

John Greenfield is Professor of German at the University of Porto, Portugal. He studied German, Classical Studies and Welsh at the University of Wales (St. David's University College), where he obtained a BA (in German), in 1978, and an MA (in German Literature), in 1984. He went on to do his PhD, in 1990, in German Literature and his Aggregation, in the same subject area, in 2000. Since 2005, he has been Chair of German at the Arts Faculty of the University of Porto, where he is also Head of the German Department, President of the Council of Representatives and Director of BA and MA study programmes.

He was Fellow of St. David's University College and has, since 1992, been Visiting Professor at a large number of Universities in both Europe and beyond. From 2000 to 2005 he served as Chairman of the Portuguese Germanist Association. For 25 years, he has been an Academic Expert of the European Commission, actively participating on evaluation and steering committees for HE and R&D programmes (at both the European Culture and Education Executive Agency and the European Research Executive Agency), while also assessing proposals for the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, the Norwegian Research Council and the Portuguese Research and Accreditation Agencies.

In 2014 he was awarded the Gutenberg Teaching Award by the University of Mainz for his work in the internationalisation of higher education.

He has published extensively in the field of the literature of the European Middle Ages, with a special focus on the Middle High German courtly epic, in particular the works of Wolfram von Eschenbach.