

Phillip Mitsis

NYU Abu Dhabi A6, #141  
P.O. Box 903  
New York, New York 10276-0903  
phillip.mitsis@nyu.edu

Department of Classics, NYU  
100 Washington Sq. East, Rm. 503  
New York, New York 10003  
(212) 998-8599

## **EDUCATION**

B.A. Williams College (1974)  
Ph.D. Cornell University (1982)

## **TEACHING POSITIONS**

(1977-1979) Graduate Instructor, Cornell University  
(1980-1981) Instructor of Classics, Cornell University  
(1982-1987) Assistant Professor of Classics, Cornell University  
(1987-1990) Associate Professor of Classics, Cornell University  
(1990-1994) Andrew W. Mellon Chair in the Arts and Sciences, Cornell University  
(1994) Visiting Professor of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh  
(1994--) Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization; Professor of Classics; Professor of Hellenic Studies; Affiliated Professor of Philosophy; New York University  
(1999) Distinguished Visiting Professor of Philosophy, University of Aberdeen  
(2001) Visiting Professor of Classics, Princeton University  
(2012-2013) Senior Affiliated Professor in the Humanities (Literature and Philosophy), NYU Abu Dhabi  
(2014-2020) Senior Affiliated Professor in the Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, and Legal Studies), NYU Abu Dhabi  
(2015--) Global Network Professor, New York University

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS**

Florence May Smith Fellowship, Cornell University (1976-7)  
Lane Cooper Fellowship, Cornell University (1979-80)  
NEH Fellowship (1987/88)  
Fellow, National Humanities Center (1987/88)  
Howard Foundation Fellowship (1989/90)  
ACLS Travel Grant (1990)  
Andrew W. Mellon Chair, Mellon Foundation (1990)  
Honorary Citizen of Lindos and the City of Rhodes, Greece (1992)

Distinguished Educator of the City of New York (2005)  
CNRS Fellowship, Centre Léon Robin (2012)  
Visiting Distinguished Fellow, International Hippocratic  
Foundation, Kos, Greece (2017)  
Fellow, Global Research Initiative, NYU Athens (2018)  
Two Honorary Issues of *Politeia*, vol. 1, no.2; no.4 (2019)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

(Including edited books and translations)

B1a. *Epicurus' Ethical Theory: The Pleasures of Invulnerability* (*Cornell Studies in Classical Philology* vol. xlviii) Cornell University Press, 1988; reprinted 1989, 1992, 2005; e-version: [www.jstor.org/stable/10.7591/j.cttq45fk](http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.7591/j.cttq45fk).

B1b. *Η Επικούρεια Ηθική Θεωρία, μετάφραση* I. Αβραμίδης (Θύραθεν, in preparation).

B2. *Mega Nepios: Il Destinatario nell' Epos Didascalico*, (co-editor with Jenny Strauss Clay and Alessandro Schiesaro) *Materiali e Discussioni* 31 (Pisa, 1993).

B3. *Encyclopedia of Classical Philosophy*, (ed. Donald Zeyl, co-assoc. ed. with Daniel Devereux) Greenwood Press, 1997; Routledge, 2013.

B4. *Allusion, Authority, and Truth: Critical Perspectives on Greek Poetic and Rhetorical Praxis* (Trends in Classics--Supplementary Volumes 7), co-editor with Christos Tsagalis, (De Gruyter, 2010).

B5. *L'Éthique d'Épicure: Les Plaisirs de l'invulnérabilité*, translated with a forward by Alain Gigandet and new bibliography by Francesco Verde (Classiques Garnier, 2014)--revised and expanded version of B1.

B6. *Wordplay and Powerplay in Roman Literature* (Trends in Classics--Supplementary Volumes 36), co-editor with Ioannis Ziogas (De Gruyter, 2016).

B7. *La libertà, il piacere, la morte. Studi sull'Epicureismo e la sua influenza* (Biblioteca di Testi e Studi 1222), edited and translated with an afterword by Enrico Piergiacomini (Carocci, 2018).

B8. *La teoria etica di Epicuro. I piaceri dell'invulnerabilità* (Studia Philologica, 22), edited and translated by Enrico Piergiacomini--revised and expanded version of B5 (L'Erma di Bretschneider, 2019).

B9. *Natura Aut Voluntas? Études sur la pensée politique et éthique hellénistique et romaine, et sur son influence postérieure*, translated by Vincent Jolivet (Brepols, 2020)

B10. *The Oxford Handbook of Epicurus and Epicureanism* (editor), Oxford University Press, 2020.

B11. *Μελέτες για την Επικούρεια Φιλοσοφία και την Επιρροή της, μετάφραση Πάνος Ηλιόπουλος* (Θύραθεν, 2020).

B12. *Ratio certe Cogit. Studi sulla teoria etico-politica degli Stoici*, translation in preparation by Enrico Piergiacomi (La Sapienza Editrice, 2020).

B13. *The Battle of Frogs and Mice*, text, translation, and notes with George Grimbilas (Paideia Institute Press, 2020).

B14. *How to be Happy: An Ancient Guide to the Epicurean Life* (translation with introduction) in *Ancient Wisdom for Modern Readers* (Princeton University Press, in preparation for 2020)

B15. *Hellenic Philosophy: Origins and Character* (editor) *Politeia*, 2020.

B16. *Φύση, Νόμος, και Ηθική: Οι Στωικοί περί της Αρετής και της Ευδαιμονίας, μετάφραση Κωνσταντίνος Αλεξόπουλος* (Θύραθεν, 2020).

B17. *The Philosophy of Epicurus* (editor) Oxford University Press, 2021.

B18. *Epicureanism* (editor), Oxford University Press, 2021.

B19. *Early Modern Cosmopolitanism* (co-edited with Jon Miller) in preparation.

B20. *Convers'd with Books: Locke and Hellenistic Philosophy* (Oxford University Press, in preparation).

B21. *Jean Vigo: The Dream of Ordinary Life and the Shadow of Death* (co-authored with Claire Labastie) in *Philosophical Filmmakers*, ed. Costica Bradatan, (Bloomsbury, in early stages of preparation).

## Articles

- A1. "Moral Rules and the Aims of Stoic Ethics" *The Journal of Philosophy* vol. 83, no. 10 (1986) pp. 556-57.
- A2. "Commentary on Kenneth Sayre's 'The *Philebus* and the Good: the Unity of the Dialogue in which Good is Unity'", ed. John J. Cleary, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* vol. 2 (1986) pp. 72-78.
- A3. "Epicurus on Friendship and Altruism" *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* vol. 5 (1987) pp. 127-153.
- A4. "Xerxes Entrance: Irony, Myth, and History in the *Persians*", ed. Pietro Pucci, *Language and the Tragic Hero. Essays on Greek Tragedy in Honor of Gordon M. Kirkwood* (Scholars Press, 1988) pp. 103-119.
- A5. "Epicurus on Death and the Duration of Life", eds. John J. Cleary and Daniel C. Shartin, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* vol.4 (1989) pp. 303-322.
- A6. "Chion of Heraclea: A Philosophical Novel in Letters" with David Konstan, ed. M.C. Nussbaum, *The Poetics of Therapy: Hellenistic Ethics in its Rhetorical and Literary Context, Apeiron* vol. 23, no.4 (1990) pp. 257-279.
- A7. "Commentary on David. K. Glidden's 'Epicurean Thought'", eds. John J. Cleary and D.C. Shartin, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* vol. 6 (1990) pp. 447-454.
- A8. "Epicureanism", eds. Lawrence C. Becker and Charlotte B. Becker, *Encyclopedia of Ethics* (New York, 1992; revised 2001) pp. 318-320.
- A9. "Epicurus", eds. Lawrence C. Becker and Charlotte B. Becker, *Encyclopedia of Ethics* (New York, 1992; revised 2001) pp. 320-322.
- A10. "Lucretius", eds. Lawrence C. Becker and Charlotte B. Becker, *Encyclopedia of Ethics* (New York, 1992; revised 2001) pp. 1029-1031.
- A11. "Natural Law and Natural Rights in Post-Aristotelian Philosophy: The Stoics and Their Critics", eds. Wolfgang Haase and Hildegaard Temporini, *Aufstieg und Niedergang der Römischen Welt II* 36.7 (De Gruyter, 1992) pp. 4812-4850.
- A12. "Epicurus", eds. Jonathan Dancy and Ernest Sosa, *A Companion to Epistemology* (Oxford, 1992; revised 2010) p. 115.
- A13. "Committing Philosophy on the Reader: Didactic Coercion and Autonomy in *De Rerum Natura*", eds. Jenny Strauss Clay et al, *Mega Nepios: Il Destinatario nell' Epos Didascalico, Materiali e Discussioni* 31 (Pisa, 1993) pp. 111-128.

- A14. "Seneca on Reason, Rules, and Moral Development", eds. Jacques Brunschwig and Martha C. Nussbaum, *Passions and Perceptions* (Cambridge, 1993) pp. 285-312.
- A15. "The Early Stoic Theory of Natural Law", ed. Konstantine Boudouris, *Hellenistic Philosophy* vol. ii (Athens, 1994) pp. 130-40.
- A16. "Socrates and Stoic Natural Law" with Joseph G. DeFilippo, ed. Paul A. Vander Waerdt, *The Socratic Movement* (Cornell, 1994) pp. 252-271.
- A17. "Η πρώιμη στωική θεωρία περί του φυσικού δικαίου", στο Κ. Βουδούρη (επιμ.), *Ελληνιστική φιλοσοφία*, Διεθνές Κέντρον Ελληνικής Φιλοσοφίας και Πολιτισμού, Αθήνα 1994, σ. 211-229.
- A18. "Epicurus on Death and the Deprivations of Death", eds. Gabriele Giannantoni and Marcello Gigante, *L'Epicureismo Greco e Romano: Atti del Congresso Internazionale* (Naples, 1995) pp. 805-812.
- A19. "Epicurus", eds. Jaegwon Kim and Ernest Sosa, *A Companion to Metaphysics* (Oxford, 1995) pp. 134-36.
- A20. "Cicero", ed. Robert Audi, *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (Cambridge, 1995; revised 1999) pp. 123-24.
- A21. "Στωικοί και τα δικαιώματα", στο Κ. Ιεροδιακόνου (επιμ.), *Θέματα στωικής φιλοσοφίας, μετάφραση Ελένη Βαμπούλη; Αφιέρωμα περιοδικού Δευκαλίων* 15/1, (1997) σ 173-192.
- A22. "Commentary on John M. Cooper's 'Plato's Statesman and Politics'", eds. John J. Cleary and Gary M. Gurtler, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* vol. 13 (1997) pp. 105-110.
- A23. "Lucretius on the Unconscious" with Kimberly Gladman, eds. Keimpe Algra, M. H. Koenen, and P. H. Schrijvers, *Lucretius and his Intellectual Background* (Leiden, 1998) pp. 215-24.
- A24. "The Stoic Origin of Natural Rights", ed. Katerina Ierodiakonou *Topics in Stoic Philosophy* (Oxford, 1999) pp. 153-77
- A25. "Happiness and Death in Epicurean Ethics", eds. Lawrence Jost and Roger Shiner, *Eudaimonia and Well-Being, Apeiron* vol. 35, no.4 (December, 2002) pp. 41-56.
- A26. "The Stoics", ed. Christopher J. Shields, *Blackwell Guide to Ancient Philosophy* (Blackwell, 2003) pp. 253-267.
- A27. "Locke's Offices", eds. Jon Miller and Brad Inwood, *Hellenistic and Early Modern Philosophy* (Cambridge, 2003) pp. 45-61.

- A28. "The Institutions of Hellenistic Philosophy", ed. Andrew Erskine, *The Hellenistic World* (Blackwell, 2003; 2005; 2009) pp. 464-476.
- A29. "The Stoics and Aquinas on Virtue and Natural Law", eds. David T. Runia, Gregory E. Sterling, Hindy Najman, and David Winston, *Laws Stamped with the Seal of Nature: Law and Nature in Hellenistic Philosophy and Philo of Alexandria; Studia Philonica* 15 (2003) pp. 35-53.
- A30. "Happiness and Death in Epicurean Ethics", eds. Lawrence Jost and Roger Shiner, *Eudaimonia and Well Being: Ancient and Modern Conceptions* (Kelowna, B.C.: Academic Printing and Publishing, 2003)
- A31. "Cicerón, Marco Tulio (106-43 a.C.)", *Diccionario Akal de Filosofía* (Ediciones Akal, S.A., 2004) pp. 161-162.
- A32. "The Stoics on Property and Politics", ed. Timothy Roche, *Ancient Greek Ethics and Political Philosophy: Southern Journal of Philosophy* (vol. 43, 2005 suppl.) pp. 230-249.
- A33. "Epicurus", ed. David Borchert, *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (MacMillan, 2006) vol. 2, pp. 264-70.
- A34. "The Stoic Origin of Natural Rights", ed. Giorgios Anagnostopoulos, *Law and Rights in the Ancient Greek Tradition: Philosophical Inquiry* (suppl. 2006) pp. 173-199. (revised version of A24).
- A35. "Life as Play, Life as a Play: Montaigne and the Epicureans", eds. Stephen J. Heyworth and Peta Fowler, *Classical Constructions: Papers in Memory of Don Fowler, Classicist and Epicurean* (Oxford, 2007) pp. 18-38.
- A36. "Thomas Chimes: The Entropy Paintings" (Locks Art Publications: Philadelphia, 2007) pp. 1-58.
- A37. "The Stoic Origin of Natural Rights", ed. Richard O. Brooks, *Cicero and Modern Law* (Ashgate, 2009) pp. 455-75. (reprint of A24).
- A38. "Epicurus", eds. Jaegwon Kim, Ernest Sosa, and Gary S. Rosenkrantz, *A Companion to Metaphysics 2nd Edition* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2009), pp. 228-230.
- A39. "Introduction to *Allusion, Authority, and Truth: Critical Perspectives on Greek Poetic and Rhetorical Praxis*" with Christos Tsagalis, (De Gruyter, 2010) pp. 1-9.
- A40. "Achilles *Polytropos* and Odysseus as Suitor", eds. Phillip Mitsis and Christos Tsagalis, *Allusion, Authority, and Truth: Critical Perspectives on Greek Poetic and Rhetorical Praxis* (De Gruyter, 2010) pp. 51-76.
- A41. "Hellenistic Political Thought", ed. George Klosko, *The Oxford Handbook of Political Thought* (Oxford, 2011) pp. 120-141.

- A42. "When Death is There, We are Not: Epicurus on Death and Pleasure", eds. Ben Bradley, Fred Feldman, and Jens Johansson, *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Death* (Oxford, 2013) pp. 200-217.
- A43. "Stoic Ethics", ed. Hugh LaFollette, *International Encyclopedia of Ethics* (Wiley-Blackwell, online, 2013; 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2021).
- A44. "Epicurus: Freedom, Death, and Hedonism," ed. Roger Crisp, *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Ethics* (Oxford, 2013) pp. 73-92.
- A45. "Philosophy and Its Classical Past", ed. M. Santirocco, *What's New about the Old? Reassessing the Ancient World (Daedalus 145.2, Spring 2016)* pp. 59-67.
- A46. "How Modern is Freedom of the Will?" eds. Jacques Lezra and Liza Blake, *Lucretius and Modernity. Epicurean Encounters Across Time and Disciplines* (MacMillan Palgrave, 2016) pp. 105-123.
- A47. "Locke on Pleasure, Law, and Moral Motivation," ed. Iakovos Vasiliou, *Moral Motivation: A History*, in the series *Oxford Philosophical Concepts* (Oxford, 2016) pp. 153-178.
- A48. "A Stoic Critique of Cosmopolitanism", eds. Bruce Robbins and Paulo Lemos Horta, *Cosmopolitanisms* (NYU Press, 2017) pp. 171-188.
- A49. "Epicurei e Cirenaici a confronto" with E Piergiacomi, in Phillip Mitsis, *Libertà, piacere, morte. Studi sull'Epicureismo e sulla sua influenza* (edited and translated by Enrico Piergiacomi) Carocci, 2018, pp. 104-156.
- A50. "Quanto moderna è la libertà del volere? Una matrice epicurea e qualche linea di influenza storica tra Lucrezio e Locke", translated by Enrico Piergiacomi, in edd. Fulvia de Luise e Irene Zavattoni, *La volontarietà dell'azione tra antichità e medioevo* (Trento, 2019) pp. 1-33.
- A51. "Cicero on Epicurean Friendship: A Reappraisal", *Politeia* vol.1 no.2 (2019) pp. 109-123.
- A52. Сенека о разуме, правилах и нравственном рахвитии. Ценности и смыслы. Научный и информационно-аналитический Гуманитарный Журнал. (No. 5. 63) trans. Victoria Pichugina, (2019) pp. 8-50.
- A53. "Introduction", ed. Phillip Mitsis, *The Oxford Handbook of Epicurus and Epicureanism* (Oxford University Press, 2020).
- A54. "Friendship", ed. Phillip Mitsis, *The Oxford Handbook of Epicurus and Epicureanism* (Oxford University Press, 2020).
- A55. "Hellenistic Philosophy and the Origins of Modern Economic Thought", ed. Kelley Arensen, *The Routledge Handbook of Hellenistic Philosophy* (Routledge, London, 2020).

A56. "Life and Soul in Antiquity" with David Konstan, in eds. Giuseppe Cambiano and Alexandra Lianeri, *A Critical History of Ancient Philosophy* (Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming).

A57. "Is there a conception of free will in antiquity and other improper questions", in ed. Phillip Mitsis, *Hellenic Philosophy: Origins and Character (Politeia, 2020)*.

A58. "Καὶ μηδὲν μόνιον ἀποκεκρῦφθαι: Zeno and the Bare Life of the Sage", in ed. Peter Goodrich, *The Cabinet of Imaginary Laws* (forthcoming).

A59. "Spinoza and Lucretius on the sources of Religious Belief", *Philosophia* (in preparation).

## **REVIEWS**

Over fifty book reviews in various professional journals.

## **LECTURES**

Over two hundred and fifty lectures, including such named lectures as the Franklin J. Matchette Foundation, Ian Moore (twice), Prentice, and Trinity.

## **TEACHING**

Directed over thirty dissertations and have been a member of more than sixty other dissertation committees. Graduate teaching includes courses on Hesiod, the Pre-Socratics, Sophocles, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic Philosophy, Lucretius, Cicero, Seneca, Plutarch, Locke, Mill, Merleau-Ponty, and Rawls; undergraduate teaching includes language instruction in Greek and Latin at every level, Greek and Latin prose composition, Greek verse composition, courses in translation on Greek and Roman literature, history, and philosophy at every level, early modern philosophy, contemporary ethics, early modern and contemporary political philosophy, Rawls, democratic theory, animal studies, Continental philosophy, the philosophy of death, contemporary Anglo-American aesthetics, legal and professional ethics, Byzantine and modern Greek literature, Italian Literature, Dante, Cervantes, Tudor Drama, Milton, Gibbon, Proust, World Literature, Foundations of Literature (Epic and Drama; Lyric and the Novel), introductions to various periods of European thought including the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the nineteenth century, and Baroque and nineteenth century opera.



## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Academic Director, American Institute for Verdi Studies (2010-); Fellow, New York Institute for the Humanities (1995--2018; Emeritus 2018--); President, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy (1995-99); Executive Board, Modern Greek Studies Association (1996-99); Director, A.S. Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies (New York University) 1994-2005; Chair, Department of Classics (New York University) 1997-2001; Acting Chair, Department of Classics (New York University) 2007-8; 2011; Director of Graduate Studies, Hellenic Studies (New York University) 1995-7; Acting Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Classics (New York University) 2014; Promotion and Tenure Committee (New York University) 1995-2000; Grievance Committee (New York University) 2001-2006; FAS Graduate Curriculum Committee (New York University) 2012-2014; FAS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (New York University) 2011-2013; Arts and Humanities Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (NYUAD) 2017-2018; Graduate Field Representative, Department of Classics (Cornell University) 1990-93; Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Classics (Cornell University) 1983-1989; Co-editor, *Politeia*; Editorial Board, *Apeiron*, *diagnosis*, *Lexis*, *Politeia*; Referee, John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, National Humanities Center, National Endowment of the Humanities; Program Committee, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, American Philosophical Association; Referee, Oxford University Press, W.W. Norton, Stanford University Press, Routledge, Johns Hopkins University Press, Princeton University Press, Cambridge University Press, Synthese Historical Press, Cornell University Press, Peter Lang Publishing, Harvard University Press, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, *The Philosophical Review*, *Mind*, *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, *Apeiron*, *The American Journal of Philology*, *Classical Philology*, *Classical Journal*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *TAPA*, *Phoenix*, *History of European Ideas*, *Traditio*, *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy*, and *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*