

OeAW - Discovering the future

As a central non-university institution for science and research, the **Austrian Academy of Sciences - OeAW** has the task of "**promoting science in every respect**". Founded in 1847 as a learned society, it now has over 760 members and around 1,800 employees dedicated to innovative basic research, interdisciplinary knowledge exchange and the dissemination of new insights. The OeAW initiates and maintains partnerships worldwide and represents Austria in international scientific organizations; it cooperates with numerous institutions in the scientific field in order to actively **shape the research landscape**.

Student Assistant (f/m/x)

Job ID: OeAI138STUD226

The Austrian Archaeological Institute (OeAI) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW), the largest non-university institution for basic research in Austria, is seeking to fill the position of a

Student Assistant (f/m/x)
(part time / 20 hours per week)

to join the Department of Classical Studies in Vienna. Working in an international, dynamic, and interdisciplinary academic environment, the successful candidate will become an integral member of a research team exploring the intersections of religion, landscape, and environment in Mediterranean antiquity.

The position is part of the FWF-funded research project "Historizing Interrituality with the Environment and Religious Orography in Topographic Interactions (HIEROTOPOI)", led by Dr. Ramón Soneira-Martínez. HIEROTOPOI investigates how ancient Greek and Roman communities transformed organic nature, such as mountains, springs, and coastlines, into sacred landscapes. Combining archaeology, ancient history, philology, and religious studies with ritual theory, phenomenology, and relational sociology, the project examines how rituals, myths, and daily practices shaped human-nature relations in the ancient polytheistic Mediterranean.

Your Responsibilities

- Support the project's science communication strategy, including content creation and management of HIEROTOPOI's social media channels, website updates, and public outreach materials.
- Assist the core team with the logistical and organizational preparation of international workshops, conferences, and lectures hosted by the project in Vienna.
  Assist team members with literature research, bibliographical databases, and editorial tasks.
- Develop an individual research portfolio over the 24-month period aimed at formulating a structured PhD thesis proposal (Exposé) within the thematic and theoretical scope of HIEROTOPOI. Under the close mentorship of the project team, you will receive training in advanced bibliographical tools and research methodologies, actively participate in academic events as a project member, and have the opportunity to prepare an academic publication during your Master's studies.

Your Profile

- Completed Bachelor's degree (BA) in Ancient History, Classical Archaeology, Classical Philology, Religious Studies, or a closely related discipline. Candidates must be currently

enrolled in, or about to begin, a Master's (MA) programme (please note that current PhD students are not eligible for this position).

- Academic interest in the historical study of religions, specifically ancient Greek and/or Roman polytheistic religions (e.g., reflected in relevant coursework, your BA thesis, or your motivation letter and research sketch)
- Fluency in English (both spoken and written), which serves as the primary working and internal communication language of the project.
- Digital & organizational skills: Familiarity with social media platforms and digital communication dynamics, alongside a proactive, team-oriented mindset and willingness to gain hands-on experience in on-site academic event management.

Desirable qualifications

- Current residence in Vienna (or willingness to relocate to Vienna prior to the start of the contract) is highly preferable to ensure regular in-person collaboration with the team and on-site support during events.
- Reading knowledge of Ancient Greek and/or Latin (highly valued), basic to advanced proficiency in German (helpful for daily administrative and logistical tasks in Vienna), and reading knowledge of other modern research languages.
- Basic experience with graphic design or content-creation tools (e.g., Canva, Adobe Creative Suite, or similar) for science communication.
- Strong alignment between your prospective research interests and HIEROTOPOI's core framework: religion and nature in the Greco-Roman world, sacred landscapes, ritual theory, or environmental humanities.

Our Offer

- A position in an innovative and internationally active environment crucial to succes
- Numerous voluntary social benefits
- Flex time arrangement
- Opportunity to work independently and develop personally

We offer a two-year fixed-term contract for 20 hours per week (from March 1, 2027 to February 28, 2029) based at the Department of Classical Studies of the OeAI in Vienna.

The minimum annual gross salary for this position is EUR 39.493,72 (full-time based, effective from January 1, 2027), in accordance with the collective agreement of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW). For part-time employment, the salary will be adjusted on a pro rata basis in line with the agreed working hours.

Please submit your application by January 10, 2027 (23:59 CET). Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview (either in-person or online). For academic inquiries regarding the project or the position, please contact Dr. Ramón Soneira-Martínez (ramon.soneiramartinez@oeaw.ac.at).

APPLY NOW

The Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW) pursues a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity. Individuals from underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

Contact

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