

Seminar & open to the public

Archaeology of the Medieval World: Sources and Cities

The archaeology of the medieval world, and of historical periods in general, often has an ambivalent relationship with pasts derived from other available sources. On the one hand, interpreting the archaeological record requires external evidence, thus texts and oral traditions may become important anchors. On the other hand, archaeologists frequently struggle to integrate their findings with those of history and anthropology, and the latter usually dominate in discourses on the past.

This seminar's primary aim is to discuss various approaches to this challenge in different archaeological sub-disciplines. With a particular focus on 'cities', the

seminar will introduce case studies in which a gap can be found between archaeology and other sources. The second aim of the seminar is to broaden students' contexts and allow them to get acquainted with other regions and with additional research traditions. Therefore, the meetings will present different studies from Asia, Africa and Europe which are conducted by scholars from African, Islamic, Byzantine, Indian, and medieval European archaeologies. This wide geographical spread will allow for the comparison and contrast of key issues in the 9th-14th century.



Thursdays, 18:00-20:00
25. April 2024 - 18. Juli 2024
IG Farben, room EG 311



25/4 **Anders Andrén** (Stockholm University)

Jewish minorities in medieval European cities: archaeological triangulations

2/5 **Nick Gestrich** (Goethe-University Frankfurt)

Perspectives on the medieval world: an introduction to source conflicts

16/5 **Nicolas Nikis** (Université libre de Bruxelles & Royal Museum for Central Africa)

Pottery manufacturing techniques as a source to reconstruct the past: the case of the north-eastern Congo Basin, 8th-15th centuries

23/5 **Joanita Vroom** (Leiden University)

No schnitzel for the sultan: searching for wining and dining in Ottoman Istanbul

6/6 **Tim Williams** (University College London)

The early Islamic city in Central Asia

13/6 **Wolfgang David** (Archäologisches Museum Frankfurt)

Die Anfänge der Stadt Frankfurt: Archäologie und Geschichte

20/6 **Coline Lefrancq** (CNRS – UMR 7041 ARSCAN)

The debate on the urbanization during the early medieval period in South Asia explained (with a focus on the northeastern part of Indian Peninsula)

27/6 **Hagit Nol** (Goethe-University Frankfurt)

Different perspectives on urbanization in Palestine, 9th to 10th century

4/7 **Nick Gestrich** (Goethe-University Frankfurt)

Trade and trading centres in West Africa

11/7 **Sébastien de Valeriola** (Université libre de Bruxelles) and **Nicolas Ruffini-Ronzani** (Université de Namur)

Network Analysis and archeological artefacts: a medieval monetary corpus from the former Low Countries

18/7 **Nick Gestrich, Carlos Magnavita** and **Hagit Nol** (Goethe-University Frankfurt)

Summary and discussion

