

DR. DIMITRA FIMI

Personal Details

Address: 5 Westra Court
Romilly Road West
Cardiff
CF5 1SA

mobile: +44 (0) 7816280134

website: http://www.cf.ac.uk/learn/lit_cw/dimitra_fimi.php

E-mail: FimiD@cf.ac.uk

Education

- Sep 2002 - 2005 **PhD English Literature**
"The Creative Uses of Scholarly Knowledge in the Writing of J.R.R. Tolkien"
2005, Cardiff University, Supervisor: Professor John Hines, Internal Examiner: Dr. Carl Phelpstead, External Examiner: Dr. Brian Rosebury
- Sep 2001 - 2002 **MA in Early Celtic Studies**
2002, Cardiff University, Distinction. Dissertation Supervisor: Professor Sioned Davies
- Sep 1996-2000 **Degree in English Language and Literature (4 years)**
2000, University of Athens, Greece. Equivalent to upper second class honours degree. Grade: 7,5/10. In the Greek system the mark range 7,5-9 is defined as 'α' (Very Good). Includes teaching qualifications equivalent to British PGCE.

Employment

- currently **Part-time Tutor**
Cardiff University, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Senghennydd Road, Cardiff, CF24 4AG.
- Duties include designing and teaching lecture-based and on-line courses, assignment and assessment of students' course work, preparation and organization of course material, and related administration duties. The courses I have been teaching this academic year are:
- **From Literature to Film: Three Women's Novels on Screen** (Undergraduate Module) – Level 1 – Autumn Semester 2007
 - **Fantasy Worlds: From William Blake to Buffy the Vampire Slayer** (Undergraduate Module) – Level 1 – Spring Semester 2008
 - **The 'F' Words: Food in Fiction** – Level 1 – Spring Semester 2008
 - **A Variety of Literature** (taught together with Dr. Ian Spring) – Level 1 – Autumn 2007 and Spring 2008 – Christina Rossetti and Arthur Machen
 - **Literature, Tradition and Mythology** (five linked Day Schools, taught together with Dr. Juliette Wood and Dr. Ian Spring) – Level 1 – Autumn Semester 2007 and Spring Semester 2008
 - **Things that go Bump in the Night: Halloween Spirits and Horror Fiction** (Day School, taught together with Dr. Juliette Wood)
 - **The Classic Ballads** (Day School, taught together with Dr. Ian Spring)
 - **Christmas in Literature and Tradition** (Day School, taught together with Dr. Juliette Wood)
 - **From Narnia to Harry Potter: Tradition in Children's Fantasy Literature and Film** (Day School, taught together with Ms Sara Broad)
 - **Exploring Tolkien: There and Back Again** (On-line Course) – Autumn Semester 2007, Spring Semester 2008, Summer Semester 2008

- Sep 2006 – Sep 2007 **Part-time Tutor**
Cardiff University, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Senghennydd Road, Cardiff, CF24 4AG.
- Duties include designing and teaching lecture-based and on-line courses, assignment and assessment of students' course work, preparation and organization of course material, and related administration duties. The courses I have been teaching this academic year are:
- **Myth, Language and Ideology in J.R.R. Tolkien's Fiction** (Undergraduate Module) – Level 1, 2 and 3 – Autumn Semester 2006
 - **From Literature to Film: Three Women's Novels on Screen** – Level 1 – Autumn Semester 2006
 - **The F Words: Food in Fiction** – Level 1 – Spring Semester 2007
 - **Exploring Tolkien: There and Back Again** (On-line Course) – Autumn Semester 2006, Spring Semester 2007, Summer Semester 2007
- January – February 2007 **Online Specialist Graduate Marker.**
Edexcel, One90 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH
- Marking GCE English
- Sep 2005 – August 2006 **Part-time Tutor**
Cardiff University, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Senghennydd Road, Cardiff, CF24 4AG.
- **The Foundations of Middle-earth: Myth, Language and Ideology in J.R.R. Tolkien's Fiction** (On-line Course) – Autumn Semester 2005, Spring Semester 2006, Summer Semester 2006
- June – July 2006 **Online Specialist Graduate Marker.**
Edexcel, One90 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH
- Marking GCSE English
- Sep 2004 – August 2005 **Part-time Tutor**
Cardiff University, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Senghennydd Road Cardiff, CF24 4AG.
- **The Foundations of Middle-earth: Myth, Language and Ideology in J.R.R. Tolkien's Fiction** – Level 1 – Spring Semester 2005
- Sep 2000 – Jun 2001 **Teacher of English as a Foreign Language (EFL)**
Linguaphone, Panepistimiou 10, 10671 Athens, Greece.
- Duties included teaching EFL classes (all levels), teaching English Literature for advanced level classes, preparation of class material, assignment and assessment of students' course work, and related administration duties.
- Sep 1998 – Jun 2000 **Teacher of English as a Foreign Language (EFL)**
Omiros, School of English, Stournari 35, 10682 Athens, Greece.
- Duties included teaching EFL classes (all levels), teaching English Literature for advanced level classes, preparation of class material, assignment and assessment of students' course work, and related administration duties.

Publications

I. Book

(2008), *Tolkien, Race and Cultural History: From Fairies to Hobbits* (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, November 2008)

II. Research Articles

(2006) "Come Sing ye Light Fairy Things Tripping so Gay": Victorian Fairies and the Early Work of J.R.R. Tolkien", *Working with English: Medieval and Modern Language, Literature and Drama* 2, pp. 10-26 (on-line journal: http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/working_with_english/Fimi_31_05_06.pdf)

(2006) "'Mad Elves' and 'Elusive Beauty': Some Celtic Strands of Tolkien's Mythology", *Folklore*, 117:2, pp. 156-170

(2007) "Tolkien's "'Celtic" type of legends': Merging Traditions", *Tolkien Studies* 4, pp. 51-71

(2007) "Tolkien and Old Norse Antiquity: Real and Romantic Links in Material Culture", in Clark, David and Phepstead, Carl (eds), *Old Norse Made New: Essays on the Post-Medieval Reception of Old Norse Literature and Culture* (London: Viking Society for Northern Research)

'Material Culture and Materiality in Middle-earth: Tolkien and Archaeology', *Tolkien 2005: The Ring Goes Ever On*, Aston University, Birmingham, 11-15 August 2005 (forthcoming in conference proceedings)

III. Encyclopaedia Entries

(2006) "Victorian Fairyology" (pp.186-7) and "Greece: Reception of Tolkien" (pp. 257-8), in Drout, Michael (ed.), *The J. R. R. Tolkien Encyclopedia: Scholarship and Critical Assessment* (New York: Routledge)

(2008) "Unfinished Tales", under Works by J.R.R. Tolkien, in Clark, Robert (ed.), *The Literary Encyclopedia* at <http://www.litencyc.com/>

(2008) "*Peter and Wendy*", "*The Little White Bird*" and "*Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*", under Works by J. M. Barrie, in Clark, Robert (ed.), *The Literary Encyclopedia* at <http://www.litencyc.com/>

IV. Book Reviews

(2006) Marjorie Burns, *Perilous Realms: Celtic and Norse in Tolkien's Middle-earth* (Toronto, Buffalo, London: University of Toronto Press, 2005), for *Tolkien Studies* 3, pp. 187-190

(2007) Camilla Asplund Ingemark, *The Genre of Trolls: The Case of a Finland-Swedish Folk Belief Tradition* (Bo: Akademi University Press, 2004), for *Folklore*, 118:3, pp. 365-6

(2007) Jacqueline Simpson, *Icelandic Folktales and Legends* (Stroud, Gloucestershire: Tempus, 2004), for *Folklore*, 118:3, pp. 366-7

(2008) Ross Smith, *Inside Language: Linguistic and Aesthetic Theory in Tolkien* (Zürich, Bern: Walking Tree Publishers, 2007), for *Tolkien Studies* 5 (forthcoming, April 2008)

(2008) Alaric Hall, *Elves in Anglo-Saxon England: Matters of Belief, Health, Gender and Identity* (Woodbridge, Suffolk and Rochester, NY: Boydell Press, 2007), for *Folklore* (forthcoming)

(2008) Douglas 'Dag' Rossman, *The Northern Path: Norse Myths and Legends Retold... And What They Reveal* (Chapel Hill, NC: Seven Paws Press, 2005), for *Folklore* (forthcoming)

(2008) Dickerson and Jonathan Evans, *Ents, Elves, and Eriador: The Environmental Vision of J.R.R. Tolkien* (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 2006), for *Folklore* (forthcoming)

Selected Conference Papers

"Tolkien's Science Fiction Experiments". **Space, Time, Machine and Monster: A Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Conference for the Valleys**, organised by Yr Academi Gymreig (The Welsh Academy), University of Glamorgan, Treforest, 21 June 2008

"Mappa Terrae-mediae: Exploring Middle-earth Cartography and Cosmography". **International Medieval Congress 2007**, Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Leeds, 9-12 July 2007

"Tolkien and the Metaphysics of Language". **42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies**, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 10-13 May 2007

"Film Folklore and Folklore in Film in Peter Jackson's adaptation of *The Lord of the Rings*". **Folklore Society Annual Conference: 'Folklore, Film and Television: Convergences in Traditional Cultures and Popular Media'**, Warburg Institute, London, 31 March - 1 April 2006

"'Tears are the Very Wine of Blessedness': Eucatastrophe, the Sense of Loss and Despair, and Sweet Sorrow in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*". **Sixth International Conference of the Hellenic Association for the Study of English: '(Re)Constructing Pain and Joy in Language, Literature, and Culture'**, Athens University, 20-23 October 2005

"Needless to Say They Are Not Celtic': J. R. R. Tolkien's Love-Hate Relationship with 'Things Celtic' and How They Sneaked into His Middle-Earth Literature". Shorter presentation at **40th International Congress on Medieval Studies**, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 5-8 May 2005. Extended presentation at **Celtic Folk Studies Conference: 'Folklore and Identity in Celtic Cultures'**, Cardiff University, 20-23 July 2005

"Come sing ye light fairy things tripping so gay': Victorian fairies and the early work of J.R.R. Tolkien". **International Post-Graduate Conference 'Literary Fads and Fashions'** (Session: 'The Victorian Supernatural'), University of Nottingham, 27-28 November 2004

"J.R.R. Tolkien's mythology for England: a Marxist approach to mythologies and national ideology". **Rethinking Marxism's 5th International Gala Conference 'Marxism and the World Stage'** (Session: 'Materialism and Literature'), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 6-9 November 2003

Invited Lectures

"Tolkien and Viking Archaeology: Real and Romantic Links in Material Culture". Invited Lecture for the **History and Archaeology Forum, Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning**, 25 October 2006

"Tolkien and Old Norse Antiquity", Invited Lecture for the **Viking Society For Northern Research Student Conference**, Oxford, 26 February 2006

"J.R.R. Tolkien and the Use of Anthropological Theory in *The Lord of the Rings*". Invited Lecture for the **History and Archaeology Forum, Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning**, 16 June 2004

Other Research Activities

I. Research Grants:

Grant from the President's Fund, towards completion of PhD, 2004

Grant from the Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust, towards completion of PhD, 2003 and 2004

Grant from the Lynne Grundy Memorial Trust for part of PhD research, 2003

II. Peer-reviewing

Peer-reviewer for ***Tolkien Studies*** (West Virginia University Press)

Peer-reviewer for ***Food, Culture and Society: An International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*** (Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS))

Administration and Training

I. Training and Courses:

Teaching Skills Workshop, Cardiff University: Small and Large Groups Teaching, Using Multiple Intelligences Theory in Teaching, September 2006

IT Blackboard Training, Cardiff University: Using Blackboard (Cardiff University's Virtual Learning Environment) – Beginner's Session and Advanced Session, August 2005

Tutor Development Seminar, Cardiff University: Academic Teaching, Teaching Adult Learners, Working with Students with Disabilities, September 2004

II. Participation in Conference Organising:

"The Voice of Humanities: Making Research Accessible", Friday 28 April 2006, hosted by the Graduate School in Humanities, Cardiff University

Postgraduate Conference: "Constructing Identities", Cardiff University, 22 - 23 June 2006 (funded by the AHRC) – Convening two panels on "Identity in Language and Literature"

'The Voice of Humanities: Making Research Accessible', Friday 23 March 2007, hosted by the Graduate School in Humanities, Cardiff University

Postgraduate Conference: "Reading: Images, Texts, Artefacts", Cardiff University, 28 - 29 June 2007 (funded by the AHRC)

Co-organiser of the Session "Texts and Images: Aspects of Tolkien's Medievalism", International Medieval Congress 2007, Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Leeds, 9-12 July 2007

III. Staff Development Workshop Organising and Teaching

"Tolkien Online: An Example of a Literature Course taught Online and Some Thoughts on How to Create your Own", Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning, workshop taught to English Literature tutors of the Centre, 25 January 2007

"How to design and teach on-line courses in the Humanities", Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning, workshop taught to History tutors of the Centre, 6 March 2007

Research Dissemination

2007 Radio-interview on **BBC Radio 4**, for the programme *Woman's Hour*, on Food in Literature. See: http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/womanshour/04/2007_27_mon.shtml

Radio-interview on **BBC Radio Wales**, for the programme *Good Evening Wales*, on the release of the last book of the *Harry Potter* series.

2004 One-page article in *The Western Mail*, based on interview on my course on J.R.R. Tolkien at the Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning, Wednesday 8 December

Radio-interview by **BBC Radio Wales**, for the programme *Good Evening Wales*, on J.R.R. Tolkien's 'invented languages' and their relationship to the Welsh language, Wednesday 8 December

2003 Interview on Tolkien's 'invented languages' and their relationship to the Welsh language, parts of which were quoted in a relevant article in *The Western Mail*, Monday 13 January and in the Welsh Edition of *The News of the World*, Monday 13 January