COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY
ACADEMIC UNIT	DEPARTMENT OF PHILOLOGY
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE
COURSE CODE	BYFF215 **SEMESTER** ALL
COURSE TITLE	Narrations on Alexander the Great in Byzantine literature

INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES *if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits*	**WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS**	**CREDITS**
Lectures	3	5
Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).		

COURSE TYPE *general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development*	Special field
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	NONE
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	GREEK (also English in the exams for Erasmus students)
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://elearn.uoc.gr https://sso.uoc.gr

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.

Consult Appendix A

- *Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area*

- *Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B*

- *Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes*

Alexander the Great does not exist in literary works of the Byzantine period only as a historical person. He is mainly widely known from the rather early work of the "Alexander Romance", and its first preserved version (3rd cent. AD), as well as its Byzantine versions, and a large number of references on Alexander in other Byzantine literary genres. (chronography, rhetorics, poetry, apocalyptic works, et.cet.) Within the range of lectures of the current course, we will primarily study the main work, "Alexander Romance", how it creates its hero and its world within fiction, a hero different from antiquity, and compatible each time with the age that has developed every version of the original work. At the same time, the shorter multiple references for the person "Alexander" himself, in different texts and authors, possibly reveal what this famous figure represents both for the elite and every Byzantine man.

- 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) SYLLABUS

Having started from the literary introduction, we will procceed to the examination of fiction in early and later versions of the cental work, as well as the presence of Alexander the Great in Byzantine literary genres, in arts, and Byzantine culture as a whole. In particular, under this course we will examine the following subjects:

1. Introduction to the historical but also the fictional life of Alexander the Great.
2. The so-called 'Alexander Romance' of pseudo-Kallisthenes and its Byzantine *metamorphoseis*.
3. The overall impact of the literary work in European Middle Ages, as well as in many eastern languages and traditions through the translated versions of the original.
4. The advancement of the story and the addition of individual incidents. Fiction and historicity. Events, novelties, narrative techniques.
5. The development of the narrations and references to Alexander the Great in Byzantine literature. Fiction on Alexander and its public.
6. Alexander the Great and his semantics for Byzantine culture (literature, reading public, art, political theory, society). 'Alexander' as a symbol, and its passage through centuries.

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

DELIVERY *Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.*	In Class
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY *Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students*	• Teaching material (files, slides, presentations, editions, studies, monographs and articles), plus contact via the *elearn* platform • Contact via email

TEACHING METHODS *The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.*	*Activity*	*Semester workload*
	Lectures	39
	Independent study and	83

Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc. *The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS*	exam preparation	
	Final written examination	3
	Course total	*125*

STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION *Description of the evaluation procedure* *Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other* *Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.*	Three hours of written exams on subjects related to "Byzantine Alexander the Great": by departing from the main work, 'Alexander Romance', analyzing the fictional story of Alexander in this 'best seller' of Byzantine times, combining the above with the meaning of his presence in other Byzantine literary genres and its importance for Byzantine culture and the culture of its contemporary known world.

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

General:
- Ελένη Γλύκατζη-Αρβελέρ, *Ο Μέγας Αλέξανδρος των Βυζαντινών. Επίμετρο: που είναι θαμμένος ο Μεγαλέξανδρος;*, Athens 2018
- Elizabeth Jeffreys – A. Cutler – A. Kazhdan, the entries 'Alexander Romance', and Elizabeth Jeffreys – A. Cutler, 'Alexander the Great', in A. P. Kazhdan (ed.), *The Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium*, New York-Oxford 1991, v. 1, 58-59
- Corinne Jouanno, Το *μυθιστόρημα του Αλεξάνδρου: γέννηση και μεταμορφώσεις*, Μαρίνα Λουκάκη (transl. in Greek.), Αναστασία Καραναστάση (ed.), Athens 2015 = *Naissance et métamorphoses du roman d'Alexandre*, Paris 2002
- Ulrich Moennig, Digenes = Alexander? The relationship between Digenes Akrites and the Byzantine Alexander Romance in their different versions, in R. Beaton – D. Hicks (eds.), *Digenes Akrites. New Approaches to Byzantine Heroic Poetry*, Aldershot 1993, 103-115
- Ulrich Moennig, A hero without borders: Alexander the Great in ancient, byzantine and modern tradition, in Carolina Cupane – Bettina Krönung (eds.), *Fictional storytelling in the medieval Eastern Mediterranean and beyond*, Leiden 2016, 159-189