



An Interdisciplinary History of Writing

Summer School



17-28 July 2023 in Hamburg, Germany

How has writing shaped human societies and cultures and how have these, in turn, adapted writing to their needs?

Research on written artefacts is not all about the contents of texts. It begins with the physical object itself, be it a Mesopotamian clay tablet with cuneiform writing, an ancient rock inscription, an Indian palm-leaf manuscript, or a legal document written on parchment in medieval Europe. At this summer school, students investigate the composition of writing supports, ingredients of inks, and the binding of a codex. They also learn about the circumstances of the production, use and re-use, and the attribution of certain qualities or powers to a manuscript or other written artefacts. The course takes a global and comparative approach and is characterised by the cooperation between the humanities and the natural and computer sciences.

Who can apply?

Bachelor and Master students, doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from the humanities, the natural sciences, or computer sciences with an interest in written artefacts

Please note: Students should be enrolled at least in their 2nd year of a BA/BSc programme or in MA or MSc programmes.

Teaching methods and learning environment

The course consists of lectures, seminars and hands-on sessions at the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) and its lab, as well as excursions to museums and research institutes in Hamburg and the nearby historic city of Lüneburg.

Credit points: 4 CP can be obtained

Fees: 320 EUR. *Financial aid is available (please see the website below).*

Application deadline: 15 April 2023

Further information and application:

https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/study-at-csmc/summerwinterschools/hiss

