

Boğaziçi University
Byzantine Studies Research Center

BYZANTINE GREEK SUMMER SCHOOL (Online)

18 July–5 August 2022



The Byzantine Studies Research Center of Boğaziçi University is pleased to announce the organization of its fifth Byzantine Greek Summer School to be held **online** from **18 July to 5 August 2022**. Students will have the chance to participate in an intensive program in Medieval Greek with Prof. Niels Gaul and Dr. Foteini Spingou. There is no fee for participation in the program, thanks to a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Application Deadline: 28 March 2022

Format

The program is **designed for students who have completed at least two semesters of college-level Classical Greek or its equivalent**. Students are expected to have knowledge of basic Greek grammar and to be able to read simple texts from ancient Greek or Byzantine literature. Daily classes are devoted to the reading of Byzantine texts with a focus on Constantinople: either its monuments and/or events that happened in or around the city. Classes will be held **online**, from Monday to Friday, and will last three hours per day (15 hours per week). Students will be assigned to either the lower intermediate level or the upper-intermediate/advanced level based on their performance in a prognostic test. In addition to the reading classes, each participant is expected to attend six tutorial sessions. These tutorials usually offer targeted revisions of grammar and syntax, as well as brief introductions to Greek paleography and Byzantine epigraphy. **The language of instruction is English**. The exact schedule will be agreed with those admitted to the course; no activities will be scheduled on weekends. Students will receive a certificate of participation upon successful completion of the program.

Instructors

Niels Gaul is A. G. Leventis Professor of Byzantine Studies and Director of the Centre for Late Antique, Islamic and Byzantine Studies at the University of Edinburgh. He is currently interested in the socio-political functions of (classicizing) learning in medieval polities – inter alia as the PI of an ERC-funded project that explores such issues in the Byzantine and Tang/Song empires from a cross-cultural vantage point – and pursues various smaller projects on the side, e.g. on the often unexpected connections between Byzantium and Scotland from the early middle ages to the present day, or relic translations in the age of Leo VI and Constantine VII Porphyrogenetos.

Foteini Spingou is a cultural historian of Byzantium, with expertise in Greek philology as well as Byzantine literature and art. Her long-standing interest in the interplay between word and image led to the edition of a two-volume work with primary sources for Byzantine art and aesthetics (Cambridge, 2022). She has just published a monograph on the Byzantine epigram as a social commodity (*Words and Artwords in Byzantium*, Tolworth, 2021). A second monograph on the little-explored *Anthologia Marciana* will appear later this year as part of the series Oxford Studies in Byzantium. Dr. Spingou is currently writing a *longue durée* examination of Byzantium's changing perception of "classical" beauty (ninth to fourteenth centuries).

Organizer

The Byzantine Studies Research Center of Boğaziçi University, in Istanbul, fosters the development of education in Byzantine studies by offering scholarships at the MA, PhD, and postdoctoral levels, "tools of the trade" seminars, and language programs since 2015. Boğaziçi University was established as Robert College in 1863, and is one of the leading institutions of higher education in Turkey.

For more information on the Center and the University, please see:

<http://www.boun.edu.tr/en-US/>

<http://byzantinestudies.boun.edu.tr/>

Eligibility

Graduate students and advanced undergraduates, as well as individuals with an academic interest in or a career relevant to Byzantine studies can apply, granted that they meet the requirements mentioned above. Priority will be given to graduate students in the field of Byzantine studies.

Application Procedure:

Candidates should submit their application to the Boğaziçi University Byzantine Studies Research Center before **28 March 2022**. The application file should be in English and include a statement of purpose, a detailed CV, and proof of having completed at least two semesters of college-level Classical Greek or its equivalent. Applicants should indicate in the statement of purpose their background in Classical or Byzantine Greek and the relevance of attending this summer program for their future studies or career development. Applicants currently enrolled as students in a higher education institution should also submit a transcript (as well as previous record of the study of Greek, if applicable) and two reference letters (one of which must be written by an instructor of Greek). The referees should send their letters directly to the Byzantine Studies Research Center.

Applications and reference letters should be sent to: byzantinestudies@boun.edu.tr