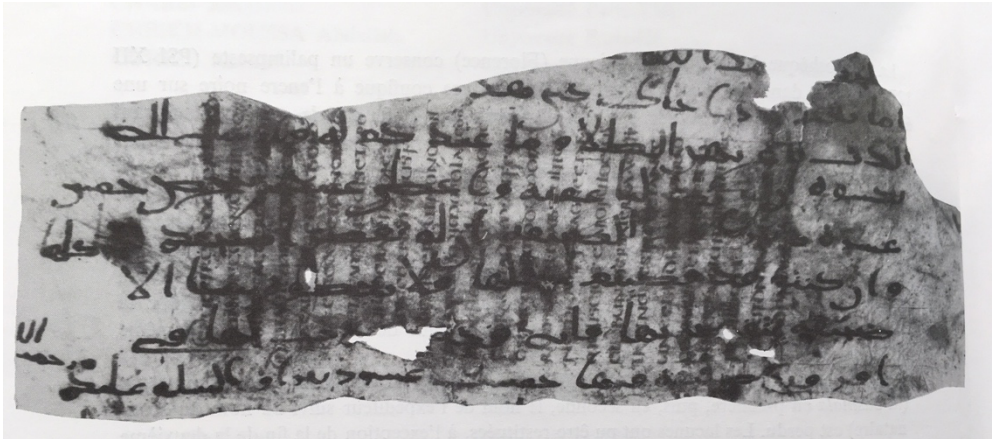


## Mediterranean Encounters – CIVIS SUMMER SCHOOL



Firenze, Laurenziana Library, PSI 1272

### CONTENTS

The CIVIS Graduate Network on Mediterranean History is a multidisciplinary research-oriented programme addressed to PhD and Masters' and Bachelor's students from fields such as Historical Studies, Art History, Middle Eastern Studies, African Studies, Egyptology, and Social Sciences. It will deal with the historic period of 5th-14th centuries and beyond, enriching it with later waves of re-interpretations of the Medieval Mediterranean Studies.

The Network's first Summer School will be held at the University La Sapienza in Rome (July 11-15, 2022) and will be prepared by a series of online lectures and discussions (June 27-July 1st, 2022). These activities will reflect the increasing interest in Mediterranean studies. Experts from various disciplines will give insight into their recent research and an overview of seminal theories, whereas graduate students will present their projects and will discuss them with the experts. All keynote sessions are to be recorded and published online.

Mediterranean means "between the lands". The ancient Egyptians called it the Great Green, the Jews the Great Sea, the Romans *Mare Nostrum* – our sea; the Muslims *Bahr al-Shâm* in the Orient and *Bahr al-Maghrib* in the Occident; the Turks called it the White Sea, and the Germans the Middle Sea. In scholarly literature, it has been known as the Corrupting Sea, the Inner Sea, the Bitter Sea and the Liquid Continent. In this CIVIS programme, we will bring all those meanings to life again. We will examine the history of the Mediterranean Sea, of the people who crossed the sea and lived closed by its shores or in the lands around it in the period ranging from Rome's fall in 500 CE to the fifteenth Century. The story of Mediterranean is teeming with famous personalities and important facts but the real heroes of our tale are the merchants, the shopkeepers, and the peasants who made possible the transformation of the agrarian economy, commerce, and the material life. We will look at the Medieval Mediterranean from a multilinear perspective (Southern Europe, the Maghreb and the Near East) as a vibrant age of transformation rather than as a mere interlude between 'the World that had been Rome' and the Early Modern Era.

## Main topics addressed

The main topics addressed during the course will be the following:

- Late Antiquity – Early Middle Age: Problems of Periodization.
- The Transformation of the Roman World Debate.
- Paradigms of crisis, transformations, continuities.
- The Mediterranean Sea seen from its Southern shores.
- Between Roman and Islamic Mediterranean.
- Regions that look seaward: Italy, Iberian Peninsula and Maghreb in the Early Medieval Mediterranean
- Arabic written sources: an overview
- Arabic coins – an Introduction
- Arabic documents – papyri as a source for the Economic history
- Archives and Archival Practices in the Dār al-Islam
- Ibn ‘Asākir’s *Ta’rīkh Dimashq* and Giovanni Villani’s *Cronica*: the biography of a city and the emergence of the mercantile and trading class in the East and in the West

## Learning outcomes

The participants will learn about the literary and material evidence that provides historians and historians of economy, such as documents, treatises, commercial letters and coins, which are concrete objects that attest the wide range of exchanges taking place in the Mediterranean. Taking into consideration this variety of sources, each of them requiring a specific reading, they will understand the complexity of the multilingual and multicultural Mediterranean region. This approach is particularly challenging for students and researchers since it demands different linguistic skills (e.g. Latin, Arabic) and the acquaintance with a number of different disciplines: Diplomatics, Papyrology, Numismatics, Paleography – just to name a few – for the purpose to have a direct access to the sources.

During the Summer School, they will collaborate in an international, transdisciplinary and intermedial manner, and they will have the opportunity to discuss masterpieces of late antique and early medieval material culture at the Crypta Balbi Museum, Santa Maria Antiqua, Museo Nazionale Romano (Rome) and Laurenziana Library (Florence) with professors and curators.

In their presentation and in the written paper (supervised by assigned professors), the participants will be able to demonstrate their capability to bridge theory and practice.

## DETAILS

### Dates:

27 June to 1 July 2022 (online)  
11-15 July 2022 (Rome)

**Format:** Blended

**Location:** Rome, Italy  
**Duration:** 10 days in total  
**Contact hours:** 30 hours  
**Language:** English (B2)

**Scholarships:** 6  
**ECTS:** 4/5\*  
**Individual workload:** 100 hours  
**Contact:** [paolo.tedesco@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:paolo.tedesco@uni-tuebingen.de)

\*The recognition of ECTS depends on your home university.

The Online Pre-School will take place from 27 June to 1 July 2022, and the Summer School will take place in Rome, Italy, from 11-15 July 2022.

The number of contact hours involves 4 hours guided by the professors and 6 hours of personal tuition/individual mentoring according to the students' needs.

The individual workload involves reading/preparation for the lectures and the workshop (34 hours), preparation of the presentation (33 hours), writing of the final paper (33 hours).

## Schedule

### Online Pre-School

The Online Pre-School is organised into an introductory meeting (2 hours) and 3 online lectures (2 hours each), on 4 different days (= a total of 8 hours)

### Summer School

The 2 days of Summer School are organised into 6 sessions (2 in the morning, 1 in the afternoon each day), from 9:00-19:00 CET approximately (= a total of 16 hours, pauses included), with presentations by professors on the 1<sup>st</sup> day and a full 2<sup>nd</sup> day devoted to MA and PhD candidates' presentations and mentoring sessions. The 3<sup>rd</sup> day will be devoted to a consortium meeting, which will include guided study visits to the Crypta Balbi collections, addressed to our students.

## Requirements

Applicants should be Bachelor's or Master's students or PhD candidates at one of the CIVIS member universities, enrolled in or have a strong interest in at least one of the following fields of studies: Historical Studies, Art History, Middle Eastern Studies, African Studies, Egyptology, and Social Sciences.

The teaching will be done in English (B2).

## Application process

Applicants from CIVIS universities should send their CV (two pages maximum) and a cover letter indicating their motivation to attend the course to Paolo Tedesco ([paolo.tedesco@uni-tuebinge.de](mailto:paolo.tedesco@uni-tuebinge.de)). The application deadline is 15 May 2022.

Selected students will be notified between 20-25 May 2022.

## Assessment

The participants will be evaluated after regular attendance and active involvement in the course sessions, both online and physical. They will also have to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the relevant bibliography, as well as give a well-documented presentation on a supervised topic. Each student shall submit a written essay after the end of the course.

The evaluation criteria are structured as follows:

- Participation in the online lectures and in the Summer School (30%)
- Preparation and presentation of a paper (individual for PhD students, in groups for MA and BA students) (30%)
- Individually written paper (40%)

## GDPR Consent

The CIVIS alliance and its member universities will treat the information you provide with respect. Please refer to our [privacy policy](#) for more information on our privacy practices. By applying to this course, you agree that we may process your information in accordance with these terms.

### **Arianna D'Ottone Rambach**

Associate Professor of Arabic Language and Literature at Sapienza-University of Rome, former Fellow at the Sapienza School for Advanced Studies (SSAS) and Corresponding member of the Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer (Bruxelles).

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### **Mohamed Ouerfelli**

Associate Professor of Medieval History at Aix Marseille University, member of the Institute of Research and Study on the Arab and Islamic Worlds (IREMAM).

### **Paolo Tedesco**

Paolo Tedesco is a Lecturer in Late Antique and Medieval History at the University of Tübingen. He studied and thought in Rome, Vienna, Princeton, Notre Dame, and Tübingen.