



CRETE PAST AND PRESENT
A SUMMER SCHOOL ORGANISED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOLOGY, DIVISION OF CLASSICS

Location	University of Crete, Rethymnon campus
Dates	Sunday 30 June – Sunday 7 July 2024
Language of instruction	English
Intended audience	Open to students from all disciplines and all study cycles Early career scholars
Maximum capacity	Twenty (20) participants
Fees	350 euros

The Summer School

The Summer School in Classics offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in Cretan culture and history, while enjoying the stunning beauties of the island. It includes the study of ancient literary texts and inscribed documents, organised visits to major archaeological sites, and group activities in a multicultural environment.

Right at the heart of the Mediterranean sea, on the crossroads of the trading routes that connect south Europe with north Africa and the near East, Crete developed a marvelous civilisation in the Bronze Age. The island's rich history and culture exercises an enduring fascination: the famous myths of gods, heroes, and monsters, and of tragic love affairs have inspired art and literature throughout the centuries; Cretan laws and ways of life were regarded exemplary in the ancient world and have influenced the likes of Plato and Aristotle; perceptions of honour and retaliatory justice in rural contemporary Crete have been generating heated discussions in the disciplines of psychology and social anthropology.

Surviving material culture attests to the island's rich past: the exquisite art produced during the Bronze Age, including elaborate pots and abundant pieces of gold jewelry are a marvel to watch in the renewed collection of the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion. The famous Minoan palaces have been a source of inspiration for scientists investigating the natural phenomenon that brought the Minoans to their legendary fall. The earliest and most substantial surviving documents of ancient Greek law outside Athens come from Crete. Byzantine and Ottoman monuments are tokens of the island's diverse heritage.

Taking the students on a fascinating journey through the civilisation of Crete, the Summer School in Classics is a unique experience for those wishing to enjoy Crete at the heart of the summer while learning about its past and rich contemporary traditions.

The Classes

Spread in the course of seven days, the summer school offers a variety of classes per day (total 6hrs per day) as well as guided tours and visits on the following topics:

- 1) Cretan mythology and poetry (three classes)
- 2) The symposium in Crete and beyond (three classes)
- 3) Social and moral values in ancient and contemporary Crete (three classes)
- 4) The Minoan palaces (two classes; visit to the archaeological museum of Heraklion)
- 5) Cretan inscriptions throughout the centuries (three classes; guided tour to the old town of Rethymnon)
- 6) Day excursion to Phaistos, Gortyna, Balsamonero, and Matala (three classes; guided tours in the archaeological sites with on-site lectures)
- 7) The Minoan Tsunami

The instructors

The classes are run by a team of instructors comprising faculty members and postgraduate researchers of the Department of Philology, University of Crete as well as invited speakers:

Stelios Panayotakis, Zacharoula Petraki, Georgia Tsouni, Myrto Aloumpi, Manolis Patedakis, Eva Astyrakaki, Nikos Litinas, Athina Kavoulaki, Dimos Spatharas, Alexandros Katsigiannis, Anaya Sarpaki, Gareth Owens, Aris Tsantiropoulos, Niki Oikonomaki, Eliza Kavoulaki, Georgios Tsironis.

Selection criteria

The summer school is intended for students of all disciplines and levels (undergraduate, graduate) as well as early career scholars.

Good oral and written communication skills in English (B2 and above) are a requirement.

Fees

The participation cost of 350 euros per participant includes:

- Shared twin accommodation on campus (7 days). Single accommodation is available on campus with the additional cost of 10 euros per day. Those interested in single accommodation should make a statement in their application.
- On-campus breakfast and lunch (7 days)
- Welcome party and farewell dinner
- Transportation for organised visits

Participants who wish to arrive on Saturday 29th June and depart on Monday 8th July may use the on-campus accommodation with the additional cost of 10 euros per day for shared accommodation and 20 euros per day for single accommodation.

Students from the Department of Philology, University of Crete, can attend the classes free of charge.

Grants

A small number of grants is available covering the total amount of fees for occupation in shared twin accommodation (350 euros). Priority will be given to applicants from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds.

Bursaries

There is a good chance that some student bursaries will be awarded. Applicants will be informed in due time.

How to Apply

Please send your application with full name and academic affiliation via email to the following email address: classics24@uoc.gr

Please use 'Summer school in Classics' as the email header.

Applicants are asked to email the following as pdf attachments, with their names and the document type in the filename:

1. CV
2. A motivation letter explaining how the Summer School in Classics will contribute to their academic and personal development.

The application period: 1-30 March, 2024

The Division of Classics, Department of Philology

<https://www.philology.uoc.gr/en/department/divisions/classical-studies>

<https://www.philology.uoc.gr/en/research/laboratories-research-facilities/laboratory-of-papyrology-and-epigraphy>

<https://www.philology.uoc.gr/en/research/laboratories-research-facilities/laboratory-of-classical-studies>

About the University of Crete

<https://en.uoc.gr/>

<https://welcome.uoc.gr>

About Crete and Rethymnon

<https://www.rethymno.gr/en/city>

