**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**Research workshop for young researchers**

*Human-animal interactions in Antiquity and the Middle Ages:   
experiencing, understanding, living together*

Organisation

The Departments of Classical Philology at the Université Côte d'Azur (A. Zucker) and Trier University (D. De Brasi) are organizing, in cooperation with the Université Catholique de Louvain (B. van den Abeele), in association with the International Research Network (IRN) *Zoomathia* and with the support of the Franco-German University, two research workshops for young researchers on the topic “Animal-human interactions in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: experiencing, understanding, living together”.

Place and date

* September 6-8, 2023 in Nice (F)
* June 12-14, 2024 in Trier (D)

Issue

Animals have always been of central importance in human life. As livestock and domestic animals, they represent a crucial dimension of daily economic and social life; wild animals fascinate certain groups; researchers have endeavored (and continue) to classify and describe all known (and newly discovered) species. The abundant documentation (textual, iconographic, or archaeological) transmitted in antiquity also underlines the central role of animals in human life and society. Especially in the wake of the so-called *animal turn* in the humanities since the 1970s, scholarship on ancient cultures also began to focus more deeply on the history of zoology, on the one hand, and the interactions between humans and other living beings, on the other.

Objectives

The workshops aim to offer young researchers, whose research projects focus on ancient or medieval texts centered on the relations between animals and humans, the opportunity to discuss their research within an international group and to contribute to shedding new and more nuanced light on the description, representation, and evaluation of interactions between humans and animals. This double research workshop also wishes to offer the possibility of developing a hybrid methodology that takes into account in equal measure the zoological and ethological study of animals and the socio-cultural impact of the coexistence between animals and humans in Greco-Roman antiquity.

Structure of the event

The workshops will combine introductory lectures, workshops on selected texts, and seminars. Experts in the field of human-animal studies and ancient zoology will offer introductions to specific aspects of the three main topics, namely “Experiencing Animals,” “Understanding Animals,” and “Living with Animals” in Greco-Roman antiquity and will thus give the participants an overview of the general issues and methods. During the workshops, the participants will analyze and discuss selected texts that have been fundamental for the methodological development of the history of zoology and human-animal studies in groups (these texts will be shared in advance with the participants). Finally, participants will present their research projects in seminar-style events and receive feedback from other participants. During the workshops, participants will contribute to creating a collective blog (or vlog).

Target audience

**The research workshops are addressed, in particular, to doctoral and post-doctoral students (up to two years after the defense of the thesis at the time of application)**. In the spirit of the objectives of the Franco-German University, the workshops should especially support cooperation between French and German researchers so that candidates working in one of the two countries will be given special consideration in the selection procedure. Applications from other countries are, however, also welcome. The official languages of the workshops are French and German, English being considered a possible *lingua franca*. Full board in Nice and Trier will be provided, but not travel expenses (the organizers will provide information on possible funding agencies).

Applications

Applicants are requested to send the documents listed below before **April 15, 2023** to [debrasi@uni-trier.de](mailto:debrasi@uni-trier.de) and [Arnaud.ZUCKER@univ-cotedazur.fr](mailto:Arnaud.ZUCKER@univ-cotedazur.fr) as a PDF file:

- motivation letter (max. 2 pages)

- scientific curriculum vitae (max. 2 pages)

- short presentation of the research project on the theme Human-Animal Interactions (max. 2 pages, Times New Roman 12pt)

*NB: The research project may be the subject of the dissertation or the subject of another project (monograph, essay, or generally a paper on the animal-human relationship in antiquity and/or the Middle Ages).*

As the workshops are designed to be complementary, it is strongly recommended to participate in both sessions. However, applications submitted for only one workshop will also be considered; applicants are requested to explicitly mention the wish to attend only one session in their motivation letter.. The results of the applications will be announced on May 6.