

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY		
ACADEMIC UNIT	PHILOLOGY		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	BYFF273	SEMESTER	5th semester onwards
COURSE TITLE	The works of Theodoros Metochites		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>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</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Lectures and presentations		3	5
<i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	Special field		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	NONE		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	GREEK		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://sso.uoc.gr/login		

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

<p>Learning outcomes <i>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.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Appendix A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area</i> • <i>Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B</i> • <i>Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes</i>
<p>The main goal of this course will be the acquaintance of students with the corpus of works from the pen of Theodore Metochites, one of the most prominent scholars and politicians of the early Palaeologan period. We will study the whole corpus of his works from several genres of byzantine literature and science (that is rhetorical and poetic works, letters, essays on contemporary intellectual matters, philosophical and ethical treatises, his work on astronomy).</p> <p>By studying passages from the works of Metochites, students will receive an overall view on him as author and intellectual, on the features of his writing, some of them less attractive to his audience and some other much more original for the public of his own times.</p>

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?

<i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i>	<i>Project planning and management</i>
<i>Adapting to new situations</i>	<i>Respect for difference and multiculturalism</i>
<i>Decision-making</i>	<i>Respect for the natural environment</i>
<i>Working independently</i>	<i>Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues</i>
<i>Team work</i>	<i>Criticism and self-criticism</i>
<i>Working in an international environment</i>	<i>Production of free, creative and inductive thinking</i>
<i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i>
<i>Production of new research ideas</i>	<i>Others...</i>

- 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

Firstly we will make an introduction on the historical circumstances during this period (late 13th – beginning of the 14th cent.) as well as on literary and intellectual trends and debates that took place. We will try to follow Metochites’ involvement in them, and describe the full written production of his during the span of his adventurous life. All the above will be recommended on the course of our readings on his various works during the whole semester.

Main structural parts of the course will be:

1. The introductory discussion on Theodoros Metochites’ life and written work.
2. The sources that shed light on the relations between him and his contemporaries in every stage of his life.
3. The presentation and analysis of specific examples from various literary texts and genres from the works of his youth to the ones on the peak of his career.
4. The presentation of his rhetorical works.
5. The presentation of his poetic works.
6. The spiritual discussion with other scholars of his times and his lost collection of letters.
7. The focus on the subjects in his collection of essays, entitled *Gnomical Notes*.
8. His scientific and philosophical work.
9. The evaluation of the imprint of Metochites as an author in his times.

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i>	In class
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching material (files, slides, presentations, editions, studies, monographs and articles), plus contact via the web platform

<i>education, communication with students</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact via email 												
<p>TEACHING METHODS</p> <p><i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Semester workload</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lectures</td> <td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent study and exam preparation</td> <td>83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final written examination</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course total</td> <td>125</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Semester workload	Lectures	39	Independent study and exam preparation	83	Final written examination	3			Course total	125
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<p>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</p> <p><i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>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</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p>	<p>Three hours of written exams on the following subjects:</p> <p>a) translation and interpretation of passages from the original texts,</p> <p>b) evolution of Byzantine literature in relation to the Byzantine culture of the time,</p> <p>c) literary features in the works of this author</p>												

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

<p>Editions of his works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M. Featherstone (έκδ.), <i>Theodore Metochites's Poems to Himself: Introduction, Text and Translation</i>, Βιέννη 2000 - Börje Bydén, Karin Hult (έκδ.), <i>Theodore Metochites On ancient authors and philosophy: Semeiosis gnomikai 1 - 26 & 71</i>, Γκέτεμποργκ 2002 - Börje Byden (έκδ.), <i>Theodore Methochites' Stoicheiosis astronomike and the study of natural philosophy and mathematics in early palaiologan Byzantium</i>, Γκέτεμποργκ 2003 - Karin Hult (έκδ.), <i>Theodore Metochites on the Human Condition and the Decline of Rome: Semeioseis Gnomikai 27-60. A critical Edition with Introduction, Translation, Notes and Indexes</i>, Γκέτεμποργκ 2016 - E. Paschos, & C. Simelidis (έκδ.), <i>Introduction to Astronomy by Theodore Metochites:</i>

(*Stoicheiosis Astronomike 1.5-30*), Σιγκαπούρη 2017

- Γ. Δ. Πολέμης (εισ. έκδ. μτφ. σχ.), *Θεόδωρος Μετοχίτης: Ηθικός ή Περί Παιδείας*, Αθήνα: εκδ. Κανάκη 2002

- Ι. Δ. Πολέμης (εισαγ., κριτ. έκδ., μτφ., σημ.), *Θεόδωρος Μετοχίτης, Οι δύο Βασιλικοί Λόγοι*, Αθήνα 2007

- Ι. Δ. Πολέμης (εισαγ., κριτ. έκδ., μτφ., σημ.), Β. Κατσαρός (πρόλ.), *Θεόδωρος Μετοχίτης, Βυζάντιος ἢ περὶ τῆς βασιλίδος Μεγαλοπόλεως. Κοσμολογία και ρητορική κατά τον 14^ο αιώνα.*, Θεσσαλονίκη 2013

- I. D. Polemis, *Theodore Metochites Poems*, Turnhout 2017

- I. D. Polemis, Eleni Kaltsogianni (έκδ.), *Theodori Metochitae Orationes*, Βερολίνο-Βοστώνη 2019

A selection of studies:

- H. G. Beck, *Theodor Metochites, die Krise des byzantinischen Weltbildes im 14. Jahrhundert*, Μόναχο 1952

- E. Fryde, *The Early Palaeologan Renaissance (1261-c.1360)*, Leiden 2000

- I. Ševčenko, *Etudes sur la polemique entre Theodore Metochite et Nicephore Choumnos*, Βρυξέλλες 1962

- Karin Hult, Theodore Metochites as a Literary Critic, στο Jan Olof Rosenqvist (έκδ.), *Interaction and isolation in Late Byzantine Culture: papers read at a colloquium held at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, 1 - 5 December, 1999*, Istanbul (2005), 44-56

- Sofia Kotzabassi (έκδ.), *A Companion to the Intellectual Life of the Palaeologan Period*, Λάιντεν 2022

- I. D. Polemis, The treatise "On those who unjustly accuse wise men, of the past and present": a new work by Theodore Metochites?, *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* 102 (2009) 203-217