



International Olympic Academy & Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University

“Sports, Society, and Culture”

“*Athla* for the people: Democracy, Empire, and the Power of Athletics”

Seventh International Scholars’ Symposium

July 9 – July 13, 2018

Ancient Olympia, Greece

The [International Olympic Academy](#) (IOA), in cooperation with [Harvard University’s Center for Hellenic Studies](#) (CHS), is organizing the Seventh International Scholars’ Symposium on “Sports, Society, and Culture” in Ancient Olympia, July 9 – 13, 2018. As in previous years, the Symposium will host scholars from around the world and bring together more than a hundred students and professors from Universities in Greece and abroad.

Topic

Building on comparative aspects of earlier themes in the series, the topic of the 2018 Symposium is “*Athla* for the People: Democracy, Empire, and the Power of Athletics.” As part of the international scholarly discourse on sports, society, and politics, the 2018 meeting of the IOA/CHS Symposium examines the significance of athletics in shaping socio-political discourses from antiquity to our times. By exploring the impact of Olympic distinction on a variety of political systems, this year’s conference brings to Olympia an academic gathering designed to shed new light on the dialogue between the ancient and modern Olympics.

Structure

In addition to lectures, the Symposium will place emphasis on innovative educational methods such as blended learning and student workshops. Students will have access to a list of core readings and presentation abstracts in advance of the Symposium to better prepare for it. Presentations will be followed by workshops during which the students will have the opportunity to discuss the readings and reflect on the themes of the presentations in small groups.

Faculty

This year’s Symposium faculty will include Gregory Nagy (Harvard University and CHS Harvard), Konstantinos Georgiadis (University of Peloponnese and International Olympic Academy), Charles Stocking (University of Western Ontario and CHS Harvard), Stamatia Dova (Hellenic College and CHS Harvard), Paul Christesen (Dartmouth College), Maša Culumovic (CHS Harvard), Sarah Murray (University of Toronto), and Philip Sapistein (University of Nebraska-Lincoln).



Participants

The Symposium is addressed to **3rd and 4th year undergraduate students, as well as postgraduate students – Masters and PhD students.**

Priority will be given to first-time participants.

Participation and Logistics

The International Olympic Academy will facilitate, by bus, the transportation of the participants from Athens to Olympia on Monday, July 9 and from Olympia to Athens on Friday, July 13.

Accommodation (double room) and meals (Breakfast, Lunch) on the IOA premises will also be offered by the International Olympic Academy. The IOA and the CHS do not cover airfare and other incidental expenses associated with the presence and participation in the symposium, beyond those described above.

This is a **non-fee based event**, and the participants will be given certificates of attendance during the closing ceremony of the Symposium.

Online Application and Contact Information

The **application** (<https://wp.chs.harvard.edu/chs-forms/application-ssc-symposium/>) will open on Monday, March 5, 2018.

The deadline for all submissions is Sunday, April 22, 2018 Midnight (Eastern European Summer Time).

Once you have completed your application, the organizers of the Symposium may contact your referees by Friday, May 4, 2018.

The final decision about the participants will be made by May 25. The selected participants will receive acceptance messages via email. All applicants will receive an email response.

For more information and the online application please visit the [Symposium's website](https://chs.harvard.edu/ioa-chs-symposium) (<https://chs.harvard.edu/ioa-chs-symposium>) and/or contact:

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