**, Athens 2013, (in Greek).
- *Apocryphal Acts of Paul and Thecla*, with M. Triantafillou, **Katarti**, Athens 2008, (in Greek).
- *The Byzantine Empire*, **School for tourist guides, OTEK**, Athens 2008, (in Greek).

Articles (14)

- “Religious Violence”, Augustine in Context, Tarmo Toom, ed., **Cambridge University Press**, 2017, p. 195-202.
- “Violence and Corporeal Manhood in Late Roman Times”, **Historika** 64, 2016, p. 175-184.
- “Reading, Book collections and Libraries in the Graeco-Roman World”, **Mnemon** 34, 2015, p. 161-187, (in Greek).
- “*The present and future worlds are enemies to each other. Early Christian Aloofness and Participation in the Pagan World*”, in Richard Alston, Onno M. van Nijf and Christina G. Williamson, ed., **Cults, Creeds and Identities in the Greek City after the Classical Age**, Peeters, Leuven, Paris, Walpole, 2013, p. 289-308, (in English).
- “*I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Illness as Demon Possession in the World of the First Christian Ascetics and Monks*”, **Mental Health, Religion and Culture, Routledge Journals** 14.4, April 2011, p. 323-340, (in English), available also online:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=g769579891~db=all~tab=forthcoming>

- “The Persecutions of Pagans under Christian Rule according to the Theodosian Code (429-435) and the Justinianian Code (529-534)”, *Kritiki Diepistimonikotita* 4, 2011, p. 35-47, (in Greek).
- “Mental Disorders in the Ancient Greek Novels”, *Archaeologia* 118, 2010, p. 53-57, (in Greek).
- “The Presence of Women in the Christian Deserts”, *Embolimon* 56-57, 2008-9, p. 117-132, (in Greek).
- “Early Christian Charity” in Niki Tsironi, (ed.), Τιμή και Τιμημα, *National Hellenic Research Foundation* and *Cultural Society Ainos*, Athens, 2008, p. 37-56, (in Greek).
- “*Semen est sanguis christianorum*: the Dissent Between Tertullian and Cyprian on the Appropriate Christian Behavior During Persecution”, *Ariadni, University of Crete*, 14, 2008, p. 99-124, (in Greek).
- “New Testament Teachings and Readings on the Legitimacy of Warfare”, *Historiein* 6, 2006, p. 7-19, (in English).
- “*Christianos ad leonem*. The Persecutions of Christians. The Case of Perpetua”, *Mnemon* 26, 2004, p. 201-208, (in Greek).
- “Dura Europos. The First Christian Church House”, *Archaeologia* 92, September 2004 p. 99-103, reprinted in newspaper *Kardamyla*, November 2004, p. 3, (in Greek).
- “Caesar the Warrior versus Jesus the Peacemaker?”, *Eulimene* 4, Mediterranean Archaeological Society, University of Crete, 2003, p. 167-180, (in English).

Forthcoming

I am currently writing a book on **Lucian's True Story**.

My next project is to write a book in English on **Medicine and Magic in the Early Christian World**.

Publications for the General Public, (in Greek)

Articles in the Journal Historika Themata (4)

- “Maria Magdalena”, *Historika Themata* 66, October 2007, p. 106-119.
- “Spartacus”, *Historika Themata* 57, December 2006, p. 24-35.
- “Nero”, *Historika Themata* 47, January 2006, p. 68-83.
- “The First Christians in the Roman Army”, *Historika Themata* 30, June 2004, p. 8-19.

E-articles (8)

- "Augustine and Other Brands of Christianity", *Postaugustum* 1, 2017, p. 1-3, www.postaugustum.com, (in English).

- "A Themistian achievement. In tune with imperial propaganda or *those who lie, do not lie without purpose*", *Arxaiologia on line*, 2015, <http://www.archaeology.wiki/blog/2015/12/14/themistian-achievement-tune-imperial-propaganda/>, (in English).
- «Η θρησκευτική πολιτική του αυτοκράτορα Κωνσταντίνου» στο διαδικτυακό τόπο του περιοδικού *Arxaiologia on line*, 2012, in www.archaiologia.gr /blog /2012 /10 /01/ η-θρησκευτική-πολιτική-του-αυτοκράτο/.
- «Η στρατιωτική πολιτική του αυτοκράτορα Κωνσταντίνου», *Historical Quest* 19, 2012, http://www.historical-quest.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=409&Itemid=5.
- 'The Pseudo-Hippocratic Epistles', *Historical Quest* 7, 2011, <http://www.historical-quest.com/el/histquest/135-oi-epistoles-tou-pseudoippokrati.html>, (in Greek).
- 'The History of the Greek Language', *Historical Quest* 3, 2011, <http://www.historical-quest.com/el/arxeio/arxeio11/mesaioniki11/42-istoria-tis-neoellinikis-diglossias.html>, (in Greek).
- 'The Apocryphal Acts of Paul and Thecla' and 'Bibliography for late antiquity', *Hellenic Open University*, <http://class.eap.gr>, then go to: ΕΛΠ 10, εκπαίδευση, ομάδα διδακτικού προσωπικού, επιστημονικές εισηγήσεις, (in Greek).
- My personal site with material potentially useful to my students at the Hellenic Open University: <https://sites.google.com/site/iosifdespelp10>, (in Greek).

Book Reviews (8)

- D. J. Kyrtatas and S. I. Rangos, *Η ελληνική αρχαιότητα: πόλεμος, πολιτική, πολιτισμός*, Athens, 2010, in the newspaper **Kathimerini**, 21 June 2011, p. 14.
- K. Alexopoulou, *Μορφές χρονιότητας στον Όμηρο*, Athens, 2004 in ***Historika Themata*** 42, July-August 2005, p. 129.
- P. Athanassiadi, *Το ημερολόγιο της Περπέτουας*, Athens, 1999, in ***Historika Themata*** 33, October 2004, p. 129-130.
- D. J. Kyrtatas, *Απόκρυφες Ιστορίες. Μύθοι και θρύλοι από τον κόσμο των πρώτων χριστιανών*, Athens, 2003, in ***Historika Themata*** 29, May 2004, p. 129-130, reprinted in ***Alexandros Onassis Bulletin*** 25, September 2004, p. 40-42.
- Brian Campbell, *War and Society in Imperial Rome 31 BC-AD 284*, London and New York, 2002, in ***Historika Themata*** 27, March 2004, p. 128.
- D. J. Kyrtatas, *Κατακτώντας την αρχαιότητα. Ιστοριογραφικές διαδρομές*, Athens, 2002, in ***Historika Themata*** 25, January 2004, p. 126.

- Jonathan Harris, *Byzantium and the Crusades*, London and New York, 2003, in *Historika Themata* 24, December 2003, p. 129-130.
- Ralph W. Mathisen, *People, Personal Expression and Social Relations in Late Antiquity*, University of Michigan Press, 2003, (under publication by *Historika Themata*).

Articles in Newspapers (5)

- “Women Before and After the Advent of Christianity” *Koryschades* 550.21, 2008, p. 13-15.
- “The Apocryphal Tradition on Virgin Mary”, *Aygi*, 15 August 2008, p. 12-13.
- “The Presents of the Three Magi”, *Kathimerini, Epta Imeres*, 31 December 2005-1 January 2006, p. 22-23.
- “The Medical Uses of Mastic in Antiquity”, *Kathimerini, Epta Imeres*, 9 December 2000, p. 2-4, reprinted in another newspaper, *Chiako Bima*, September 2001, p. 3.
- At the moment I am preparing the edition of two supplements for the newspaper *Kathimerini*, one on *Christianity and Violence* and the other on *Late Antique Ethics*.

Contributions in Encyclopedias (1)

- “The biography of Themistocles”, in *The Great Greeks*, ed., **SKY**, Athens, 2009, vol. 1, p. 208-215 and “The biography of Pericles”, in vol. 3, p. 72-85.

Papers Presented in Conferences (17)

- “Beneficial Aspects of Fear in Early Christian Circles”, Colloque franco-hellénique interdisciplinaire, Saisir et gérer la peur: Anthropologie de la peur en Grèce de l’Antiquité à l’ère chrétienne, **Panteion University**, Athens, 13-16 September 2017 (in English).
- “Spoiled for Choice: Pliny’s Natural History 28.63”, **Institut Protestant de Thèologie**, Paris, 1-2 September 2017.
- “Violence and Masculinity in the Graeco-Roman World”, **University of Athens**, 10-12 June 2016, (in Greek).
- “The Myth of Augustine as the Predecessor of Inquisition”, Phanes Seminar, **Norwegian Institute in Rome**, 1-4 June 2016 (in English).
- “A pagan among Christians: Themistius in the Christian court”, Phanes Seminar, **Norwegian Institute in Athens**, 11-13 December 2014 (in English).

- “Religious Overachievers in Antiquity”, Phanes Seminar, **University of Bergen**, Norway, 2-4 November 2013 (**in English**).
- “Snapshots from Unreality. Exorcism in Early Christian Literature”, Demons and Illness Conference, Centre for Medical History, **University of Exeter**, 22-24 April 2013, (**in English**).
- “Money and the Construction of Early Christian Identity”, **European Association of Biblical Studies**, Thessaloniki, 8-11 August 2011, (**in English**).
- “How to buy off a place in heaven?”, **International Medieval Congress of the University of Leeds**, Leeds, 11-14 July 2011, (**in English**).
- “What can Private Letters tell us about the Graeco-Roman World?”, **Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting**, Tartu University, Estonia, 25-29 July 2010, (**in English**).
- “Late Antique Illness as Demon Possession and the Early Christian Ascetics”, **Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting on Biblical Scholarship and Disabilities**, Rome, 30 June -4 July 2009, (**in English**).
- “Early Christian Charity”, Symposium on Euergetism and Philanthropy, **National Hellenic Research Foundation**, Athens, 28 February 2007, (**in Greek**).
- “Illegality and Integration among the Early Christians”, Cults, Creeds and Contests in the Post-Classical Greek City Workshop, International Conference organised by **Royal Holloway**, the **University of Groningen** and the **Institute of Classical Studies**, London, 30-31 March 2006, (**in English**).
- “Virgins and Prostitutes in the Lives of the Early Christian Monks and Ascetics”, Eroticism and Asceticism Conference of the Department of History, **University of Thessaly**, Volos, 5-7 November 2004, (**in Greek**).
- “New Testament Teachings on the Legitimacy of Warfare”, International Conference on Religion and Conflict, **University of Thessaly**, Volos, 11-13 June 2004, (**in English**).
- “Towards the Dating of the Acts of the Christian Martyrs”, Joint Conference of the Classical Association and the Classical Association of Scotland, **University of Edinburgh**, Edinburgh, 5 April 2002, (**in English**).
- “*Militia Christi-Militia Caesaris*. The Relationship between the Temporal and the Eternal Kingdoms”, Seventh Conference of the Centre for Medieval Studies, **University of Bristol**, Bristol, 10 February 2001, (**in English**).

Other Talks (15)

- Series of lectures on Early Christians in Pagan Cities, **Union College**, Classics Faculty, New York, USA, 25 April- 2 May 2017 (**in English**).
- Series of lectures on Violence in Antiquity, **University of Zaragoza**, Spain, 25 April- 2 May 2016 (**in English**).
- «The Medical Uses of Mastic in Antiquity», **Ionian Centre**, Athens, 4-25 November 2012, (in Greek).
- «The Holy Disease in Galen», **University of Crete**, Department of History and Archaeology, Rethymno, Crete, 16 March 2011, (in Greek).
- “The Jewish and the Christian Apocryphal Tradition”, **Society of Egyptian Greeks**, Athens, 23 November 2009, (in Greek).
- “Slavery in the Greek and Roman Period”, with Mr S. Paraskevaidis, Meetings on Rebellion in History, **Association for the Study of History and Society**, Athens, 27 March 2008, (in Greek).
- “The Persecutions of Pagans under Christian Rule according to the Theodosian Code and the Justinianian Code”, Meetings on Discriminations, **Kritiki Diepistimonikotita**, Athens, 29 November 2007, (in Greek).
- “The Apocryphal Acts of Paul and Thecla”, Meeting of the **Hellenic Open University** Teachers, Athens, 5 May 2007 and **Society of Greek Women Scientists** 24 September 2008, (in Greek).
- “Women in Antiquity” with Mr P. Aggelopoulos, Meetings on Love in History, **Association for the Study of History and Society**, Athens, 15 February 2007, (in Greek).
- “The Persecutions of the Early Christians”, **Periscopio Publications**, Athens, 13 December 2006, (in Greek).
- “Bribery and Philanthropy in the Early Christian World”, Meeting of History Postgraduate Students of the **University of Thessaly**, Volos, 24 May 2006, (in Greek).
- “The Meeting Places of the Early Christians”, **Cultural Centre of the Municipality of Holargos**, Athens, 22 February 2006, (in Greek).
- “Late Antique Historiography”, Meeting of the **Hellenic Open University** Teachers, Athens, 23 April 2005, (in Greek).
- “Towards the Dating of the Acts of the Soldier Martyrs”, Work-In-Progress Seminar, **Institute of Classical Studies**, London, 22 February 2002, (**in English**).
- “Early Christian Attitudes to Warfare: *Quot Homines, tot Sententiae*”, Thesis Workshop in Late Antique and Byzantine Studies, **King’s College London**, London, 21 June 2001, (**in English**).
- “Caesar Versus Jesus? A Brief Presentation of the Sources and Possible Interpretations”, Postgraduate Seminar, **University College London**, London, 5 June 2001, (**in English**).

Other Teaching Experience

From Spring Semester 2005 until Fall Semester 2012: Department of Law, **University of Thrace** in Komotini. Teaching of two postgraduate courses *The Triumph of Christianity* and *The Transition from the Ancient to the Medieval World*.

Spring Semester 2008 and Fall Semester 2008: History Department, **State School for Tour Guides**. Teaching of *Byzantine History*.

Academic year 2006-2007: Public University of Ag. Paraskeyi in Athens. Teaching of the joint course *Every Day Life in Ancient Greece* with Dr P. Papanastasatos and Dr K. Alexopoulou. I concentrated on religion, Dr. Papanastasatos on theatre and Dr Alexopoulou on private and public life.

Spring Semester 2006-2007: Department of Classics and History, **American University of Athens**. Teaching of the undergraduate course *Early Aegean and Greek Civilization*, **(in English)**.

10/2001-7/2002: History Department, **University College London**. Teaching, as a teaching assistant, the undergraduate course HIST 5500: *Greek Historical Texts*, **(in English)**.

10/2000-7/2002: *Top Tutors*. Teaching, as a private tutor, *Ancient History A-levels*, 37 Redbourne Avenue, Finchley Central, London, N3 2BP, tel: 0208 349 2148, **(in English)**.

Other Work Experience

8/1999: Member of the **Organizing Committee for the International Conference on Religion**, University of Crete, 21-27 August 1999.

9/2003-10/2007: Writing book reviews and articles for **Historika Themata**.

Voluntary Work

3/2003: Member of the **Committee for Organizing Cultural Events at Händel Museum**, 25 Brook St, Mayfair, London, W1K 4MB, tel: 0207 4951685.

2001/2-2002/3: PhD Representative of University College London at the **Ancient History Society**.

2001/2-2002/3: PhD Representative of the **Institute of Classical Studies Advisory Committee**.

IT Skills

Excel, Word, Creating websites using HTML and Dreamweaver.

Initiatives and Hobbies

1/2017: Creation of web page on Late Antiquity **www.postaugustum.com**

10/2006-?: Member of the Journal Board of the **Association of Greek Women Scientists**.

2/2006-?: Co-founding of the **Association for the Study of History and Society**.

1993-1999: Co-founding of the **Environmental Group of the University of Crete**.

Reference Letters

May be obtained upon request from:

Polymnia Athanasiadi, Professor of Late Antique History at the University of Athens, email: pathan@cc.uoa.gr

Richard Alston, Professor of Roman History and Head of History Department at Royal Holloway, email: r.alston@rhul.ac.uk

David D' Avray, Professor of Medieval Studies at University College London, email: ucradav@ucl.ac.uk

Tonia Kioussopoulou, Professor of Byzantine Studies at the University of Crete, email kioussopoulou@phl.uoc.gr

Dimitris J. Kyrtatas, Professor of Late Antiquity at the University of Thessaly, email: kyrtatas@otenet.gr

Chrysa Maltezou, Professor of Medieval History at the University of Athens and Director of the Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice, tel: 0039 0415226581

J. A. North, Retired Professor of Roman History and Former Head of History Department at University College London, email: ucrajan@ucl.ac.uk

Stayros Perentidis, Professor of the History of Ideas at Panteion University in Athens, email: saper@panteion.gr

Alex Phylactopoulos, President of CYA/DIKEMES, email: phylactopoulos@dikemes.edu.gr

Constantinos Hatzopoulos, Professor of Modern History at the University of Komotini, email: patrickiou@sch.gr