

Exploratory Workshop

## "Materiality of Written Artefacts: Ancient Egypt in Context" (Helsinki, 2–3 June 2026)

Program

Tue, 2nd June

### Session 1: Papyrus

- 13:00–14:30 Experimental Archaeology of Papyrus: Hands-on Reconstruction with Plants from the Kaisaniemi Botanic Garden (Thomas Christiansen, Independent Researcher / Helsinki)
- 14:30–15:15 Technologies of Text: Ink Production, Palimpsest, and the Reuse of Papyrus in Ancient Egypt (Elena Hertel, University of Hamburg / Thomas Christiansen)
- 15:15–16:00 Discussion
- 19:00 Dinner (funded for speakers)

Wed, 3rd June

### Session 2: Ostraca

- 09:00–09:45 Praxeology of Writing on Ostraca: the Case Study of Pathyris Ostraca (Clementina Caputo, Politecnico di Milano / Mariantonietta Pascalicchio, University of Helsinki)
- 09:45–10:30 Discussion
- 10:30–10:45 Coffee break

### Session 3: Clay tablets

- 10:45–11:30 Accessing Social Practices: How were Cuneiform Tablets Produced and Used? (Mathilde Jean, Université Paris Nanterre / Melanie Wasmuth, Universities of Helsinki & Basel)
- 11:30–12:15 Discussion
- 12:15–13:15 Lunch break (funded for speakers)

### Session 4: Stone artefacts

- 13:15–14:00 Hieratic Stone Stelae: Aspects of their Materiality in a Cross-Genre Perspective (Elena Hertel / Melanie Wasmuth)
- 14:00–14:45 Discussion
- 14:45–15:00 Coffee break

### Session 5: Wrap-up

- 15:00–16:00 Final discussion

### Workshop venue:

University of Helsinki: Päärakennus / Main Building U4062 (Fabianinkatu 33, 00170 Helsinki)

### Registration:

The workshop targets primarily junior to senior researchers. It is going to be highly interactive and experimental in nature. Thus, the number of participants is capped at max. 25 persons, **in-person participation only**.

Participation is free of charge, but **registration is mandatory** (via email to [melanie.wasmuth@helsinki.fi](mailto:melanie.wasmuth@helsinki.fi)); it will be handled on a first come, first served basis.



*The workshop is organised by the Egyptology Study Group, University of Helsinki.*

*It is kindly funded by the ANEE+ Interdisciplinary Research Network  
and The Finnish Egyptological Society.*

