



Programme

APPROACHING FOREIGNERS IN ANTIQUITY: STUDYING INTERCULTURAL CONTACTS

Ancient Texts: Text, Context, and Reception

5–6 February 2025

North-West University (NWU)

NWU Sports Village, Potchefstroom, South Africa

Wednesday, February 5

09:00-10:00

Arrival, Registration, Tea & Coffee

10:00-10:15

Welcoming addresses

10:15-11:00

Keynote

*The other world of Odysseus: Cultural encounters in the
Iron Age Mediterranean*

Carolina López-Ruiz (University of Chicago, US)

11:00-11:15

Discussion

11:15-11:30

Tea & Coffee

11:30-13:00

Session 1 (Chair: Carolina López-Ruiz)

11:30-11:55

*An island in the west: Iron Age Sardinia on the cusp of a
new era*

Jeremy Hayne (Università del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

11:55-12:20

Artistic patterns in Khoe-San petroglyphs: Exploring universal spatial themes in human figures through comparison with Rock Art styles from the Levant

Lynette Boardman (North-West University, South Africa) & At Lamprecht (North-West University, South Africa)

Ancient Aethiopians in the Mediterranean: Between mythology and history

12:20-12:45

Asterios - Evangelos Kechagias (North-West University, South Africa)

12:45-13:00

Discussion

13:00-14:30

Lunch

14:30-15:35

Session 2 (Chair: Johan Stehenkamp)

14:30-14:55

From elephant hunters to long-distance traders: observations on the establishment of trade relations in the Red Sea in the Greco-Roman period

Patrick Reinard (University of Trier, Germany)

14:55-15:20	<i>Approaching Greco-Roman Spaces as the Nabataean “Other”</i>
	Anna Accettola (Hamilton College, US)
15:20-15:35	Discussion
15:35	End of the First Day
16:00-20:00	Game Drive and Conference Dinner

Thursday, February 6

08:30-09:00 **Tea & Coffee**

09:00-10:30 **Session 3 (Chair: At Lamprecht)**

Maschalismos: A Forgotten ‘Ritual’ From the East?

09:00-09:25

Janek Kucharski (University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland) & Karolina Sekita (Tel Aviv University, Israel)

India in the Poetic Imagination of the Roman Republic

09:25-09:50

Johan Stehenkamp, North-West University, South Africa

Rustica Quondam Fistula: When Quondam?

09:50-10:15

Sunhao Zhang (Peking University, China)

10:15-10:30

Discussion

10:30-10:45

Tea & Coffee

10:45-11:50

Session 4 (Chair: Asterios-Evangelos Kechagias)

Milindapañha: The Conversion of King Menander to Buddhism

10:45-11:10

John Meyer, (Philosophy & Classics, University of the Free State)

Christ's Apostle Thomas in India: Spiritual aspects of the interaction of Christianity with Hinduism

11:10-11:35

Annette Evans (University of the Free State, South Africa)

11:35-11:50

Discussion

11:50-13:20

Lunch

13:20-14:50	Session 5 (Chair: Godwin Mushayabasa)
13:20-13:45	<p><i>The Persian Darius in the heart of the western desert of Egypt</i></p> <p>Fanie Vermaak, (University of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa)</p>
13:45-14:10	<p><i>Build the Wall!: Walls and Identity in the Globalizing Achaemenid Mediterranean</i></p> <p>Marcus Ziemann (Florida State University, US)</p>
14:10-14:35	<p><i>The Middle-Asia Nomadic People as a Chain in Ancient Silk Road: Intercultural Contacts of Xinjiang, China, in 1st millennium BCE</i></p> <p>Zeyu Jiang (University College London, UK)</p>
14:35-15:00	Discussion
15.00	End of the Conference