

BERNBABYLON

2026

1–2 October 2026
University of Bern



Hosted by the Institute of Archaeological Sciences of the University of Bern



Burgergemeinde
Bern



Haus der Universität

09:00–09:20

Welcome Coffee

Katarzyna Langenegger & Sebastian Borkowski (BernBabylon OC)

09:20–12:20

Workshop: Recognizing and Preventing Colonial Practices in Archaeology

Sebastian Borkowski (University of Bern, CH)

Albane Desbordes (University of Strasbourg, FR)

Katarzyna Langenegger (University of Bern, CH)

Jade Meyer (University of Strasbourg, FR)

12:20–14:00

Lunch Break

Session Pythia | Chair: Felicitas Stec

14:00–14:20

How to Make a Pot

Juuli Ahola (University of Bern, CH)

14:20–14:40

An Analysis of Plants with Medicinal Properties in Lakeside Settlements

Sascha von Niederhäusern (University of Bern, CH)

14:40–15:00

The ‚Knowing Ones‘ as Spirit Whisperers

Alinda Damsma (University College London, UK)

15:00–15:20

Unwrapping the Divine Message

Netanel Anor (University of Hamburg, DE)

15:20–15:40

Coffee Break

Session Metis | Chair: Giulia Muti

15:40–16:00

The Hittite King Muršili and the King of Aleppo

Šarka Velhartická (University of Bern, CH)

16:00–16:20

Theoretical Approaches to the Archaeology of Feasting

Julien Rösselet (University of Bern, CH)

16:20–16:40

Lamps in Cilicia

Seda Aknur (University of Bern, CH)

16:40–17:00

Pythion, the “Middlest”

Anna Bertelli (Ruhr University Bochum, DE)

Antikensammlung Bern

18:30

Apéro

19:30

Theater Performance: Waiting for Innana

20:00

BernBabylon Dance

Haus der Universität

Session Persephone | Chair: Adrianna Gizińska

09:00–09:20

Tenikiy and the Early Populating of Madagascar

Vincent Serneels (University of Fribourg, CH)

Chantal Radimilahy (Institut des Civilisations, Antananarivo MG)

Guido Schreurs (University of Bern, CH)

Léonard Kramer (Service Archéologique Cantonal de Fribourg, CH)

09:20–09:40

The Graves of the Archaeological Mission in the Maziyyad-Sublaybiyya Area

Albane Desbordes (University of Strasbourg, FR)

Jade Meyer (University of Strasbourg, FR)

09:40–10:00

Introduction to the Study of Occupational Levels at Ur

Brice Suignard (University of Strasbourg, FR)

10:00–10:20

From Site Spacing to Movement Space

Fatemeh Javanmardi (University of Bern, CH)

10:20–10:40

Coffee Break

Session Našše | Chair: Fatemeh Javanmardi

10:40–11:00

„Great Water. How to Tame an Unpredictable Element in the Ancient World?“

Hannah Tręda (University of Warsaw)

11:00–11:20

Reconstructing the Pre-Modern Floodplain

Francesco Lucano (University of Bern, CH)

Eveline C. Zbinden (University of Bern, CH)

Tadeáš Červík (University of Bern, CH)

Andreas Zischg (University of Bern, CH)

11:20–11:40

Protective Entities and Idealized Masculinity

Raquel Robbins (University of Toronto, CA)

11:40–12:00

Female Deities under Gudea

Louise Price (University of Strasbourg, FR)

12:00–13:20

Lunch Break



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Session Nisaba | Chair: Fiona Phillips

13:20–13:40

Tracing Scribal Practice

Gina Habets (Ghent University, BE)
Sauli Pietarinen (Free University of Berlin, DE)
Katrien De Graef (Ghent University, BE)

13:40–14:00

Sumerian Interjections

Noah Kröll (University of Innsbruck, AT)

14:00–14:20

Joke Structure in Sumerian Proverb Collection 2

Mason Wilkes (University of Liège, BE)

14:20–14:40

If One so Sees Literature as a System of Choices (online)

Adva Bensoussan (University of Pisa, IT)

14:40–15:00

Coffee Break

Session Adeona | Chair: Anna Bertelli

15:00–15:20

Digital Processing of Cuneiform Tablets

Beáta Fässler (University of Bern, CH)

15:20–15:40

Tracking Iraqi Antiquities on the Open Web

Madison Leeson (Turaath Tech, Lisbon, PT)

15:40–16:00

„For a Long Time, Inscriptions Were the Scholars’ Favourite Plaything’

Adrianna Gizińska (University of Warsaw, PL)

16:00–16:20

From Babylon to Bern

Francesco Piccirilli (University of Bern, CH)

16:20–16:40

Coffee Break

Session Iris | Chair: Alinda Damsma

16:40–17:00

Orthography, Visual Arts, and Identity in Lydia and Ionia

Fiona Phillips (University of Oxford, UK)

17:00–17:20

The Wall Paintings of Tell el-Burak

Yannick Bieri (University of Bern, CH)

17:20–17:40

Continuity and Transformation in the Textile Landscape of the Mesaoria (Cyprus) from the Bronze to the Iron Age

Giulia Muti (University of Bern, CH)

17:40–18:00

Concluding Remarks

Katarzyna Langenegger & Sebastian Borkowski (BernBabylon OC)

Universität Mittelstrasse

19:00

Murder Mystery Raclette Dinner

Finding Your Way Through

BERNBABYLON

