



DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN HISTORICAL STUDIES

Director prof. Giulia Torri

XLII cycle – academic year 2026/2027

HUMANITIES AREA	
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE	Department of History, Archaeology, Geography, Fine & Performing Arts
PARTNER INSTITUTION	University of Siena
WEB	www.studistorici.unifi.it
CURRICULA	1. History and Civilisation of the Ancient World and the Near East 2. Medieval History 3. Early Modern History 4. History of the Contemporary World 5. Archival Science, Library Science, and Palaeography
POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 9 Positions with scholarship: 9 Position without scholarship: <i>not available</i>	
RANKING LIST FOR STANDARD POSITIONS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 8	6 - University of Florence 2 - University of Siena
RANKING LISTS FOR POSITIONS WITH SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 1	1 - Department of History, Archaeology, Geography, Fine & Performing Arts (SAGAS) Thematic: “Sumerian in the First Millennium BCE: A Philological Analysis and Assessment of Sumero-Akkadian Bilingualism in the First Millennium BCE” Funded by ERC StG LASU “The Afterlife of an Ancient Near Eastern Language” project ERC_LASU_BARAGLI CUP B53C25006730006 The proposed research project is part of the ERC StG LASU research project “The Afterlife of an Ancient Near Eastern Language” (project no. 101222603) and begins with the question: why did the Sumerian language continue to be used for magical, religious, and cultural purposes until the 1st century CE, the date of the very last surviving cuneiform tablets? The project aims to contextualize Sumerian from the first millennium BCE using philological methods, with a focus on translation techniques from Sumerian to Akkadian. The ideal candidate should have experience with the Sumerian language and/or Mesopotamian bilingualism. The activities to be carried out primarily involve the philological editing of texts and/or the analysis of a specific aspect of first-millennium Sumerian.

STUDY/RESEARCH PERIODS ABROAD	at least 3 months for standard positions scholarships at least 6 months for specific research topic scholarship
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE ADMISSION	• Copy of the Identification Document • Self-certification for qualifications obtained in Italy (laurea triennale, specialistica o magistrale o ciclo unico) with list of exams taken, credits and related grade, title of the thesis and graduation mark (using this template or similar forms containing the required information) • Qualifications obtained abroad (Bachelor's and Master's Degrees or combined cycle Degree) with a list of all exams taken, credits and related grade, rating scale, title of the thesis and graduation mark <i>The same documentation except for the final mark must be submitted by those who will graduate within the 31/10/2026</i>
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE EVALUATION	MANDATORY STANDARD POSITIONS - SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPIC SCHOLARSHIP - CANDIDATES WITH ITALIAN DEGREE • Curriculum vitae et studiorum • Copy of Master thesis (or equivalent) • Research project CANDIDATES WITH FOREIGN DEGREE • Curriculum vitae in Italian or English • A copy of the thesis (Master or equivalent degree) with abstract in Italian or English • Research project in Italian or English OPTIONAL FOR ALL POSITIONS • List of scientific publications and any other qualification document • Copy of possible publications, which can be annexed to the application or whose accessibility the candidate can state in an open access repository.
RESEARCH PROJECT	The project must be consistent with the Doctorate curricula, one of which must be explicitly mentioned. The project will not be less than 8,000 and no more than 12,000 characters including notes and references (spaces excluded). The project must explain the research topic, highlight its original features, briefly show the state of the art concerning the subject (with appropriate bibliographic references) and the lines of investigation which the candidate thinks possible to follow during the three years of the Doctoral course. The candidate may present the same project for the standard scholarship and for the scholarship with specific research topic and separate ranking list he/she intend to apply to, or alternatively may present different projects for each scholarship, indicating clearly to which scholarship each project refers.
INTERVIEW MODE	In person

	In the application form candidates may ask to conduct the interview remotely																					
FURTHER INFORMATION	The interview may be held in English (only for candidates with a qualification obtained abroad). The project will be evaluated and discussed. During the interview, general historical and historiographical competences will be verified, as well as particular ones concerning the research topic. During the interview the knowledge of English language will be also verified. Candidates can also prove the knowledge of other foreign languages beyond English, which can be verified and evaluated by the commission. Furthermore, only for candidates graduated from non-Italian universities, during the interview the basic knowledge of Italian language.																					
EVALUATION MARKS	<table><tr><th colspan="3">STANDARD POSITIONS AND SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPIC SCHOLARHIP</th></tr><tr><th>parameter</th><th>minimum score</th><th>maximum score</th></tr><tr><td>Curriculum vitae, publications, qualification documents</td><td>5/120</td><td>10/120</td></tr><tr><td>Research project</td><td>35/120</td><td>50/120</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 40/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview</td></tr><tr><td>Interview: discussion of the research project</td><td>40/120</td><td>60/120</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120</td></tr></table>	STANDARD POSITIONS AND SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPIC SCHOLARHIP			parameter	minimum score	maximum score	Curriculum vitae, publications, qualification documents	5/120	10/120	Research project	35/120	50/120	Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 40/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview			Interview: discussion of the research project	40/120	60/120	Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120		
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THEMATICS	History and Civilizations of the Ancient World and the Near East: The curriculum is grounded in a unified conception of the ancient world and promotes the study of ancient societies through interdisciplinary methodologies (historical, epigraphic-philological, archaeological, and anthropological), with particular emphasis on the interconnections among different cultural domains. It encourages multidisciplinary engagement with the contexts in which the civilizations of the Mediterranean and Western Asia developed, considered both in their specifically local dimensions and within broader networks of interaction. The academic staff provides essential cross-disciplinary expertise for the development of research projects that investigate multiple aspects of ancient societies, fostering comparative and long-term approaches. Medieval History: The curriculum offers pathways that enable doctoral students to conduct research on the basis of original and unpublished sources, addressing a wide range of themes related to the societies of the medieval millennium. Owing to the breadth of expertise represented among the members of the curriculum, research areas encompass political history, institutional history, and state formation, as well as the study of cultural phenomena and mentalities, issues of economic, social, and environmental nature, and investigations into the history of the Church and religious life. Early Modern History: The curriculum promotes original research on the history of the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries, with particular attention to the political, religious,																					

	social, and economic transformations that shaped the early modern period. The curriculum adopts transnational and transcultural perspectives, exploring the interconnections between Europe and non-European worlds, the circulation of people, ideas, and practices, and the construction and contestation of authority. Particular emphasis is placed on the critical analysis of primary sources and on engagement with major historiographical debates, within a comparative and interdisciplinary framework. History of the Contemporary World: The curriculum prepares students for a multidisciplinary approach to the contexts in which contemporary phenomena and processes unfold at local, transnational, supranational and global levels, paying particular attention to the full methodological and historiographical training of doctoral students. The academic staff offers extensive multidisciplinary expertise for the development of research projects across six scientific-disciplinary fields: Contemporary History, History of Eastern Europe, History of Christianity and Churches, History and Institutions of the Americas, History of International Relations, History and Institutions of Asia. Archival Science, Library Science, and Paleography: The curriculum is designed to train PhD candidates in achieving full methodological and historiographical maturity in the study and management of documentary and bibliographic heritage. The program integrates critical source analysis with advanced techniques in cataloging, digitization, and preservation, fostering in-depth expertise in Paleography, Diplomatics, Codicology, Archival Studies, Library Science, and Book History. This scientific and historiographical approach promotes the reading and interpretation of manuscripts and ancient documents, the reconstruction of archival and documentary contexts, and the valorization of materials through comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives.
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EXAMINATION SCHEDULE			
	DATE	TIME	PLACE
INTERVIEW	15 th July 2026	09:00 a.m.	Department SAGAS via Capponi 9 - Firenze Aula ex 12
The list of the candidates admitted to the interview and the final ranking will be published at the page PhD courses			

ENROLLMENT ROUNDS
Enrollment must be completed within the specified mandatory deadlines, under penalty of exclusion (as per Art. 12 of the Call for Applications - Annex 1)

	Opening Date	Deadline for Enrollment
Enrollment (successful candidates)	Ranking's publication date (by July 31, 2026)	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on August 25th 2026 *
1st round (eligible candidates)	from 31st August 2026	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on September 7th 2026
2nd round (eligible candidates)	from 10th September 2026	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on September 17th 2026

* Please note that the University will be closed from August 8th to August 23th, 2026.

Subsequent reassignment of vacant positions:

The reassignment of any residual positions after the first two rounds will be activated on **every Tuesday until October 27th**, with a mandatory enrollment deadline set for the following Friday (11:59 PM CEST). It is the sole responsibility of the candidate to check their personal reserved area

No personal communications will be sent to candidates.

Technical instructions for enrollment can be found [here](#)