

PHD STUDENT IN THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**Position:** PhD student in Literary Studies

**Unit of the project realization:** Faculty of Humanities – University of Silesia in Katowice

**Unit realizing the PhD student education:** Doctoral School at the University of Silesia in Katowice

Research will be carried out in the frame of the project (**Punishment in Ancient Athens: a Cognitive Approach** (OPUS, project no. 2022/45/B/HS2/03806), financed from the National Science Centre under management of dr hab. Jan Kucharski, prof. UŚ.

**Duration of the scholarship: 42 months**

**Scholarship amount: 4266,58 PLN (net)**

**Project description:**

Punishment is a concept even nowadays notoriously difficult to understand. Questions about its key features (e.g. authority), its functions (e.g. retributive, deterrent), and its justifications (e.g. punishment vs revenge) continue to preoccupy philosophers and legal theorists. Yet the one issue underlying these problems can be formulated in a simpler manner: how is the practice of legal punishment to be embedded and understood within the context of a modern democratic state. The objective of this project is to take this issue twenty five hundred years back, to an ancient democracy which became a paradigm and an archetype for all subsequent forms of popular rule: classical Athens. Its goal is to unravel the forms of thought – or given the methodology of this project: the Idealized Cognitive Models or ICMs (see below) – of punishment which manifest themselves in the ways the Athenians talked about it and organized their social practices around it. This will provide the ground for understanding punishment and the related concepts in classical Athens “on their own terms,” as one scholar has recently postulated. An understanding from the emic perspective, one which begins with the language and discourses (since the available sources are predominantly textual), and on this basis proceeds to concepts and ideas, not the other way around.

The successful candidate is expected to conduct research on any aspect of Greek literature and culture of the classical period related to the study of punishment. This is expected to result in a PhD thesis completed under the supervision of the PI and the publication of at least one paper in an internationally recognized, peer-reviewed periodical.



**Requirements:**

1. MA in classics or history.
2. Fluency in English (both spoken and written).
3. Very good knowledge of Ancient Greek.

**Required documents:**

1. Cover letter with a description of scholarly interests.
2. Curriculum Vitae.
3. Copy of the MA diploma.
4. One letter of recommendation.
5. Writing sample in English (chapter, article or an as of yet unpublished piece).

Candidates should register in IRK system and select „ Admission to the Doctoral School at the University of Silesia in Katowice - RECRUITMENT FOR PLACES FINANCED BY RESEARCH GRANTS” (<https://irk2.us.edu.pl/en-gb/>) and choose the right project title.

Documents should be delivered by **March 31 2024** to **jan.kucharski@us.edu.pl**.

Invitations to interview will be sent by April 5 2024. The interviews are expected to take place on April 18 2024. In case of any questions, before the formal application please contact to the project leader (address given above).

Documents will be evaluated by a committee chaired by the project leader. Interviews will be carried out in English and take place on-line. The final decision will be sent to candidates via e-mail by April 22 2024.

