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Sicilia, Saxa, Scripturae: Stonecutting Study and Epigraphic Documentation of Inscriptions in Sicily

An ERC-funded Programme in the Epigraphy of Sicily, 14-20 September 2026

Open call for participants

We invite doctoral candidates and postdocs researching Greek and Latin epigraphy to apply for participation in the practical field workshop “**Sicilia, Saxa, Scripturae: Stonecutting Study and Epigraphic Documentation of Inscriptions in Sicily. An ERC-funded Programme in the Epigraphy of Sicily, 14–20 September 2026**”.

Aim of the programme: This intensive programme in Greek and Latin epigraphy, funded by the ERC STONE-MASTERS project (Starting Grant 101040152, <https://stonemasters.uw.edu.pl>) gathers senior researchers, postdocs, and doctoral candidates interested in the materiality of inscriptions and the epigraphical production chains in the Graeco-Roman World.

Organising committee:

STONE-MASTERS team: Dr Paweł Nowakowski (University of Warsaw); Dr Lorena Pérez Yarza (University of Warsaw); Dr Marina Bastero Acha (University of Warsaw); Dr Timo Eichhorn (University of Warsaw); Dr Martyna Świerk (University of Warsaw); Julia Borczyńska (University of Warsaw).

Co-organisers: Dr Sofia Bianchi Mancini (University of Erfurt), Dr Valentina Mignosa (Ca' Foscari University of Venice).

Basic description: This week-long workshop invites participants to explore the exceptionally rich epigraphic landscape of Sicily, from the Archaic period through Late Antiquity. The programme is designed to familiarise attendees with the methods and challenges of *in situ* epigraphic study, with particular emphasis on developing the skills required for systematic autopsy of inscriptions. Participants will learn to identify morphological and palaeographic features, distinguishing regional styles and carving workshops through the close examination of supports, decorative elements, *ordinatio*, and letterforms.

The workshop will combine practical training with comparative and thematic discussions with guest senior researchers, as well as an introductory session on digital imaging techniques, including photography and photogrammetry for epigraphic documentation. Activities will take place across a range of museums, open-air displays, and archaeological sites throughout the island – such as Catania, Syracuse, Selinous, and Palermo – where participants will engage directly with epigraphic material and its archaeological contexts. The programme will also include a digital component. Participants will contribute to the long-term outcomes of the



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workshop by preparing entries for the STONE-MASTERS' *DAWE. Digital Atlas of Workshops* and for the database *AXON. A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions*, to be completed within one year of the fieldwork.

Timeframe: 14-20 September 2026

Funding institution: the European Research Council Starting (ERC) grant STONE-MASTERS 101040152, <https://stonemasters.uw.edu.pl>

The STONE-MASTERS project seeks to understand the impact of workshops of stonecutters and mosaicists on the changes in epigraphic cultures during the transition period from the Roman Imperial to the Late Roman periods. The study has the potential of showcasing the artisans as the mainspring behind the vertical cultural transfer of commemorative habits within the elites and broader circles of society. In particular, it seeks to explain to which extent the artisans carving commemorative plaques, epitaphs, and laying-out mosaics on the one hand advised the elite on the contents of their commissioned works; and, on the other, adapted the elitist art to the needs and economical capabilities of the broader social strata, making the new trends more accessible and thus shaping the entire cultural package of the ancient Mediterranean.

The programme will fund:

1. an economy in-bound and out-bound flight within an allowance of 400 EUR
2. accommodation in Sicily (single rooms ensuite, including breakfasts, in Catania and Palermo)
3. transportation costs in Sicily
4. entry fees to archaeological sites and museums

Other expenses, including other meals or visa costs are not provided. Participants also need to secure their own travel insurance (e.g., European Health Insurance Card or an equivalent document).

How to apply

We expect the candidates to send the following materials by email with the title "ERC-funded Programme in the Epigraphy of Sicily. Application".

Email address: stone.masters@uw.edu.pl

1. a one-page CV emphasising your experience in Greek and/or Latin epigraphy (any period), knowledge of Greek or Latin, university education and affiliation
2. a one-page cover letter explaining how you can engage with our programme's activities, contribute to our agenda and further develop your own epigraphical skills within your current projects or research interests
3. a signed GDPR consent statement ("Information on personal data processing", attached below)



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The submissions will be assessed by the organising committee. The committee will invite shortlisted candidates to short online meetings which will be organised via Zoom.

Eligibility criteria: young professionals (completed MA required), doctoral candidates, and early career researchers/postdocs are eligible to apply.

Deadline for submission of applications: 1 March 2026, 23:59 CET.

Date of short online meetings with shortlisted candidates: 23–27 March 2026 (individually scheduled with the selected candidates)

Announcement of accepted candidates: 30 March 2026.

We can accept up to nine participants from the open call.



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University of Warsaw



STONE-MASTERS

.....
given and family name

Information relating to personal data processing

Data Controller

The University of Warsaw, 26/28 Krakowskie Przedmieście, 00-927 Warsaw, as the employer, is the Controller of your personal data processed as part of the recruitment process.

You can contact the Controller:

- via mail: University of Warsaw, 26/28 Krakowskie Przedmieście, 00-927 Warsaw (indicate the organizational unit that is the addressee of the correspondence);
- by phone: 22 55 20 000.

Data Protection Officer (DPO)

The Controller has appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO) who may be contacted via e-mail at: iod@adm.uw.edu.pl. You may contact the DPO in all the matters regarding the processing of your personal data by the University of Warsaw and executing your rights related to personal data processing.

However, the DPO's duties shall not include other matters, such as conducting job recruitment, receiving recruitment documents, providing information on ongoing job recruitment.

Purpose of and legal basis for processing

Personal data of research programme candidates will be processed only for the purposes of recruitment and organization of your trip to the workshop.

<i>I hereby agree for the University of Warsaw to process my personal data included in (e.g. CV, cover letter or other documents attached) for the purposes of my participation in the recruitment process and organization of my trip to the workshop.</i>

If documents include the data mentioned under Article 9(1) of the GDPR (special categories of personal data), you need to consent to their processing¹; such consent may have the following wording:

¹ Article 9(2)(a) of the GDPR.



I hereby agree for the University of Warsaw to process special categories of personal data mentioned under Article 9(1) of the GDPR that were included in (e.g. CV, cover letter or other documents attached) for the purposes of my participation in the recruitment process.

If you agree, the University of Warsaw will process your personal data also as part of future recruitment of employees²; such consent may have the following wording:

I hereby agree to the processing of my personal data for the purposes of future recruitment conducted by the University of Warsaw over the next nine months.

You can withdraw the abovementioned consents at any time by sending an e-mail to: stone.masters@uw.edu.pl

Please also be reminded that withdrawal of your consent shall not affect the lawfulness of processing based on your consent before its withdrawal³

Data retention period

Your personal data collected as part of an ongoing recruitment process will be stored for three months from the end of the recruitment process.

If you consent to the use of your personal data for the purposes of future recruitment, your data will be used for the period of nine months.

Data recipients

Access to your personal data will be provided to authorized employees of the Controller who must process personal data as part of their professional duties and tasks.

Data transfers outside of the European Economic Area (EEA)

Your personal data shall be made available to authorized parties pursuant to the provisions of law. You can enroll with the use of Google Forms. Your data shall be processed by Google, our G-Suite for education service provider at their data processing centers.⁴ Your data shall be protected under the standards of the Privacy Shield, accepted by the European Commission.⁵ This shall guarantee an adequate level of data security.

² Article 6(1)(a) of GDPR);

³ Article 7(3) of the GDPR.

⁴ <https://www.google.com/about/datacenters/inside/locations/index.html>

⁵ <https://www.privacyshield.gov>



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Rights of data subjects

According to the principles specified by the GDPR, you have the right to:

- access your data and receive its copy,
- rectify (correct) your personal data;
- restrict personal data processing;
- erase personal data (subject to Article 17(3) of the GDPR);
- lodge a complaint with the President of the Personal Data Protection Office if you believe that the personal data processing violates the law.

Information on the data provision requirement

Provision of your personal data within the scope resulting from legal regulations is necessary for participation in the recruitment procedure. Providing other personal data is voluntary.

.....
(place and date)

.....
(applicant's signature)