UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

INSTRUCTOR	MANOLIS PATEDAKIS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY
SEMESTER	SPRING, ACAD. YEAR 2020-2021
DEPARTMENT	PHILOLOGY
LEVEL	UNDERGRADUATE
COURSE CODE	BYFF112 **CYCLE OF STUDY** ALL
COURSE TITLE	The *Akathistos* Hymn

AUTONOMOUS EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK	CREDITS/ECTS
Lectures	3	5

COURSE TYPE *Background, General knowledge, Scientific discipline, Development of Proficiencies*	Special field
PREREQUISITES	NONE
TEACHING AND EXAM LANGUAGE	GREEK (also English in the exams for Erasmus students)
AVAILABLE TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES
WEBSITE (URL)	https://classweb.cc.uoc.gr/classes.asp

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

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By presenting such an important literary product of the Byzantine culture, we will tackle a range of issues relevant to the text itself, as well as to Byzantine literature, society and history in general.

We will begin our approach from matters such as the authorship and the date of *Akathistos*, through main circumferential sources and the terminology that it contains. In the main part of the series of lectures, apart from the language, genre and literary analysis of the *Akathistos* kontakion, we will insist on the interpretation of such a central product of byzantine writing culture, as well as its use, influence and reception in the centuries to come.

BROAD KNOWLEDGE/COMPETENCIES

General Competences
Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology	*Project planning and management*
Adapting to new situations	*Respect for difference and multiculturalism*
	Respect for the natural environment

- Search, analyzing, composition of data and information by using all the required technological support
- Independent work
- Production of new research ideas
- Practice on criticism and self-criticism
- Promotion of free, creative and inferential way of thinking

3. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The scholarship on the *Akathistos* Hymn has focused on two main research areas: the first on the significant questions related to the identity of the work, and the second on the interpretation of the text itself. Between those two goals, we will also structure the issues which will be presented in the course of our lectures during the semester:

1. Introductory discussion on the *Akathistos*: main terms, special attention to the "when" and "where" that relate to its creation.
2. The historical core under and the "mythology" around the work.
3. The genre, and genre features.
4. The issue on the authorship.
5. Intertextual references and the literary principles –within the context of the evolution of an early Christian theory- that gave birth to the *Akathistos*.
6. The structure and the content of the *Kontakion*.
7. Language, art, conceptual elements.
8. Its use in worship, its influence and reception through centuries.

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS-EVALUATION

MODE OF DELIVERY	In class	
OTHER SOURCES/ TECHNOLOGICAL AND COMMUNICATION SUPPORT	• Teaching material (files, slides, presentations, editions, studies, monographs and articles), plus contact via the *classweb* platform • Contact via email	
COURSE STRUCTURE	*ACTIVITY*	*WORKLOAD*
	Lectures	39
	Independent study and exam preparation	86
	Final written examination (unless another alternative is possible due to the pandemic)	3
	Total **(25 working hours per credit)**	128
STUDENT ASSESSMENT	Three hours of written exams on the following subjects: a) the important questions on the work under discussion, b) the interpretation and analysis on the text itself.	

5. SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Θ. Δετοράκης, *Ο Ακάθιστος Ύμνος και τα προβλήματά του*, Αθήνα 1993

Γρ. Παπαγιάννης, *Ακάθιστος ύμνος: άγνωστες πτυχές ενός πολύ γνωστού κειμένου: κριτικές και μετρικές παρατηρήσεις, σχολιασμένη βιβλιογραφία*, Αθήνα 2006

Leena Mari Peltomaa, *The Image of the Virgin in the Akathistos Hymn*, Leiden 2001

Leena Mari Peltomaa, The Akathistos Hymn and the Mariology of the Council of Ephesus, M. F. Wiles-E. J. Yarnold (επιμ.), *Papers Presented to the Thirteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies = Studia Patristica* 35 (2001), σ. 304-308

Leena Mari Peltomaa, Epithets of the Theotokos in the Akathistos Hymn, στο Leslie Brubaker-Mary B. Cunningham (επιμ.), *The cult of the mother of God in Byzantium: texts and images*, Farnham 2011, σ. 109-116

E. Wellesz, *The Akathistos Hymn*, Copenhagen 1957