



**The Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA) in collaboration with the  
Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University  
present the Third**

**Athens Research School  
21 –30 March, 2024**

**on**

***Audio Visual Methods in Collaborative Archaeology: Exploring the  
Politics of Heritage***

Applicants:

Outstanding archaeology and humanities students in BA (last year), MA &  
PhD

About the course:

Audio-visual applications are nowadays broadly used in heritage and museum studies, fostering communication between researchers and visitors as well as the promotion of heritage sites and museum collections. Furthermore, as digital media has become increasingly affordable and accessible, visual representation is expanding across several dimensions in archaeology, becoming a prominent tool of analysis and collaboration within the discipline. By discussing the available methodological tools and critically reflecting on their application, this intensive course focuses on how such tools can be incorporated ethically into collaborative archaeological research. For this, the program includes a basic introductory course on audio-visual methods in one of the most challenging urban landscapes of Europe, where archaeology and the politics of heritage management intersect in unique ways. During this course participants will be involved with storytelling, will collaboratively produce short multimedia works, such as clip-films or essay films, featuring alternative archaeological narratives about the many relationships between the people, archaeological materiality, and discourse.

Structure of the course:

Between March 22 and 30, 2024 the seminars will run daily at the NIA, located in the heart of Athens. The program will feature field research (film & photography production) in selected locations throughout the city. The seminar will focus on



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providing the general theoretical context in relation to audio-visual methodologies and contemporary approaches to field research in urban settings. During the course, the students will be assigned with specific topics to conduct their research and produce video and sound recordings with their own smart phones, or for more experienced users the Institute's equipment will be provided. In preparation for the seminar, all students are expected to have read the mandatory literature before arrival in Greece.

#### Methods:

During the seminar, students are expected to participate actively in all the courses and carry out a guided short field research. Specific projects of choice will be given that might have a focus on material culture, a specific heritage site, landmarks, whole neighbourhoods or archaeological networks but it can expand to wider thematic units, such as the politics of archaeology and contemporary perceptions of past societies. Students will record and collect their own material and will reflect on them, with the guidance of experienced staff. Film directing and storytelling will also be in focus with our collaborative film director who will introduce students to introductory basic principles. No filming/photographs will take place inside archaeological sites due to related legislation in Greece.

#### Course requirements, language and evaluation:

The course is available to outstanding students from different levels, such as BA (last year), Master, Research Masters, and PhD students (preferably first and second year). All lectures will be given in English. Students are required to participate actively in all the lectures and discussions during the courses.

#### Course period, dates and times:

The course consists of 8 intensive days with lectures and field research. Arrival and a welcome meeting will take place on the evening of the 21 March. The first course day will be on the 22 and the last on the 29, and the presentations of students will take place the 30 of March. Daily classes will be mostly scheduled between 10.00 to 15.00 (depending on courses), including lunch break. The rest of the time, students will conduct field research. Students are expected to depart on the evening of 30 March or 31 March.

#### Participation – application:

Students can apply online at [www.nia.gr](http://www.nia.gr) until Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, **2024**. Successful applicants will be notified by Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, **2024**. The number of participating students is limited (max. 15 students), so we encourage early registration. Selecting criteria will apply.



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#### Costs and subsidies:

The total cost of the course is 300€ for all students registered at E.U. and Dutch universities **including accommodation**. Overseas (non-EU) fees are 550€. Overseas fees for students registered at universities at countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are subsidized, so their fee equals the EU sum. If students chose to seek accommodation independently, then the cost of the course drops to 150€. Students are expected to cover their airplane return ticket from the Netherlands or country of origin to Athens and their lunch and dinner costs.

#### Scholarships:

A limited number of scholarships covering the total cost of the course (including accommodation) might be provided for (Archaeology) participants. To apply for a scholarship, please fill out the corresponding section on your application form. If you are eligible to receive funding from other sources (such as your school, research project, or other types of grants), please do not apply for our scholarships, which are limited and preferably will benefit students who do not have any alternative funding options. For more information please contact Dr. Natalia Donner ([n.r.donner@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:n.r.donner@hum.leidenuniv.nl).)

#### Accommodation:

During the course the Institute will offer accommodation to the participants/students in our guest rooms at the institute. Students will be sharing their rooms. The institute will publish contact details as soon as students are accepted. For more information regarding accommodation, please contact the NIA secretary Mrs Emmy Makri at [emakri@nia.gr](mailto:emakri@nia.gr) or [nia@nia.gr](mailto:nia@nia.gr)

#### Transport to the institute:

On arrival to Athens you can commute to NIA by Metro (Acropolis), taxi or bus. The institute is situated very near to the metro station called Acropolis, in the centre of the city, next to the areas of Plaka and Thission. For exact information on how to get to NIA please contact the secretary Mrs Emmy Makri at [emakri@nia.gr](mailto:emakri@nia.gr)

For more information regarding the course, please contact:

Dr. Tryfon Bampilis, Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA) Tel.: + 30 210 9210760, email: [trifonb@yahoo.com](mailto:trifonb@yahoo.com) or [nia@nia.gr](mailto:nia@nia.gr)

#### Organizing Committee:

- Dr. Tryfon Bampilis (Scientific Coordinator of Social Sciences, Netherlands Institute at Athens)
- Dr. Natalia R. Donner (Leiden University, Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Archaeology)
- Maro Anastopoulou (film director)