

Anastasia Nikolopoulou, PhD.,
Associate Professor
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Short Biography

Anastasia Nikolopoulou is an Associate Professor in the Department of English Studies. She served as Dean of the School of Humanities at the University of Cyprus (2008-2010, 2016-2019) and as Chair of the Department of English Studies (then Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures (1998-2002). Nikolopoulou received her BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara (1984), and her MA and PhD from Cornell University (1987, 1990). Prior to pursuing scholarly studies, Nikolopoulou trained as an actor in Greece (Pelos Katselis Drama School, 1975-1978). She performed with the Greek Theatre, the National Greek Theatre (Arma Thespidos) and with Christos Pittas in Sophocles' *Electra* at Aspasia Papathanasiou's theatre Desmoi (1978-1980). Before coming to the University of Cyprus (1997) she taught courses in theatre history, cultural studies, and English literature at the College of Wooster (1990-1994) and at the National Central University in Taiwan (1994-1997) where she also directed plays by Moliere, Shaw, and Ibsen.

Research Interests

Nikolopoulou's research focuses on theatre history and cultural studies; eighteenth- and nineteenth-century studies; literary hermeneutics; transdisciplinary approaches to environmental studies; and refugee and humanitarian studies.

Ongoing Research Project: Refugee and Humanitarian Studies

From 2017 to 2019 Nikolopoulou organized interdisciplinary research workshops at the University of Cyprus on the theme of refugee and humanitarian studies with participants from the US, Lebanon, Jordan, and the EU. Workshops included (a) Rebuilding Refugee Communities (2-3 October 2017) in collaboration with Kilian Kleinschmidt (www.Switxboard.org) and representatives from EU and US educational and entrepreneurial platforms www.SPARK-online.org (Netherlands), www.KIRON.ngo (Germany), and www.RBK.org (Jordan, US); (b) The Future of Refugee, Climate Change and Humanitarian Studies (14-15 December 2018) in collaboration with faculty from the American University of Beirut, Queen's University Belfast, and Center for Energy Strategic Studies Society, Amman, Jordan; and (c) Emergent Trends in Humanitarian Studies, in collaboration with faculty from Boston University Kilachand Honors College and the American University of Beirut, 7 January 2019.

External Funding, European Commission and UNESCO Awards

Reconfiguring Values for Sustainable Communities (2010-2013). In collaboration with Professor Michael Hays (Cornell University, Columbia University, NYU, SUA) and Dr Satish Kumar (Queen's University Belfast), Nikolopoulou organized the Erasmus Intensive Program "Reconfiguring Values and Knowledge for Sustainable Communities." This initiative received funding from the European Commission and IDEP Cyprus (Foundation for the Management of EU Lifelong Learning Programmes) to run as a Summer Graduate School

for three years (2011-2013). The Summer School was open to students from all disciplines and focused on major issues pertaining to environmental studies and sustainable development. The Summer School was housed in the beautiful village of Agros, at Rodon Hotel. The consortium comprised faculty from the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture (University of Cyprus); the Faculty of Law and the Department of Environmental Management and Strategic Policy (Mykolas Romeris University) and the School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeocology (Queen's University Belfast). Representatives of Agros Youth Organization, Troodos Development Company, and the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry also joined the workshops.
www.ucy.ac.cy/erasmus-ip.

“Shared Visions and Futures: Education for Sustainable Development across Disciplines and Cultures” (2007). This initiative received funding from UNESCO (Participation Program Award, 2005-2007) and was organized in collaboration with Professor Michael Hays (Cornell University, Columbia University, NYU, SUA), the Pedagogical Institute of the Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture, the Cyprus Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources and Environment, the Mediterranean Information Office for the Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, and the Dialogue Chair in Middle Eastern Studies (University of Nicosia).

“The Geography of the Human: Reflecting on Science and Technology as Parts of a Humanistic Education” (2009). This initiative received funding from UNESCO (Participation Program Award, 2007-2009). Participants included faculty from Stellenbosch University (Philosophy), Mykolas Romeris University (Faculty of Law), Queen's University Belfast (Geography), Notre Dame University, Louaize, Lebanon (Engineering) and the Council of Europe Education Department Secretary.

International Conference, The Challenge to Globalization: Education for Tolerance, Democracy, and Sustainable Development. The conference was funded and supported by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Teen Murti House, New Delhi (January 20-22, 2005). Coordinated with Dr. Taisha Abraham (University of New Delhi) and Dr. Farid Mirbagheri (University of Nicosia).

Teaching Activities

Nikolopoulou has taught the following courses at the University of Cyprus.

- Introduction to Theatre
- Modern Drama
- Outcasts and Nineteenth-Century Melodrama
- Literature and the Care of the Self
- Literature and the Art of Living (Graduate/Undergraduate)
- Literature and Technologies of the Self
- Imagined Worlds: The Nineteenth Century (Graduate)
- Cultural Representations: Class, Gender, and Slavery in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries
- Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Drama
- Gothic Representations of the Orient
- Studies in the Gothic: The Politics of Fear
- Historical and Ideological Transformations in the Nineteenth Century (Graduate)

Selected Publications

Education for Sustainable Development: Challenges, Strategies, and Practices in a Globalizing World. Anastasia Nikolopoulou, Taisha Abraham, Farid Mirbagheri. New Delhi and London, Sage, 2010, 260+pp. E-book, Sage Knowledge, 2012; Kindle.

The Aesthetics and Ideology of Melodrama: Generic and Cultural Transformations (in Greek). Co-edited with Savas Patsalides. Thessaloniki, Greece: University Studio Press, Aristotle University, 2001. 743 pp.

Melodrama: The Cultural Emergence of a Genre. Co-edited with Michael Hays. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1996, 1999. 285 pp. Reissued in paperback, Palgrave, MacMillan, 1999, 304 pp. Reviews: Choice, Theatre Journal, Theatre Survey, Henry Street.

Recent Conferences and Workshop Presentations

“The Civic Responsibility of the University in the Age of Climate Refugees,” Boston University Kilachand Honors College, Conference on The Role of the University in the Crisis of Forced Displacement, Boston, 27 September 2019.

“Humanitarian Studies and the Changing Focus of Disciplines.” Presentation and organization of workshop, Emergent Trend in Refugee and Humanitarian Studies: Bridging the Arts and Sciences, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, 7 January 2019.

“Capacity Building from the Emergent Future: Co-Creating Leadership through Grassroots Initiatives.” Workshop presentation, coordinated with Dr Satish Kumar, Queen’s University Belfast, and Dr Ayoub Abu-Dayyeh, Center for Energy Strategic Studies Society, Amman. International Humanitarian Studies Association Conference, The Hague, 29 August 2018.

“New Trends in Humanitarian Studies.” Presentation and organization of workshop, The Future of Refugee, Climate Change, and Humanitarian Studies, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, 14 December 2018.

“Environmental Studies and the Future of the University.” International Conference on Ecocriticism and Environmental Studies, Interdisciplinary Research Foundation, Warsaw, 15 April 2017.