

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	School of Philosophy		
ACADEMIC UNIT	School of Philology		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate		
COURSE CODE	214	SEMESTER	1st year and above
COURSE TITLE	The mimetic epistolography and the Letters of Theophylactus Simocattes		
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, state the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Lectures		3	5
Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail in section (4).			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialization, general education, skills development</i>	Scientific Area		
PREREQUISITE COURSES	None		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION AND OF ASSESSMENT	English		
MODE OF TEACHING <i>in-person (%) synchronous distance learning (%) asynchronous distance learning (%) (In the case of synchronous distance learning, the total weekly duration of teaching is recorded)</i>	Face-to-face		
AVAILABILITY TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes (in English)		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://elearn.uoc.gr/		

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

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> <i>Consult Appendix A</i> • 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 • Brief Guide for drafting Learning Outcomes
The general aim of the course is to familiarize students with the epistolography of Late Antiquity and, more specifically, with the epistolary work of Theophylact Simocatta in his <i>Letters</i>. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to: • Distinguish the main characteristics of epistolography in Late Antiquity and identify the particular features of the epistolary work of Theophylact Simocatta.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the main historical, social, and intellectual contexts within which the epistolary work of Theophylact Simocatta is situated and developed.
- Understand and analyze issues of literary composition, themes, and rhetorical formation in the *Letters* of Theophylact Simocatta.
- Identify and analyze basic morphosyntactic structures in the language of the *Letters*, understand the meaning of their basic vocabulary, and comment on fundamental textual and stylistic issues.
- Understand and render selected passages of the work into correct Modern Greek.

General Competences

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

Search, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology

Adaptability to new situations

Decision-making

Working independently

Team work

Working in an international environment

Working in an interdisciplinary environment

Production of new research ideas

Project planning and management

Respect for difference and multiculturalism

Respect for the natural environment

Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues

Criticism and self-criticism

Production of free, creative and inductive thinking

.....

Other...

.....

Searching for, analyzing, and synthesizing data and information. Promoting free, creative, and inductive thinking.

(3) COURSE SYLLABUS

Epistolography in Late Antiquity and its main characteristics. Introduction to mimetic epistolography in Late Antiquity. Introduction to Byzantine epistolography. Introduction to Theophylact Simocatta and his epistolary work. Reading and commentary on the letters of Theophylact Simocatta.

(4) TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS - ASSESSMENT

MODE OF TEACHING <i>Face-to-face, distance learning, etc.</i>	In class
MODE AND FREQUENCY OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE STUDENTS	Support for the learning process through the e-learning platform.
ENSURING THE MODE OF COMMUNICATION AMONG STUDENTS <i>Team assignments and discussions, collaborative learning platforms with the use of AI, video conference, QA sessions, κ.α.</i>	Group communication through a social networking platform; group discussions.
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, in laboratory training, in the communication with students</i>	Use of digital material and an online communication platform.
TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS	Projection equipment

PLAGIARISM POLICY/ PLAGIARISM DETECTION TOOLS	Information on the University of Crete's plagiarism policies and protocols.	
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY (1) <i>The use of Artificial Intelligence is prohibited in all circumstances</i> (2) <i>The use of Artificial Intelligence is allowed only with the permission of the instructor</i> (3) <i>The use of Artificial Intelligence is allowed only with an explicit reference to the literature</i> (4) <i>Students are free to use Artificial Intelligence</i>	Use of Artificial Intelligence is permitted with explicit reference in the bibliography.	
ORGANISATION OF TEACHING The mode and methods of teaching are described in detail. Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, work placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artworks, etc. The student's study hours for each learning activity are stated, as well as the hours of independent study, according to the principles of the ECTS.	Activity	Semester workload
	Lectures	39
	Final written examination	3
	Independent Study	83
	Course total	125
STUDENT ASSESSMENT Description of the assessment method Language of assessment, methods of assessment, formative or summative assessment, multiple choice questions test, short answer questions, essay questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory assignment, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.		

(5) RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Suggested bibliography:

Rosenmeyer, Patricia A. *Ancient Epistolary Fictions: The Letter in Greek Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Costa, C. D. N. *Greek Fictional Letters: A Selection with Introduction, Translation and Commentary*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Detoraki, Marina. "Les *Lettres* de Théophylacte Simocattès revisitées." In *Chiliostichos: Studies in Byzantine Poetry and Beyond*, edited by Sofia Kotzabassi

and Ilias Taxidis, De Gruyter, 2026, pp. 93–108.
<https://doi.org/10.1515/9783112257654-005>