

The Search for Life in Ancient Mediterranean Cultures

October 8–9, 2025

Bern, Switzerland

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 (Berghaus Niesen Kulm)

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| 7:20 | <i>Departure from Hotel Arabelle</i> |
| 8:20 | <i>Arrival: Talstation Mülenen</i> |
| 8:30 | <i>Gondola to Berghaus Niesen Kulm</i> |
| 9:15 | Travis Niles (Bern) – Introduction: “Il n’y a qu’un problème philosophique vraiment sérieux ...” |
| 9:30 | Anthony Ellis (Bern) – Herodotus and the <i>Timaeus</i> on the Nature of Human Life |
| 10:15 | Dominic O’Meara (Fribourg) – Ancient Biographies of Plato as Images of the Good Life |
| 11:00 | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 11:30 | Arianna Fermani (Macerata) – Vita buona e beni esteriori in Platone e Aristotele |
| 12:15 | Francesca Masi (Venice) – Il principio e il termine della vita beata: Une rilettura dell’Epistola a Meneceo di Epicuro |
| 13:00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 14:15 | Silvia Fazzo (Univ. del Piemonte Orientale) – ἡθὺς ἀνθρώπων δαίμων: Fate and Responsible Conduct of Life in Alexander of Aphrodisias |
| 15:00 | Mark Edwards (College of New Jersey/Princeton) – Life in Chains: From Socrates to Boethius |
| 15:45 | <i>Coffee break</i> |

16:15	Ruth Ebach (Lausanne) – “Es ist dir gesagt, Mensch, was gut ist” (Mi 6,8): Das gelingende Leben in der alttestamentlichen Prophetie
17:00	Heike Wilde (Heidelberg/Prague) – Die religiöse Bedeutung von Aromata in Ägypten während der ptolemäisch-römischen Zeit
18:00	<i>Break until dinner</i>
18:30	<i>Dinner</i>
20:30	<i>Gondola to Valley Station; trip to Bern</i>

Thursday, October 9, 2025 (UniS, S201)

9:00	<i>Coffee & croissants</i>
9:15	Luca Mazzinghi (Gregoriana Rome) – La concezione della vita in Qohelet (<i>via Zoom</i>)
10:00	Géraldine Hertz (Nantes) – La vie selon Philon d’Alexandrie
10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15	Marie Duruz (Lausanne) – Identités en tensions: les catalogues de vices comme définition d’une bonne/mauvaise vie dans les lettres de Paul
12:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30	Samuel Vollenweider (Zürich) – Was ist besser: Leben oder Sterben? Philipper 1,21-26 über eine topische Alternative
14:00	Concluding Discussion
14:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:00	City Tour (optional)
19:30	<i>Dinner</i>