# COSIMENA Summer School 2019
## 7–14 September

**How can we develop strategies to restore and preserve antiquities in the MENA region and make them accessible for the public by means of digitalisation?**

Cultural Heritage in the MENA region is an asset which should be protected not only for the benefit of the countries concerned but also for the international community. With the ongoing challenges around the world, it becomes now more important than ever to come up with innovative ways to preserve its cultural heritage, especially in the MENA Region. Both tangible and intangible heritage require now innovation in order not to be lost.

## Aim and Scope

Changing technologies have penetrated nearly all aspects of modern life, yet within the fields of cultural and heritage studies and management the use of new digital technologies is only beginning to take root. The COSIMENA Summer School will expose students to the ways in which technology is being successfully utilised in these fields. Experts from German and Egyptian institutions will offer participants exposure and training in various digital mediums used in advancing the study and management of culture and heritage. The Summer School will seek to answer the question: **"How can new and emerging technologies be used in better promoting the study and management of Middle Eastern cultural heritage?"**

## Methodology:
The Summer School will employ a multidisciplinary approach to exploring the subjects presented. In addition to lectures given by topic experts, students will have an opportunity to make field studies at locations in Egypt. Additionally, students will be divided into working groups and then asked to develop an action plan for a digital humanities project, a digitalisation of archival or other heritage resources, or a website portal for presenting and giving accessibility to cultural heritage sites or archival resources. On the final day, the working groups will present their projects to the larger group.

## Working Group Project:
Summer School participants will design a proposal for developing a project utilising digital humanities or technology/digitalisation in exploring or promoting cultural heritage. Groups of participants will work together in designing such a proposal around a theoretical/imaginary topic or site related to the subject of the Summer School. The project will be introduced on the first day. Participants will be required to incorporate the material covered throughout the week in their proposal. These proposals will be presented to the larger group on the final day of the Summer School alongside a closing panel discussion. Proposals will:

- Identify a research subject to be explored using digital humanities, or an element of cultural heritage to which digital resources or technology may be applied
- Show how digital resources and technology can give unique insights or opportunities to the study of heritage related topics
- Show resources required for the successful implementation of the project proposal
- Create and present an action plan for using these technological resources in exploring their chosen topic

## Logistics

**When?** 7.-14. September 2019
**Where?** The **Aswan Campus of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT)**

**Travel & Accommodation:** The DAAD will take care of travel arrangements and will cover the costs of flights/transport, accommodation, and boarding. In addition, transfer from the airport to the campus of AASTMT will be arranged.

## Who can apply?

To achieve regional diversity and foster intercultural cooperation between Germany and the MENA region, junior researches from the **MENA region** and **Germany** are highly encouraged to apply. Applicants should currently pursue or have finished a master's programme within the last 5 years. They should come from a variety of disciplines:

- Mass communications
- Middle East Studies
- Archaeology
- History
- Political sciences and economics
- Museum studies
- Information technology, and other fields related to the topic.

However, because of the regional focus of the Summer School on Middle East heritage topics, all participants should have an interest or focus in the Middle East.

## How to apply?

Please apply online at www.daad.eg/css-reg-19.
Required documents include:

- Your CV in English
- Your graduate diploma (if already available) and transcripts
- Proof of sufficient English language proficiency (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS, language certificate from your university, proof of enrolment in an English-speaking programme, etc.)
- A motivation letter in English, outlining why you want to take part in the COSIMENA Summer School, how you could personally benefit from the programme and what kind of own project you are working on, or planning to work on. The length of the motivation letter should range between 400 – 500 words.

**Please note that only complete applications can be considered.**

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**DAAD** Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

contact us via cosimena@daadcairo.org or visit our homepage at www.daad.eg/cosimena

The application deadline is **4 August 2019 by midnight** (Cairo Time, GMT+2). Notifications on the outcome of your application as well as invitations for successful applicants will be send out to the applicants beginning August.

For more information, please visit www.daad.eg/summer-school-19.

## About COSIMENA

COSIMENA (Clusters of Scientific Innovation in the Middle East and North Africa) aims to tackle the global challenges presented to us today, by fostering scientific collaboration. It brings together experts from academic institutions, researchers and focal points of industry and government from Germany and countries from the MENA region to discuss relevant topics in fields such as water, health, energy, urbanism and the economy. Organised around various issue-driven clusters, COSIMENA provides a platform for exchange among stakeholders, encouraging especially young scientists and entrepreneurs to engage themselves in networking activities.

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