

Science/Fiction/History: The Literary in Classical Historiography

September 11-12, President Hotel, Athens, Greece

Hosted by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Antonios Rengakos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Tim Rood, St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford

A significant trend in the study of Greek historiographers is to accept that their works are to a degree both *science* and *fiction*. More and more, scholars accept that Herodotus and Thucydides, for example, do not draw the same line between literary and historical prose that we find in modern works. On the contrary, both authors show—at least on the surface—a concern for impact and accuracy. As scholarly interest broadens, in addition to evaluating ancient historians on the basis of the reliability of the information they record, and verifying the narratives against various elements of the material record (inscriptions, excavations, numismatics), new studies are beginning to elaborate on the stylistic and narrative qualities of the texts themselves.

The organizers of the conference invite investigations into this new perspective. Papers considering any aspect of the literary qualities of Greek and Latin historiography are welcomed from scholars at any point in their careers. We hope that the selected papers will encompass a wide range of historians from all periods of the ancient world.

Possible perspectives:

- the intersections between historiography and other literary genres
- narratological, linguistic, and theoretical approaches to historiography
- the literary manipulation of military events and the criteria of selectivity
- the reception of ancient historical texts in other genres
- the scientific value of literary history
- time and space in historical narrative

Please send short abstracts (250-400 words) for papers of 20-25 minutes on these and related themes to the conference organizers by March 17, 2014. The language of the conference will be English.

Organizers:

Scott Farrington, University of Miami (s.farrington@miami.edu)

Vasileios Liotsakis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (vliotsakis@yahoo.gr)

The conference will take place in Athens at the President Hotel (www.president.gr).

The conference fee will be 50 euros and includes coffee breaks and a dinner on Friday, September 12.