

DR. CHRISTODOULOS PAPAVERNANAVAS

Curriculum Vitae

Centre for Medieval Arts and Rituals
University of Cyprus

chris_papavarnavas@yahoo.com

<https://oeaw.academia.edu/ChristodoulosPapavarnavas>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Late Antique and Byzantine Literature

Byzantine Hagiography (primarily Martyrdom Accounts and Monastic Saints' Lives)

Byzantine Monasticism

Prison and Imprisonment in Byzantium

Mobility and Migration in the Middle Ages

Literary Criticism

Audience and Reception Studies

EDUCATION

2014 – 2018 DPhil in Byzantine Studies, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (with Distinction and Honours: 'Promotio sub auspiciis'; 'Grete-Mostny'; 'Memory of Mankind')
Dissertation Title: 'Gefängnis als Schwellenraum in der byzantinischen Hagiographie: Eine literarische Untersuchung der Märtyrerakten in früh- und mittelbyzantinischer Zeit' (Supervisors: Prof. Claudia Rapp and Assoc. Prof. Stavroula Constantinou)

2012 – 2014 Master in Byzantine Studies, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (with Distinction)
Master's Thesis Title: 'Die Rolle des Publikums in den vormetaphrastischen Gruppen- und Einzelmartyrien' (Supervisor: Prof. Claudia Rapp)

Sep. 2010 –

Jan. 2011 Erasmus Visiting Studentship, Faculty of Greek and Latin Languages and Literature, Freie Universität Berlin

2008 – 2012 Bachelor in Byzantine and Modern Greek Literature, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Cyprus (with First Class Honours)

POSITIONS

Mar. 2021 –

Feb. 2022 New Researcher's Stipend, University of Cyprus

Sep. 2019 –

Feb. 2021 Research Fellow (Postdoc), Wittgenstein-Award Project 'Mobility, Microstructures and Personal Agency' (Prof. Claudia Rapp), Division of

- Byzantine Research, Institute for Medieval Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Oct. 2018 –
Aug. 2019 Research Associate in the ERC Project ‘The Cult of Saints’ (Prof. Bryan Ward-Perkins), University of Oxford (from October to December 2018: full-time in Oxford; from January to August 2019: part-time from Vienna)
- Nov. 2014 –
Sep. 2018 University Assistant (Pre-doc), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna
- Aug. 2014 –
Oct. 2014 Research Assistant, Project on Byzantine Hymnography: ‘Byzantine Hymnography and the Tradition of Rhetoric’ – Electronic Database (Assoc. Prof. Antonia Giannouli), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Cyprus
- Nov. 2013 Research Assistant, Project on Byzantine Sigillography: ‘Systematische Fotothek zur Byzantinischen Sigillographie’ (PDoz. Dr. Alexandra Wassiliou-Seibt), Division of Byzantine Research, Institute for Medieval Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna
- Jun. 2013 –
Sep. 2013 Research Assistant, Project ‘Lexikon zur byzantinischen Gräzität’ (Prof. Erich Trapp), Division of Byzantine Research, Institute for Medieval Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna
- Jan. 2012 –
Oct. 2013 Research Assistant, Project on Linguistics: ‘Morphological Dictionary of Modern Greek Verbs’ – Electronic Database (Prof. em. Françoise Pouradier Duteil, University of Bremen), Vienna

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021, Spring Semester. Seminar for BA, MA, and PhD Students ‘Marvellous and Macabre Tales from Byzantium: Novels and Romances’, Department of Classical Studies, Masaryk University (Virtual Classes due to COVID-19)

2021, Spring Semester. Undergraduate and Postgraduate Course ‘*Metaphrasis* in Byzantium: Symeon Metaphrastes and His Works’ (in German), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (Virtual Classes due to COVID-19)

2020/2021, Winter Semester. Undergraduate and Graduate Seminar ‘Sex, Violence and Crime in Greek Literature (Fourth–Twentieth Centuries)’ (in German), Institute for Byzantine Studies, Byzantine Art History and Modern Greek Studies, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Virtual Classes due to COVID-19)

Oct. 2020. Lecture ‘Why Moving? Reasons for Mobility and Migration in Byzantium: Men and Women – Saints and Laity’, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (Invited by Prof. Claudia Rapp)

2020, Spring Semester. Seminar for BA, MA, and PhD Students ‘Saints and Holy (Wo)Men in Byzantine Literature and Art’, Department of Classical Studies, Masaryk University (Combination of In-person and Virtual Classes due to COVID-19)

May 2020, Spring Semester. Virtual Lecture ‘Women Between Sinfulness and Spirituality in Late Antiquity and Byzantium’ (in German), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (Invited by Dr. Eirini Afentoulidou-Leitgeb)

2019/2020, Winter Semester. Undergraduate and Postgraduate Course ‘The Body in Byzantine and Modern Greek Literature’ (in German), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna

Dec. 2019. Lecture ‘Cross-Dressing Nuns in Late Antiquity and Byzantium’ (in German), Institute for Byzantine Studies, Byzantine Art History and Modern Greek Studies, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Invited by Prof. Lilia Diamantopoulou)

Nov. 2019. Lecture ‘Healing Miracles in Late Antique and Byzantine Martyrdom Accounts’, Department of the Study of Religions, Institute of History, University of Southern Denmark (Invited by Prof. Laura Feldt)

2016/2017, Winter Semester. Undergraduate and Postgraduate Course ‘Holiness in Byzantium: Types of Saints in Hagiographical Literature’ (in German), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna

PUBLICATIONS

I. Monographs

2021. *Gefängnis als Schwellenraum in der byzantinischen Hagiographie: Eine Untersuchung früh- und mittelbyzantinischer Märtyrerakten* [= Prison as Liminal Space in Byzantine Hagiography: A Study of Early and Middle Byzantine Martyrs’ Passions] (= Millennium Studies, 90). Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter (open access: <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110725780/html>)

II. Co-edited Books

2021. *Mobility and Migration in Byzantium: A Sourcebook*, together with C. Rapp, J. Preisler-Kapeller et al. (= Moving Byzantium, 1). Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht/Vienna University Press (in press; open access)

III. Articles in Peer-reviewed Scientific Journals

2016. ‘The Role of the Audience in the Pre-Metaphrastic Passions’, *Analecta Bollandiana* 134(1), pp. 66–82

2021. ‘Imprisoned Martyrs on the Move: Reading Holiness in Byzantine Martyrdom Accounts’, *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* 114 (in press)

IV. Chapters in Peer-reviewed Edited Volumes

2021. ‘Miracle and Martyrdom: Performing and Experiencing Healing Miracles in Prisons and Shrines’, in: V. Déroche–S. Efthymiadis (eds.), *Le rôle des miracles et des recueils des miracles*. Publications de l’École Pratique des Hautes Études (in press)

2022. 'Literary *topoi* Between Visuality and Orality: Describing Scenes of Confinement in Byzantine Hagiography', in: A. Athanasopoulou, S. Constantinou et al. (eds.), *The topoi of Visuality: Ekphrasis and locus amoenus in Literature across Times and Cultures* (in progress)

2022. 'Motherhood and Sainthood: Childbearing and Breastfeeding in Byzantine Martyrdom Narratives' in: S. Constantinou and A. Skouroumouni-Stavrinou (eds.), *Motherhood and Breastfeeding in Late Antiquity and Early Byzantium*, Routledge (in progress)

2023. 'Saints' Mobility and Confinement: Deconstructing Byzantine Stories about Martyrs, Ascetics and Monastics', *Early Medieval Europe*, special issue, ed. C. Rapp and M. Meier (in progress)

V. Online Publications

2014. 'Die Rolle des Publikums in den vormetaphrastischen Gruppen- und Einzelmartyrien [= The Role of the Audience in the Pre-Metaphrastic Group and Individual Passions]'. MA Thesis, University of Vienna (<http://othes.univie.ac.at/34303/>)

VI. Encyclopedia Entries

2022. 'Theodoros von Trimuthus', in: M. Grünbart and A. Riehle (eds.). *Lexikon byzantinischer Autoren*. Leipzig: Akademie Verlag (in press)

2022. 'Theodoros von Paphos', in: M. Grünbart and A. Riehle (eds.). *Lexikon byzantinischer Autoren*. Leipzig: Akademie Verlag (in press)

VII. Book Reviews

2015. Review of: 'S. Efthymiadis (ed.) 2014. The Ashgate Research Companion to Byzantine Hagiography, II: Genres and Contexts. Farnham and Burlington', *Byzantinoslavica* 73, pp. 227–232

2019. Review of: 'K. Degen 2018. Der Gemeinsinn der Märtyrer. Die Darstellung gemeinwohlorientierten Handelns in den frühchristlichen Martyriumsberichten. Stuttgart', *Plekos: Elektronische Zeitschrift für Rezensionen und Berichte zur Erforschung der Spätantike* 21, pp. 239–244 (<http://www.plekos.uni-muenchen.de/2019/r-degen.pdf>)

2021. Review of: 'R. Stearn 2020. Historiography and Hierotopy: Palestinian Hagiography in the Sixth Century A.D. Piscataway, NJ', *Journal of Early Christian Studies* (in progress)

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021. 'Healing Miracles and Healing Places: Martyrs' Prisons and Shrines as Liminal Spaces in Byzantine Hagiography', Seventh National Conference of Byzantine Studies, 22–25 June, Belgrade (Invited Lecture)

2020. 'Enclosed Spaces – Enclosed Saints: The Case of Imprisoned Martyrs in Byzantine Hagiographical Literature', Retracing Connections Seminars, 27 November, Uppsala (Invited Lecture)

2020. 'Martyrs' Prisons as Healing Shrines in Byzantine Hagiography', Byzantine Studies Seminars, 5 October, Edinburgh (Invited Lecture)

2019. 'Authoritative Narratives of Byzantium: Reading Prison Scenes in Martyrdom Accounts', Authority, Materiality, and Media Research Group, 1 November, Odense (Invited Lecture)

2019. 'Martyrdom and Secret Holiness: The Role Swap Between a Martyr and a Flute Player', International Conference on Secrets and Secrecy in Late Antiquity, Byzantium and Early Islam, 26–28 July, Bamberg (Invited Lecture)

2019. 'Sanctity and Mobility', Workshop Vienna–Tübingen on Migration and Mobility, 30 September–1 October, Vienna (Invited Lecture)

2019. 'Conceptions of Space and the Body of the Martyr: Reading Scenes of Blood in Greek Hagiographical Passions', SPBS Spring Symposium on Blood in Byzantium, 30 March–1 April, Cambridge (Conference Presentation)

2019. 'Imprisoned Martyrs on the Move: Reading Holiness in Byzantine Martyrdom Accounts', International Workshop on Holiness on the Move: Travelling Saints in Byzantium, 22 February, Newcastle (Invited Lecture)

2018. 'Prison Space and Holiness in Martyr Narratives: A Literary Approach to Greek Passions'. The Cult of Saints in the First Millennium, Seminars Fridays at the Trinity College, 9 November, Oxford (Invited Lecture)

2017. 'Imprisoned Martyrs and Holiness: A Literary Representation of Prison in Hagiographical Passions' (in Greek). Byzantine and Medieval Colloquium of the University of Cyprus, 15 March, Nicosia (Invited Lecture)

2016. 'Prison as Liminal Space in Byzantine Hagiography: A Literary Study of the Martyrs' Passions in the Early and Middle Byzantine Periods'. Sixth Annual Workshop of the Graduate Exchange in Late Antique, Byzantine and Early Medieval History, 20 May, Princeton (Conference Presentation)

2015. 'The Role of the Audience in the Pre-Metaphrastic Passions'. Colloquium on Late Antique Hagiography as Literature, 20 May, Edinburgh (Conference Presentation)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015/2016, Summer Semester. 'Field Trip to the Historic Sites of the Republic of Armenia, with Special Emphasis on the Medieval Period and the Relations between Byzantium and Armenia', University of Vienna (Co-organisation and Logistics under the Supervision of Prof. Lioba Theis and Prof. Claudia Rapp; Field Trip: 30/04/2015 – 10/05/2015)

2015. Session 'Remembering Byzantium'. Fifth Annual Workshop of the Graduate Exchange in Late Antique, Byzantine and Early Medieval History, 2 June, Vienna (Moderator)

2015. Paper 'Transferring Aristotelian Logic from Alexandria to Constantinople: Manuscripts, Concepts, Perspectives' by PI Prof. Christophe Erismann, Vienna Dialogues, 30 May, Vienna (Moderator)

2015. Vienna Dialogues Workshop-style Conference on ‘People on the Move and the Ideas they bring: Mobility of Ideas, Motifs and Texts in Byzantium and Beyond’, 29 – 30 May, Vienna (Logistics)

2015. International Workshop on ‘Ideologies and Identities in the Medieval Byzantine World’, 16 – 17 April, Vienna (Logistics)

2014. Vienna Dialogues Workshop-style Conference on ‘People on the Move and the Things they carry’, 18 October, Vienna (Logistics)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, HONOURS

2019. Honorary Inclusion of the Dissertation in the Project ‘Memory of Mankind’ (Hallstatt/Austria) supported by the UNESCO World Heritage

2019. Grete-Mostny Prize for the Originality and Exemplary Interdisciplinary Approach of the Dissertation, awarded by the Historical and Cultural Studies Faculty of the University of Vienna

2019. Honour ‘Promotio sub auspiciis praesidentis rei publicae’ for the Highest Possible Grades in All Levels of Education, given by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

2019. Tsiter-Kontopoulou Grant, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna (for participating in the SPBS Spring Symposium ‘Blood in Byzantium’, University of Cambridge 30.03.2019–01.04.2019)

2013. Fellowship for Participation in Byzantine Summer School at Thessaloniki, Greece (01/07/2013 – 14/07/2013), granted by EHESS (Paris) and the Municipality of Thessaloniki

2013. Grant for Completion of Master’s Studies, given by the State Scholarships Foundation of Cyprus (I.K.Y.K.)

2012. Honours for the Best Academic Performance (9.51 out of 10) at the University of Cyprus (2008 – 2012)

2010 – 2011. Grant for Participation in the EU Student Exchange Programme “Erasmus”, Studies at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, Faculty of Greek and Latin Languages and Literature (01/09/2010 – 31/01/2011)

2004 – 2005. An Honourable Member of the Youth Parliament hosted in the Hellenic Parliament, Athens, Greece. Grant for Participation at the 10th Session (02/09/2005 – 05/09/2005)

LANGUAGES

Modern Languages

Greek (native), English (excellent), German (excellent), French (very good), Italian (good reading knowledge), Spanish (basic reading knowledge)

Ancient Languages

Ancient and Medieval Greek (excellent), Latin (very good)

MEDIA COVERAGE

2021. Podcast Interview about ‘Cross-dressing in Byzantine Literature’, Vienna 15/02/2021
URL: <https://soundcloud.com/makro-mikro/crossdressing-als-motiv-in-der-byzantinischen-literatur-makro-mikro-44> Interviewed by Julia Grillmayr for the MakroMikro Podcast Series of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

2019. ‘Grete-Mostny-Preisverleihung 2019’, Vienna 25/06/2019
URL: https://hist-kult.univie.ac.at/detailansicht/news/grete-mostny-preisverleihung-2019/?tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=5b546a7338258bcb753c106d36c66676

2019. ‘Vier Sub-Auspiciis-Promotionen und ein Ehrendoktorat an der Uni Wien: Alexander Van der Bellen überreicht die Ehrenringe der Republik Österreich’, Vienna 12/03/2019
URL: <https://www.bundespraesident.at/aktuelles/detail/news/teilnahme-an-der-sub-auspiciis-promotion-der-universitaet-wien/>

2019. ‘Uni Wien: Vier Sub-Auspiciis-Promotionen und ein Ehrendoktorat an der Uni Wien’, Vienna.at – das Stadtportal für Wien, Vienna 12/03/2019
URL: <https://www.vienna.at/uni-wien-vier-sub-auspiciis-promotionen-und-ein-ehrendoktorat/6127464>

2019. O. Wächter. ‘Kür der Fleißigsten: Vier Ehrenringe vom Bundespräsidenten Alexander Van der Bellen verliehen’, *Kurier – Job & Business* 11 (16/03/2019), p. 4

2016. U. Sorz. ‘Jungforscher*innen: Christodoulos Papavarnavas’, *Heureka: Das Wissenschaftsmagazin aus dem Falter Verlag* 5 (23/11/2016), p. 4.
URL: https://www.falter.at/heureka/FALTER_201611232A21348D01/jungforscherinnen

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2018. Examiner and Evaluator for the Greek Proficiency Exams ‘Ellinomatheia’ B2, C1, C2, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Vienna, Austria

2010. Second Evaluator and Logistics Assistant at Pancyprrian Entrance Exams for Cyprus and Greece State Universities and Polytechnics, Ministry of Education and Culture (Examination Service), Nicosia, Cyprus

2011 – 2012. Invigilator for the ACCA June Exams, British Council in Nicosia, Cyprus

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Since 2020. Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Förderung Byzantinischer Studien

Since 2019. Research Network for the Study of Late Antique and Early Medieval Monasticism

Since 2015. Österreichische Byzantinische Gesellschaft

2008 – 2011. Volunteer Student Club/Doctors of the World (Social Service), University of Cyprus