



Organization of the Department

Academic year during which students were first admitted to the Department: 1983-84

About the Department: The Department's aim is to provide teaching and conduct research in the fields of History and Archaeology. Particular emphasis is laid on familiarizing the students with the theoretical and methodological principles of the scientific areas of history and archaeology, in order to help them develop a critical way of thinking. In terms of instruction, two major innovations that the Department's curriculum introduced in Greek academia are the establishment of all courses as compulsory by choice and the teaching staff's obligation not to repeat the same course earlier than four years after the last time that it was taught, thus offering students the possibility of many choices among a wide spectrum of courses and approaches. The Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Crete strongly adheres to the principles of transparency, collegiality and respect for democratic procedures and to everything that promotes and nurtures the sciences of History and Archaeology, with consistency and high scientific criteria. The Department has been evaluated by an external jury in 2010 as having all the requirements in order to be recognized as a Center of Excellence ([Ctrl+click here for the external evaluation report](#)).

Administration of the Department:

Head of the Department: Associate Professor Eleftheria Zei

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General description of the Department(Sections):

- Section of Ancient and Medieval History
- Section of Modern and Contemporary History
- Section of Archaeology and History of Art
- Section of Oriental and African Studies

Faculty and Professors Emeriti

To view the CV of a staff member, press Ctrl+click on their name. Asterisks indicate Section Directors.

Section of Ancient and Medieval History

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[Demetrios Kyritses](#), Assistant Professor, off. 34, tel. 283107-7353, [kyritsis at uoc.gr](#)
[Katerina Panagopoulou](#), Assistant Professor, off. 38, tel. 283107-7357, [panagop at uoc.gr](#)
[Ioannis Theodorakopoulos](#), Assistant Professor, off. 47, tel. 2831077348, [theodorakopoulos at uoc.gr](#)
[Nickiphoros Tsougarakis](#), Assistant Professor, off. 71 tel. 2831077362, [tsougarakis at uoc.gr](#)

Section of Modern and Contemporary History

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Section of Archaeology and History of Art

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[Evgenios D. Matthiopoulos](#), Professor, off. 77, tel. 283107-7367, [matthiopoulos at uoc.gr](#)
[Vicky Foskolou](#), Associate Professor, off. 67, tel. 283107-7358, [foskolou at uoc.gr](#)
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[Christina Tsigonaki*](#), Assistant Professor, off. 37, tel. 283107-7351, [tsigonaki at uoc.gr](#)

Professors Emeriti

Efi Avdela Anna Avramea (1934-2008) Vassilis Demetriades Olga Gratziou Christos Hadziiosif Nicos Hadjinicolaou Thanasis Kalpaxis (1944-2021) Pavlina Karanastasi	Aglaia Kasdagli (1952-2025) Katerina Kopaka Christos Loukos Socrates Petmezas Nikolas Pharaklas (1939-2021) Nicholas Chr. Stampolidis Petros Themelis (1936-2023) Iris Tzachili
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	Elizabeth A. Zachariadou (1931-2018)
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Participation in the ERASMUS+ program: During their studies, the students of the Department of History and Archaeology have the opportunity to spend a semester or a year abroad, in similar departments in other European universities, through the Erasmus+ Program.

Partner institutions through the Erasmus+ Program:

[Click here](#) to see the list of Universities cooperating with the Department of History & Archaeology through the Erasmus+ program.

Procedures for Admission

Students are admitted to the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Crete by any of the methods of entry into higher education institutions provided for by Greek law. The enrolment of graduates of other academic Departments is made through exams.

Course recognition: Students post-registered in our Department from Departments of History and Archaeology of other Greek Universities are credited with all courses successfully completed at the Department of origin, granted that such courses are equivalent to the subjects we offer. The remaining courses may be considered 'Free Choices'. The credit/recognition of courses of students originating from other departments is examined on an individual basis by the Academic Consultants and the Head of the Department.

General description of learning objectives

Educational and research objectives

The Department aims at familiarizing students with the theoretical and methodological approaches of the fields of history and archaeology, in order to help them develop a critical way of thinking. Teaching and research at the Department are carried out through an up-to-date spectrum of thematic, theoretical and methodological approaches.

The Department carries out archaeological research that covers the whole spectrum of Greek prehistory and historical times. The students of the Department who specialize in archaeology are trained in archaeological methods by participating in the excavations conducted by the Department at Ancient Eleutherna, on the island of Gaudos, at Rodafnidia on the island of Lesbos, at the Inner Ionian Sea Archipelago, in Ancient Krannona in Thessaly, as well as in the survey on the islet of Dia off the northern coast of Crete, whereas for the students who specialize in history the Department provides opportunities to classify archives. The Department also carries out annual in situ training of the students in museums, monuments and art galleries in Greece and abroad.

Occupational profile of graduates

The Department prepares its students for their incorporation in a wide range of vocational options both in Greece and abroad: teaching in the secondary education, a career in the vocational areas of historical and archaeological research, in research centers, at the Archaeological Service, museums, art galleries and generally in positions that are related to culture and art. Moreover, the special features of the Department's curriculum allow its graduates to successfully seek employment in various other fields, where analytical ability, a synthetic critical way of thinking and a good grasp of language are considered necessary.

Access to further studies

The Department encourages its students to seek research specialization at a postgraduate level. The graduates of the Department have all the necessary qualifications to pursue postgraduate studies. The Department itself offers five Postgraduate Study Programs that lead to the acquisition of a masters degree (*click on the fields for more information*):

- [Ancient Mediterranean World: History and Archaeology](#) (with study programs providing specialization in Prehistoric Archaeology, Classical Archaeology, Ancient History)
- [Byzantine and Medieval Studies](#) (with study programs providing specialization in Byzantine History, in the Medieval History of western Europe and in Byzantine Archaeology – History of Byzantine Art)
- [Ottoman History](#) (run jointly with the Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas)
- [Contemporary Greek and European History](#)
- [History of Art](#)

The Department also offers the possibility of preparing a PhD dissertation in History, Archaeology or Art History. Joint supervision of a doctoral dissertation by the Department and one of the following institutions is also possible: i) the Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas, ii) the Dipartimento di Studi Umani of the University of Basilicata in the framework of the Doctoral Studies Program “Mediterranean European History, Cultures and Knowledge from Antiquity to the Contemporary Age”, iii) on a case per case basis, other universities abroad.

Regulations and curriculum

Summary of the curriculum. Central axes / directions of the curriculum

- Duration of teaching: Each academic year is structured in two semesters, each of which consists of at least thirteen (13) full weeks of classes. Each course is taught for three (3) hours per week.
- Description of course units: The curriculum of the Department is structured with courses compulsory by choice, offering the students the possibility of multiple choices among a wide spectrum of courses and approaches. The students are free to choose in which order they wish to attend each particular class available in each subject area of the Department’s Curriculum. However first-year students are strongly advised to give priority to classes whose titles denote or whose instructors have stated that they constitute an introduction to the subject.
- Types of courses: Courses are divided in Lecture Type Classes and Seminars. Each Seminar may be attended by maximum 25 students, who must have completed the first year of their studies; instructors are allowed to set additional conditions for the admission of students to their seminars. Students in Lecture Type Classes are evaluated by written and/or oral examination at the end of the semester, or by any alternative method of examination that the instructor will announce at the beginning of the semester. In Seminars the students’ performance is assessed through the oral presentation of the subject of their essay, the quality of their written essay, as well as their active participation in the class.
- Grading: The grading scale is from 1 to 10. 5 is the minimum requirement for a student to pass a class.

Course structure diagram with ECTS credits

Type of Courses	Number of Courses	ECTS credits	ECTS total / Type of Courses
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Lecture Type Classes	36 ¹	5	180-200
Seminars	6	10	40-60
Total	42		240

- Language of instruction: The language of instruction is Greek. Tutorials in English, French or German may be arranged for Erasmus+ students by the consent of the instructor.

- Foreign language courses: The attendance of foreign language classes, offered by the Faculty of Philosophy, is optional for the students of the Department of History and Archaeology. However, students are urged to take advantage of this opportunity and thus learn or improve one or more foreign languages, so as to be able to adequately meet the requirements of the literature which is necessary for their courses. The grades in foreign languages are not admeasured to the degree grade, but the foreign language is recorded in the Diploma Supplement.

- Computer science laboratory courses: Computer science laboratory courses offered by the Department of History and Archaeology are of a practical nature and aim at providing students with knowledge and skills in the fields of efficient use of computers and computer applications. The courses consist of a theoretical part and laboratory practice through the successful completion of a series of practical exercises. Attendance at computer lab courses is optional. However, it is recommended that the students of the Department of History and Archaeology take advantage of this opportunity, in order to enhance their knowledge and skills by using Information Technology, which is necessary in the lecture classes and seminars. These courses are graded as either "pass" or "fail". Their successful completion is recorded in the Diploma Supplement. Also, once they have passed four courses, students can receive a "Certificate of attendance of undergraduate courses which fall within the area of Informatics and Computer Operation" based on P.D. 44/2005, article only, par. 4 (Government Gazette 63/2005/A) and the relevant decision of the Assembly of the Department of 21 March 2018.

- Certification of Pedagogical and Teaching Competence: The Certification of Pedagogical and Teaching Competence (CPTC) is provided to the students of the Department of History and Archaeology through the successful completion of a six-course cycle. These courses are divided into two categories: i) Theoretical training courses: three lectures of choice from among a group of courses announced at the beginning of each academic semester, and ii) Special teaching and internship courses: one compulsory (internship in secondary schools – offered by the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies) and two elective courses from among a group of courses that are announced at the beginning of each academic semester. The Department of History and Archaeology offers each academic year two lecture type classes (*Teaching the past I, Teaching the past II*), which fall under the second category of courses above (special teaching courses). All the courses of the CPTC are considered free choice courses of 5 ECTS credits and are not open to freshmen. The CPTC is not a necessary condition for obtaining the BA degree, but is required by law in order for a graduate to be able to teach in secondary education. Students can register for CPTC courses either as part of their curriculum or in addition to curriculum courses.

- Obtainment of ECTS credits through the Erasmus+ Program: Students who move with the Erasmus+ Program can obtain the ECTS credits of the courses they attended in the partner institutions with the assent of the member of staff in charge of the Erasmus+ program and that of the Head of the Department.

¹ Students enrolled in Degree Program A are allowed to replace up to two seminars with two lecture type classes for each seminar. The total number of courses is 43 for students who have replaced one seminar with two lecture type classes, and 44 for students who have replaced two seminars with four lecture type classes.

- Exam periods and exams: The performance of a student in each course is assessed through a written and/or oral examination, according to the teacher's judgement, during the exam period at the end of each semester and the repeat exam period that takes place in September. Students at their last semester of studies have the right, apart from the exam period of September, to be re-examined at the exam period of January in courses in which they had enrolled in the previous academic year (winter and spring semesters).

- Re-grading: Students with a low grade at a particular class are given the option to be examined in extra courses in the same subject/field. If they achieve a higher mark, it is automatically admeasured to their degree grade in place of the earlier mark. If not, the former grade applies.

- Graduation requirements: Students admitted to the Department of History and Archaeology during the academic year 2022-2023 are required to successfully complete one of the following two Degree Programs in order to obtain the BA degree. Students are allowed to enroll in one of the two Degree Programs during the second year of their studies:

Degree Program A: History

	Number of courses	
1. Ancient History		2
2. Byzantine History		2
3. History of the Middle Ages		2
4. Modern and Contemporary History		2
5. Ottoman/Turkish, or Arabic History		2
6. Prehistoric Archaeology		1
7. Classical Archaeology		1
8. Byzantine Archaeology		1
9. History of Western Art		1
10. Ancient Greek Philology		2
11. Latin Philology		1
12. Ancient Greek or Latin or Byzantine or Modern Greek Philology		1
13. Free choices of history (Lecture type courses)		6
14. Free choices (Lecture type courses including <i>Teaching the Past I and II</i>) from the Department of History and Archaeology		3
15. Free choice course (Lecture type course) from the Department of Philology		1
16. Free choices (Lecture type courses) from the three Departments of the Faculty of Philosophy		3
17. Free choices from the Department of Philology or the Department of Philosophical and Social Studies (including Pedagogics) ²		5
18. History seminars ³		6
Total number of courses		42⁴

Degree Program B: Archaeology and History of Art

Number of courses

² Or – by approval of the study consultants – courses from the Faculty of Social Sciences.

³ No more than 3 seminars on the same subject area. Students are allowed to replace 1 history seminar with 2 history lecture type courses or 2 history seminars with 4 history lecture type courses; in this case, no more than 2 (from the total of 4 or 5) seminars on the same subject area are allowed. At most one seminar (or 2 lecture type courses) may be from Degree Program B.

⁴ 43 if a student replaces a seminar with two lecture type courses, or 44 if a student replaces two seminars with four lecture type courses.

1. Ancient Greek prose reading	1
2. Ancient Greek or/and Byzantine Philology (one course must be on Ancient Greek Philology)	3
3. Latin Philology	1
4. Ancient History	2
5. Byzantine History or History of the Middle Ages	2
6. Modern and Contemporary History or Ottoman/Turkish or Arabic History	2
7. History (any History course)	1
8. Prehistoric Archaeology	4
9. Classical Archaeology	4
10. Byzantine Archaeology	4
11. History of Western Art	5
12. Participation in an excavation or other field research conducted by the Section ⁵	1
13. Courses of free choices (lecture type courses or seminars of the Department, including <i>Teaching the Past I</i> and <i>II</i> , or the other Departments of the Faculty of Philosophy, including the pedagogic courses and the internship in secondary schools provided by the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies)	6
14. Seminars: Prehistoric Archaeology (1), Classical Archaeology (1), Byzantine Archaeology (1), History of Western Art (1), any Archaeology or History of Western Art (1), any Archaeology or History of Western Art or History (1)	6
Total number of courses	42

List of courses on offer

- [List of undergraduate courses of the academic year 2024-2025](#)
- [List of undergraduate and postgraduate courses open to Erasmus+ students for enrolment \(academic year 2024-2025\)](#)

Contact details of administrative and/or academic staff

Secretariat of the Department	Telephone	Email
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Members of Laboratory Teaching Staff

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Members of Special Technical Laboratory Staff

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⁵ Students must participate (for at least 15 days) in an excavation or other field research/survey conducted by the Section, under the supervision of one of the instructors.