

Curriculum Vitae

Voula Tsouna

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Research Abstract

Her work is in the area of ancient

Greek philosophy, specializing in Socrates, Plato, the Socratic schools, and Hellenistic Philosophy. Her first book is a critical edition with translation and commentary of *[Philodemus]: [On Choices and Avoidances]* (Bibliopolis Press, Naples, 1995), a text of late Epicurean ethics. Her analysis focuses on the topics of rationalism, attitudes towards superstition and the fear of death. She discusses the contribution of late Epicureans to practical ethics and explains its philosophical interest. Her second book *The Epistemology of the Cyrenaic School* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK, 1998) is an interpretation of the epistemology of the Cyrenaics, a Socratic school active in the Classical and Hellenistic periods. She argues that the subjectivism of this school in some ways pre-announces modern positions and that its scepticism comes close to modern scepticism about the external world. Among the topics she examines are the relation between the mental and the physical, the authority of first-person reports, scepticism towards the empirical world and towards other minds, and the relations between relativism and scepticism. Her third book *The Ethics of Philodemus* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006) reconstructs and assesses the ethical system of Philodemus, a very important Epicurean philosopher of the 1st century BC., whose surviving writings belong to the collection of the Herculaneum papyri. Her fourth book *[Philodemus]: On Property Management* (Society of Biblical Literature, 2013) focuses primarily on the vices or virtues involved in the acquisition and preservation of property and wealth. The fifth book is the Greek collection *Knowledge, Pleasure, Happiness* (Ekkremes, Athens, 2013), which contains Essays on the Socratics and the Hellenistic and Roman philosophers. Voula Tsouna is also the author of numerous articles on the Socratics, the Hellenistic and Roman philosophers and Plato. Currently, she is preparing a monograph on Plato's *Charmides*, a chapter on Hedonism for the *Cambridge History of Moral Philosophy*, and articles on Aristotle's psychology and *Poetics*.

Career

University of California, Santa Barbara, Full Professor, 2006-.

University of California, Santa Barbara, Associate Professor with Tenure, 2000-2006.

University of California, Santa Barbara, Assistant Professor step IV, 1997-2000.

University of Crete, Greece (Rethymon), Department of Philosophy and Social Studies, Michelis Chair in Aesthetics for Distinguished Visitors, 2010 and 2011 (Spring).

Pomona College, Assistant Professor of Classics and Philosophy, 1994-1996.

University of Glasgow, Scotland, research fellow, 1992-1993.

Research Fellow, Centro per lo studio dei papiri Ercolanesi, 1988-1989.

Selected Bibliography

Books

[Philodemus]: [On Choices and Avoidances] (Bibliopolis Press, Naples, 1995)

The Epistemology of the Cyrenaic School (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK, 1998)

The Ethics of Philodemus (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006)

[Philodemus]: On Property Management (Society of Biblical Literature, 2013)

Γνώση, Ηδονή, Ευδαιμονία (Εκκρεμές, Αθήνα, 2013)

Articles within the last decade

"Portare davanti agli occhi: Una tecnica retorica nelle opera morali di Filodemo ('Setting-before-the-eyes')", *Cronache Ercolanesi*, 33, 2003, pp. 243-247.

"Interpretations of Socratic Self-Knowledge", *Proceedings of international conference on Socrates: Athens/Delphi*, 2004, pp. 319-330.

"Aristo on Blends of Arrogance", in *Aristo of Ceos*, ed. by W. Fortenbaugh and S. White, 2005, pp. 1-14.

"Philodemus (c.110-c. 40BC)", *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, ed. D.M. Borchert (Thomson Gale Publishing), 2005.

"Philodemus and the Epicurean tradition", *Proceedings of Symposium Hellenisticum*, edd. A.M. Ioppolo and D. Sedley, 2006.

"Philodemus on Ethics And Moral Psychology", *Greek and Roman Philosophy, 100BC to 200AD, Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies*, edd. R. Sorabji and R. Sharples, 2006.

"Philodème: L'Economique, Sur l'arrogance" (in collaboration with D. Delattre), *Les Epicuriens. Editions de la Pléïade*, Paris, forthcoming 2007.

"Self-criticism in Plato's Socratic dialogues" (translated into French), *L' Ethique de Socrate*, edd. P. Destrée and A. Dorion, Presses Universitaires de France, forthcoming 2007.

Academic Distinctions

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in Philosophy, 1994-95.

Theodor Mommsen Award for the book *[Philodemus] [On Choices and Avoidances]* (Bibliopolis, Naples 1995).

Centro per lo Studio dei Papiri Ercolanesi (Naples, Italy), Research Fellowship, 1988-89.

National Merit Scholarship of the Greek State (I.K.Y.) 1979-83.