

**The International Association for Archaeological Research in Western and Central Asia
(ARWA) Online Lecture Series – Philology and History Liaison Group**

Mesopotamia vs Greater Mesopotamia: literature, history and linguistics

Organizers: **Franco D’Agostino** (Sapienza, University of Rome), and **Sergio Alivernini** (Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague).

In the mid-3rd millennium BCE an essential phenomenon can be identified, represented by a spread of cuneiform writing from its Mesopotamian homeland to different regions of ancient Near East (or Western Asia), and the use of cuneiform writing will last from the third millennium till the first years of the Common Era. This vast geographical area, often defined “Greater Mesopotamia” to highlight the influence of the “land between the rivers,” includes Iran, Syria and the Levant, and Anatolia. This series of lectures seeks to investigate the textual approaches applied to the study of ancient Near East covering different geographical areas and periods. With the participation of different scholars, these lectures will show different approaches to the written documentation to reconstruct Western Asia culture and history.

According to Arwa’s goals, these online lectures will create a space to promote cooperation between historians, philologists, archaeologists, and all researchers investigating the past. Moreover, in order to promote the study of the ancient Near East also with the broader public at large, all the lectures will be made available on the ARWA’s YouTube account.

Programme

October 6th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Angela Greco (Sapienza, University of Rome)

Grazing in the surroundings. Evidence of local pastoralism in Ur III Girsu

October 13th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Gian Pietro Basello (University of Naples L’Orientale)

Adaptation and Invention: The reception of cuneiform writing in Elam

October 20th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

James Burgin (University of Würzburg)

Gods, Grain, and Gold: Building a Power Base on the Anatolia Plateau

October 27th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Marwan Kilani (University of Basel)

Talk like an Egyptian (or not): a sociolinguistic investigation of Egyptian borrowings in the Late Bronze Age Levant

November 3rd, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Anne-Caroline Rendu Loisel (University of Strasbourg)

The Scent of the Gods. Senses, Emotions and the Otherness in Cuneiform Sources

November 10th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Katrien De Graef (Ghent University)

Perfect Strangers. Babylonians and Elamites at the Crossroads of Language and Writing in the Sikkalmah Period

November 17th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Federico Giusfredi (University of Verona) **and Valerio Pisaniello** (University of Verona)

Die acht Sprachen der Boghazköi-Inschriften a little more than a century after.

November 24th, 2023 – 18.00 CET

Jana Mynářová (Charles University)

Writing on the Edge. Cuneiform Tradition in the Western Peripheris