

Isidoros (born Charalampos) Katsos
PhD Theology and Philosophy (Cantab.)
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Curriculum Vitae

Studies

2014-9: University of Cambridge, Faculty of Divinity, PhD in Philosophy of Religion and Patristics (supervisor: Dr. Rowan Williams; passed with no corrections; publication pending).

Thesis title: ‘The Metaphysics of Light in the Hexaemeral Literature: From Philo of Alexandria to Ambrose of Milan.’

2013-2014: University of Cambridge, Faculty of Divinity, MPhil in Philosophy of Religion and Patristics (supervisor: Prof. Sarah Coakley; First: 81/100; Theological Studies Award).

Dissertation title: ‘Divine Infinity and Negative Theology in Philo of Alexandria: A Study on *Heres* (227-9).’

2010-2013: University of Athens, Divinity School, BTh (4-year course completed in 3; highest distinction ever achieved: 9.99/10; comprehensive curriculum of 48 courses focusing on historical theology (history of doctrine and patristics); systematic theology (Christian dogmatics); biblical studies (old and new testament); philosophy of religion and ethics; pedagogies and religious studies).

2002-2009: Freie Universität Berlin, Law School, PhD in Law (supervisor: Prof. Dr. Philip Kunig; highest distinction: summa cum laude).

Thesis title: ‘Nachhaltiger Schutz des Kulturellen Erbes: Zur ökologischen Dimension des Kulturgüterschutzes.’

1998-1999: Université de Paris I (Panthéon – Sorbonne), Law School, Diplôme d' Études Approfondies (post-graduate masters degree in Public Law).

1993-1998: University of Athens, Law School, Bachelors degree (Hons).

Awards – Scholarships

Grants for the Completion of the PhD: University of Cambridge Trusts; A.G. Leventis Foundation; Pembroke College.

Full scholarship for the PhD: Pembroke AHRC Award; University of Cambridge Trusts; Faculty of Divinity.

Award for the MPhil: Theological Studies Award 2014 (best dissertation prize).

Full scholarship for the MPhil: Church of Greece; Nikaeen Ecumenical Trust; University of Cambridge Trusts; A.G. Leventis Foundation.

Full scholarship for PhD in Law: NATO; German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship (DAAD).

Languages

Modern Greek (native), English, German (near-native), French, ancient Greek (advanced), Latin (intermediate), Biblical Hebrew (elementary).

Publications

A. Theology & Philosophy

- ‘God as *nous* and as *demiurge* in the Hexaemeral tradition,’ in Ilaria Ramelli (ed.), *Human and Divine Nous from Ancient to Byzantine and Renaissance Philosophy and Religion: Key Themes, Intersections, and Developments* (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming) [commissioned for 2021].
- ‘Reading Homer – Interpreting Scripture: Philo and the Transformation of Lady Philosophy,’ in Max Leventhal and Max Kramer (eds), *Being Jewish, Writing Greek: Literary Form and Cultural Identity* (Cambridge: CUP, forthcoming) [commissioned for 2020].
- ‘“Light from Light”: The Metaphysics of Light of the Early Church,’ in Piotr Ashwin-Siejkowski, Ilaria Ramelli and John Anthony McGuckin (eds), *The T. & T. Clark Companion to the Early Church* (London: Bloomsbury, Spring 2020) [commissioned for end of 2019].
- ‘Chasing the Light: What happened to the Ancient Theories?’, *ISIS* 110 (2019), 270-82.
- ‘Why Study Philo *Today*? A Hundred Years of Philonic Scholarship in Retrospect and Prospect,’ *Reviews in Religion & Theology*, 24:1 (2017), 1-10.
- ‘An Orthodox Perspective on Distributive Justice,’ in: Christine Mengès-Le Pape (ed.), *La justice entre théologie et droit* (Toulouse: Presses de l'Université Toulouse, 2016), 81-8.
- ‘The Problem of Evil in the Light of Christ: A Further Response to N.N. Trakakis,’ in *ABC Religion and Ethics*, 21 July 2016 (www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2016/07/21/4504498.htm).
- ‘Wounded by Love: Sketch of an Orthodox Response to N.N. Trakakis,’ in *ABC Religion and Ethics*, 9 June 2016 (www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2016/06/09/4479015.htm).
- ‘Backstage: Wittgensteinian Prose in VII Soliloquies,’ *Noesis: Theology, Philosophy, Poetics* 2 (2015), 22-9.
- ‘The principle of Economy in the teachings of the late Elder of Ephesos, Metropolitan Chrysostomos (Konstantinides),’ 18 pp., in: ‘From Divine Economy to the Economy of the Church,’ Acts of the 2012 Conference of the Association of Postgraduate Students of the Theological School of the University of Athens (Athens 2014).

Edited works

- Associate editor in Sotiris Mitralaxis (ed.), *Polis, Ontology, Ecclesial Event: Engaging with Christos Yannaras' Thought* (Cambridge: James Clarke, 2018).

Reviews

- Eyjólfur Emilsson, Lars Janby, Panagiotis Pavlos, Torstein Tollefsen (eds), *Platonism and Christian Thought* (book draft: Routledge, November 2017).
- Cyril Hovorun, *Scaffolds of the Church: Towards Poststructural Ecclesiology* (Cambridge: James Clarke/Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2018), pp. xiii + 262.
- Reviewer for the *Scottish Journal of Theology*.

B. Law

Previously published extensively in Law, esp. Human Rights and Sustainable Development Law (in Greek, French & German; a detailed list of publications can be provided upon request).

- Key publication: Charalampos Katsos, *Nachhaltiger Schutz des Kulturellen Erbes - Zur ökologischen Dimension des Kulturgüterschutzes* (Baden-Baden, Zürich, Wien: Nomos/Dike/Facultas, 2011), pp. 586. Reviewed in:
 - *Natur und Recht* (NuR) 2011, p. 860 by Prof. Dr. Ernst-Rainer Hönes, also online available (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/p1r71814m4066365/fulltext.pdf>).
 - *Archiv für Urheber- und Medienrecht* (UFITA) 2011, pp. 822-824 by Prof. Dr. Erik Jayme.

Research Positions

2019-2022: Research Associate at the Von Hügel Institute for Critical Catholic Inquiry (VHI), Cambridge.

2019-2020: Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Christianity, Hebrew University.

2019- : Fellow of the Forum for Advanced Studies, Rome (global, interdisciplinary network of academic institutions and scholars working on philosophy, theology, aesthetics and religion from antiquity to the renaissance; Director: Dr Robert M. Berchman).

2019-22: Invited scholar in the international, US-funded (Fordham/Luce/L100) project ‘Orthodox Christianity and Human Rights’ (Coordinator: Orthodox Christian Studies Centre, Fordham University).

2018-9: Associated Researcher at the EU-funded (Marie Curie) ITN/ETN project ‘The History of Human Freedom and Dignity in Western Civilization’ (international and interdisciplinary network of 6 European Universities and 9 non-academic partner organizations; Coordinator: Dr Anders-Christian Jacobsen).

2017- : Fellow of the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism (Director: Prof. Douglas Hedley).

Ministry

2019-: Awarded the office of Archimandrite (highest priestly rank), Church of Greece.

2019-: Ordination (Priesthood), Church of Greece, Archdiocese of Athens.

2017-8: Chaplain to the Mayor of Cambridge. The role included the opening of the City Council meetings with a short reflection on contemporary issues (‘Thought for the Day’).

2013-9: Assisting as Deacon and then as Priest at the Greek-Orthodox parish of St. Athanasios, Cambridge.

2010-9: Ordination (Deacon), Church of Greece, Archdiocese of Athens.

Other Professional Experience

1999-2011: Practiced Law (Athens Bar) and worked as legal consultant in various institutions (EU, Greek Home Office) and EU funded projects (Natura 2000).

Teaching

2015-9: Small group teaching in 2nd year undergraduate course ‘God, Freedom and the Soul,’ Faculty of Divinity, Cambridge.

2016-8: Small group teaching of 3rd year undergraduate course ‘Metaphysics,’ Faculty of Divinity, Cambridge.

2016-8: Small group teaching in 1st year undergraduate course ‘Philosophy of Religion and Ethics,’ Faculty of Divinity, Cambridge.

2016 (July): Part-time lecturer in Theology and Philosophy for the Sutton Trust Summer School (Key Stage 5), University of Cambridge, Divinity Faculty.

2010-2011: Lecturer (fixed term) in environmental law (Masters programme), Harokopio University, Athens.

2010-2011: Part-time lecturer in cultural heritage law (undergraduate level), Arcadia University, Athens.

Conference Papers (most recent)

2019 (Oxford): ‘Eriugena’s Notion of Light and His Hexaemeral Sources,’ invited paper in the 18th *International Conference on Patristic Studies*.

2019 August (Oxford): ‘The Other Philo: Same-sex (Mis-?) Conduct in the Text and Subtext of Philo’s Scriptural Exegesis,’ invited paper in the international conference *Bridging Voices: Contemporary Eastern Orthodox Identity and the Challenges of Pluralism and Sexual Diversity in a Secular Age*.

2019 March (Cambridge): ‘Human Dignity and Freedom in Two Cappadocian Treatises *On the Creation of Man*,’ key note paper in the international conference *Early Christian Origins of the Human Rights Tradition*.

2019 January (Oxford): ‘On the Coherence of “Christian Platonism,” invited paper in the Oxford Graduate Seminar for Patristics and Modern Theology.

2018 May (Berlin): ‘Chasing the Light: What Happened to the Ancient Theories?’ invited paper in the international conference *Theories of Vision and Light from Antiquity to the Renaissance*.

2018 April (Cambridge): Response to Rowan Williams’ paper ‘Reading and Misreading Origen in the 4th Century’ in the international conference *Re-thinking Origen*.

2017 December (Athens): ‘What Does It Mean to Be ‘Human’ and How to Say It? The Conundrum of the *Imago Dei* Tradition of the Eastern Church Fathers,’ key note speech at the international and interdisciplinary EU-funded project *Concepts of God*.

2017 October (Cambridge): ‘Metaphysics and Method: Christian Exegesis as Ethics, Physics and Epoptics in Origen’s Prologue to the Commentary on the *Song of Songs*,’ paper presented in the 1st *Colloquium Adamantianum* on ‘Divine and Human Freedom: The Philosophical Significance of the Church Father Origen (Theo Kobusch).’

2017 March (Cambridge): ‘Origen’s Theory of the Spiritual Body and the Spiritual Senses,’ response paper presented in Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference in Ancient Philosophy *Body and Corporeality in Ancient Philosophy*.

2016 November (San Antonio, TX): ‘An Inconvenient Truth: Plotinus’ Corporeal Light,’ paper presented in the annual conference of the American Academy of Religion, Platonism/Neoplatonism Group.

2016 March (Cambridge): ‘Iamblichus and the Golden Chain,’ response paper presented in the Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference in Ancient Philosophy *Archaic and Genesis: Theorising Origins in Ancient Philosophy*.

Organization of Conferences

2019 June (Cambridge): Co-convenor and moderator of the interdisciplinary round table discussion ‘Being human in the 21st century: religion, spirituality, emotions, algorithms’ (invited speakers: Rowan Williams (religion & art); Andrew Louth (spirituality); Nicandros Bouras (emotions); Thanasis Fokas (algorithms & artificial intelligence)).

2019 March (Cambridge): Convenor of the international conference ‘Early Christian Origins of the Human Rights Tradition: Exploring Patristic Concepts of Individuality and Freedom’ (invited speakers from Germany, Denmark and the UK).

2018 April (Cambridge, UK): Co-convenor of the international conference ‘Re-thinking Origen’ (invited speakers: Giulio Maspero; Morwena Ludlow; Rowan Williams; Sam Rubenson; Douglas Hedley; Christian Hengstermann; Andrew Louth; Elizabeth Theokritoff; Joseph O’Leary; Pui Him Ip).

2017-: Co-convenor of the biannual conference series *Colloquium Adamantianum* under the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism (together with Dr Christian Hengstermann; invited speakers: Theo Kobusch, October 2017; Anders-Christian Jacobsen, June 2018; Ilaria Ramelli, January 2018; Mark Edwards, October 2019).

2016 March (Cambridge, UK): Convenor of a round table talk between Oxbridge graduate students and Rowan Williams based on the latter’s Hulsean Lectures 2015.

Memberships

- **2016- :** Fellowship of St Sergius and St Alban (Cambridge branch).
- **2015- :** Cambridge Hellenic Learned Society.