

FIGURATION AS A LINE OF ARGUMENT FROM MODERN THEORIES TO ANCIENT TEXTS

JUNE 1–2, 2018

The workshop “Figuration as a Line of Argument. From Modern Theories to Ancient Texts” aims at a description of the function of metaphorical language in ancient argumentative texts in dialogue with modern linguistics (particularly discourse- and cognition-based theories relating to metaphor and argumentation). By increasing our awareness of the methods of investigating metaphors we hope to ameliorate our understanding of metaphors in texts that often employ more than usual creative and idiosyncratic figurative language to establish controversial claims or substantiate contested ethical norms.

Case studies from a range of ancient authors, texts and genres thus serve this double purpose of illustrating these insights from modern linguistics, and likewise contribute to the linguistic debate by providing fruitful new perspectives on specific ancient texts. These studies will highlight the modes in which ancient authors – ranging from tragedy, ancient philosophy and religious discourse to Roman historiography – employ metaphor to legitimise novel or highly debated ideas or to promote a certain lifestyle for their intended audience.

Organizers: Prof. Dr. Cilliers Breytenbach (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Geeske Brinkmann (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Jun.-Prof. Dr. Camilla Di Biase-Dyson (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen).

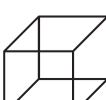
Registration by May 24th, 2018 is requested, contact Geeske Brinkmann via dehlinge@hu-berlin.de.

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