



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE



FORTH

FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY - HELLAS



M.A. Program in Ottoman History

www.history-archaeology.uoc.gr



Why study Ottoman History

Students will become immersed in the fascinating world of a multiethnic and multireligious empire whose lifespan exceeded 600 years. The Ottoman Empire is important not only for its impact on the histories and cultures of the peoples and states of Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, but also as one of the major empires of the early modern and modern eras. Ottoman history is an extremely dynamic discipline as evidenced by the many academic journals and international conferences dedicated to it, and Ottoman historians are active participants in debates of global and entangled history.

Program highlights

- Innovative curriculum combining Ottoman history teaching with training in Ottoman Turkish language and paleography as well as modern Turkish
- Greek language courses offered to native Turkish speakers
- Small size classes
- Experienced and internationally acclaimed teaching staff
- Rethymno is world renowned as a center of state-of-the-art research in Ottoman history
- Lively academic community
- No tuition fees

M.A. Program in Ottoman History

An innovative curriculum

The Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Crete and the Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas run a joint English-language M.A. Program in Ottoman History.

The program combines state-of-the-art teaching in Ottoman history with training in Ottoman Turkish language and paleography as well as modern Turkish (or modern Greek for native Turkish speakers). Furthermore, students are required to write a research thesis.

The curriculum's comprehensive approach acquaints students with cutting-edge research in Ottoman history and its methodological underpinnings, while it also provides them with solid paleographic and language skills.

Outcomes

The program trains historians who also have the language skills required to conduct research in Ottoman primary sources, archival and otherwise. The program's alumni have the necessary training to embark on a Ph.D.



Information about the Program's structure

Each cycle of the program lasts two years (four academic semesters of 13 weeks each). Students are required to successfully complete:

- Five history seminars (four in Ottoman History, one in Medieval or Modern History)
- Four Ottoman language and paleography courses
- Four modern Turkish language courses

Students take one Ottoman history seminar, one Ottoman language and paleography course, and one modern Turkish language course each semester. They can take the Medieval or Modern History seminar in any of the four semesters.

Furthermore, students are required to write an original M.A. thesis based on critical analysis of Ottoman archival, epigraphic or narrative sources.

Native Turkish speakers are required to take two intensive modern Greek language courses instead of the four Turkish language courses.

The program does not charge tuition fees.

Classes are held in Rethymno, a beautiful Venetian, Ottoman, and modern Greek town on the island of Crete. They start in late September and last until late May with a break between late December and mid-February. The libraries of the University of Crete and the Institute for Mediterranean Studies together constitute the best research library collection on the Ottoman Empire in Greece.



Admission to the Program

The program admits students every other year, on even years. Applicants must have an academic background in the Humanities or the Social Sciences.

Calls for applications for the program are issued in spring on the website of the Department of History and Archaeology (www.history-archaeology.uoc.gr). Applications are submitted online as per the instructions of the call. The admission process requires the submission of a sample of written work (an essay or B.A. thesis) and two letters of reference; other administrative documents required are described in the call for applications. The admission process includes an interview, part of which may be an examination in Ottoman history.

Applicants who have not yet graduated are eligible to apply as long as they expect to graduate by the start of classes in late September. All applicants must submit academic transcripts.

Teaching staff

The program was established by renowned Ottoman historians Elizabeth A. Zachariadou and Vassilis Demetriades in 1988, and has run uninterruptedly since then.

Classes are taught by experienced and internationally acclaimed historians and language instructors. The core faculty of the program consists of:

Ottoman history and paleography

Antonis Anastasopoulos

Elias Kolovos

Marinos Sariyannis

Yannis Spyropoulos

Modern Turkish

Gülsün Aksoy-Aivali

Modern Greek

Maria Pouloupoulou

Detailed CVs of the teaching staff are available at www.history-archaeology.uoc.gr, www.ims.forth.gr, and www.phl.uoc.gr.

Career opportunities

The University of Crete and the Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas have a strong international reputation of excellence in Ottoman history research and teaching.

The program's alumni can work in archives and other cultural, educational, and research institutions. Their acquired research and language skills make them particularly suitable for employment in research projects relevant to Ottoman history. They can also choose to pursue a Ph.D., which will allow them to seek an academic career.

Furthermore, the program puts a strong emphasis on developing the students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills, encouraging student initiative, and fostering team spirit. Thus, its alumni are well equipped to seek employment also beyond academia.



About the host institutions

The University of Crete is a public university that was established in 1973. It has 16 departments with more than 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The University of Crete has an excellent teaching and research record, and consistently features among the best new universities in the world in global rankings. It has collaborations with many leading research and educational institutions in Europe and worldwide, and actively participates in mobility and exchange programs.

The Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (FORTH) was established in 1983, and is composed of 10 institutes, among which the Institute for Mediterranean Studies which specializes in research in the humanities and social sciences. FORTH has a global reputation for top-level research, and has immense experience in hosting and administering major research projects. Among them feature prominently many ERC-funded projects, a top distinction for European academic institutions.



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