

VASSILIS LETSIOS

Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature and Literary Translation

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Academic Profile

Vassilis Letsios is Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature and Literary Translation at the Ionian University. He studied Philology at the University of Ioannina and completed his MA and PhD in Modern Greek Literature at King's College London. His research focuses on Modern Greek literature, literary translation and retranslation, the history of translation, Ionian literary culture, and the reception of classical antiquity in modern Greek letters. His work combines literary criticism, translation studies and intellectual history, with particular emphasis on nineteenth- and twentieth-century Greek literary networks and the cultural circulation of texts.

Education

PhD in Modern Greek Literature

King's College London

MA in Modern Greek Studies

King's College London

Erasmus Programme

Universiteit van Amsterdam

BA in Philology

University of Ioannina

Academic Appointments

2023–present

Associate Professor
Ionian University

2011–2023

Lecturer / Assistant Professor
Ionian University

2012–present

Tutor (Adjunct Faculty)
Hellenic Open University

Research Interests

- Modern Greek Literature
 - Literary Translation and Retranslation
 - Translation History
 - Ionian Literary Culture
 - Classical Reception
 - Comparative Literature
 - Modern Greek Poetry
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Selected Books

Monographs

- *The Ghost Behind the Arras: Transformations of the "Political Verse" in Twentieth-Century Greek Poetry* (2013)
- *Retranslating the Ancients in the Ionian Poetic Tradition* (2025)

Edited Volumes

- *Dionysios Solomos: Concordance of the Greek Works* (2008)
 - *Oskar Emil Tudeer in Greece and Hisarlik (1881–1882)* (2017)
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Selected Publications

- ☉ **“The slow fire that burned bridges”: the breaking of the “political verse” in Cavafy.** *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 27 (2003): 184–216.
 - ☉ **The life and afterlife of the political verse.** *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* 23 (2005): 281–312.
 - ☉ **Back to Babel in the Time of Standard Modern Greek: Language Varieties in the Novel *Antipoiesis Archis*.** *Modern Greek Studies (Australia and New Zealand)* 13 (2005): 167–191.
 - ☉ **Going East or West? Finnish Travellers in Nineteenth-Century Greece.** *Linguaculture* 2 (2015): 33–41.
 - ☉ **The Translation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* by Iakovos Polylas.** In *Issues in Modern Greek Philology: Metrics, Style, Criticism and Translation*. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 2016.
 - ☉ **The Translation of Sikelianos' Akritic Poems in the 1940s.** *Chartis* 40 (2022).
 - ☉ **Translating Sappho's Fragment 31 in the Ionian Poetic Tradition: Antonios Matesis, Andreas Martzokis and Marinos Sigouros.** *Kefalliniaka Chronika* 22 (2023): 367–374.
 - ☉ **Poeta doctus: Constantine Theotokis as Translator of Latin Poetry.** *Porfyrras* 185–186 (2025): 403–410.
 - ☉ **Lawrence Durrell as Reader and Translator of Greek Wartime Poetry: Sikelianos, Seferis, and the Translation Networks of the 1940s.** *Deus Loci* NS18 (2026), 3–21.
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Academic Leadership and Service

- Director, Laboratory for Language, History and Culture in the Ionian Space
 - Member, Greek State Literary Awards Committee
 - Editorial Board Member, *Eptanisos Politeia*
 - Reviewer, IConiC Series (Brepols)
 - PhD Supervisor
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Research Projects

Selected participation in national and international research projects, including the University of Cyprus, the University of Ioannina and the Ionian University.

Awards

- IKY Fellowship
 - London Hellenic Society Postgraduate Prizes
 - King's College London Research Awards
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Academic Activity

Author of two monographs, co-editor of two scholarly volumes and more than ninety publications in journals, edited books and conference proceedings. He has presented papers at international conferences hosted by institutions including the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, Princeton, King's College London, Lund, Naples "L'Orientale", as well as major Greek universities and research institutions.