

## Mini-Training School in the Use of Dino-Lite-Type Digital Microscopes for Textile Analysis

Online from Warsaw, on 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, 9:30–13:30 AM, CEST (with a break at 11:15–11:45).

**Organisers: Agata Ulanowska, Bela Dimova, Christina Margariti, and Magdalena Woźniak**



Students of the WAUW, photo K. Żebrowska

Technical analyses of excavated textiles, textile imprints on clay and use-wear marks on textile tools often require magnification due to the small size of the examined elements, such as individual threads and tiny abrasions on a surface of tools. Dino-Lite digital microscopes are commonly used for these purposes by textile scholars — they are popular for their relatively low cost, ease of transport, and ease of use during fieldwork. They also offer a useful software that facilitates the observation and documentation of analysed objects, including taking and exporting measurements and photos. However, it seems that many of us are self-taught users, who, apparently, may use these devices in a different manner, or may not be using the device to its full potential.

The purpose of this mini-training school is to offer **basic training in the use of Dino-Lite-type digital microscopes**, as well as to establish a **common protocol for analysing excavated textiles, textile imprints on clay and use-wear marks on textile tools**, based on the best practices and knowledge of both participating trainers and trainees.

The programme of the school encompasses the following themes and activities:

- 1) Calibration and setting the best working distance according to the analysed object and aim of the analysis.
- 2) Introduction to the Dino-Lite software, including measuring facilities, magnifying glass, export function for measurements and photos, and storing data.
- 3) Basic analysis of excavated textiles, with a focus on the best strategies and practical tips for measuring diameters and twist angles.
- 4) Large magnifications: pros and cons, making microscopic slides.
- 5) Basic analysis of textile imprints on clay and their casts.
- 6) Documenting use-wear on textile tools.
- 7) Developing the best analytical practice and a common protocol with practical tips for potential future users.

We encourage participants to engage in practical activities during the workshop, and as such, we request that participants join the meeting with their own microscopes and the following materials: 1) a piece of a textile; 2) a piece of paper; 3) a thin thread; and 4) a piece of plasticine in white and green colour.

However, it is also possible to join the training school without a microscope. Formal registration for the training school is not required, but those participants who are interested in contributing to a manual for the use of digital microscopes in textile studies, are kindly asked to express their interest by writing to [euroweb.cost@uw.edu.pl](mailto:euroweb.cost@uw.edu.pl).

To join the training school, please follow the Zoom link provided below:

<https://uw-edu-pl.zoom.us/j/91837445038?pwd=UWs3bFhSTFMMndlV0c5K0MyeFRtQT09>

Meeting ID: 918 3744 5038

Passcode: 512514

We look forward to seeing you online!

Sincerely,

The Organisers