

Michael Basil Cosmopoulos

Short biographical note

Academic Positions

Dr. Michael B. Cosmopoulos is Professor of Archaeology and the Endowed Chair in Greek Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). Previously he was Professor of Classics at the University of Manitoba.

Studies

He has studied Greek and Latin, Classical Archaeology, and Greek and Roman History at the University of Athens (B.A., *summa cum laude*), the University of Sorbonne-Paris IV (D.E.U.G.), and Washington University in St. Louis (M.A., Ph.D.). He also holds a Diploma in Underwater Archaeology from the Council of Europe.

Research

His general research interests are the social, political, and cultural history of the Greek Bronze Age, with special focus on: a) *social memory*, b) *origins of states and complex societies*, and c) *Mystery cults*. He has excavated at several ancient sites in Greece and Ukraine, including Mycenae, Pylos, Epidaurus, Ancient Corinth, Ithaca, Oropos, and Olbia. He has been the director of the excavations at the sanctuary of Demeter at Eleusis and is currently directing the Iklaina Archaeological Project (www.iklaina.org).

Teaching

In the classroom, he has taught a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses in Greek and Roman culture, history, art, and archaeology. In the field, he has trained more than 1000 students in archaeological theory and methodology and in Greek archaeology and history. In recognition of his teaching, the University of Manitoba has awarded him a *Merit Award for Teaching* (1991) and the *Olive Beatrice Stanton Award for Excellence in Teaching* (1999). In 2004 he was awarded the *Archaeological Institute of America Award for Excellence in Teaching*.

Service

He has served on numerous departmental, College- and Campus-level committees and as Chairman of the Anthropology and Archaeology Department at UMSL. He is the founding director of two Greek Culture Centers (University of Manitoba and UMSL). At Manitoba he also served as Vice-Provost of University College.

His service to the profession includes: Academic Trustee of the Archaeological Institute of America; Vice-President of the Archaeological Institute of Canada; member of the Managing Committee and former Chair of the Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens; President of the Classical Association of Manitoba; President of the Winnipeg Society of the Archaeological Institute of America; and honorary life member of the Archaeological Society of Athens.

Outreach

Both at Manitoba and UMSL he has organized hundreds of public outreach events (lectures, conferences, music concerts, theatrical and dance performances, photo exhibitions) about Greece and Greek culture. At UMSL he has organized and is directing the Oral History Project, aiming at preserving the history of the local Greek Communities.

As a public speaker he has given over 200 invited lectures at various universities, museums, and cultural institutions in the US, Canada, and Europe.

Awards/Honors

Canada Rh Award for Outstanding Contributions to Scholarship and Research in the Humanities.

Archaeological Institute of America Award for Excellence in Teaching

Trustees Award, Academy of Science St. Louis

Fellow, Academy of Science St. Louis

Explorer, National Geographic Society

Member, European Academy of Sciences and Arts

Fellow, Royal Society of Canada

Corresponding member, Athens Academy of Arts and Sciences

Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Decorated by the President of Greece with the Gold Cross of the Order of Phoenix

Select Publications

17 books, including:

Iklaina, the Excavation and the Finds, 2002-2020. St. Louis, 2021.

Iklaina. The Monumental Buildings. Athens 2018.

The Political Geography of a Mycenaean District. The Archaeological Survey at Iklaina (ed.). Athens 2016.

Bronze Age Eleusis and the Origins of the Eleusinian Mysteries. Cambridge University Press, 2015.

The Sanctuary of Demeter at Eleusis: The Bronze Age. Vols. I-II. Library of the Athens Archaeological Society, Athens 2014.

Experiencing War: violence and personal trauma in Ancient Greece and Today (ed.). Ares Publishers, Chicago 2007.

The Mycenaean Pottery from Grotta, Naxos. University of Athens Press, Athens 2004 (in Greek with extensive English summary).

The Parthenon and Its Sculptures. Recent Advances and New Interpretation (ed.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2004.

Greek Mysteries. The Archaeology of Greek Secret Cults(ed.). Routledge, London and New York 2003. *The Rural History of Ancient Greek City-States: the Oropos Survey Project.* BAR-Intern. Series 1001, Oxford 2001.

Other: More than 130 scholarly papers as chapters, in edited volumes and articles in major journals (*American Journal of Archaeology*, *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*, *Antike Welt*, *Prähistorische Zeitschrift*, *Zeitschrift für Klassische Archäologie*, *Revue Archéologique*, *Aegaeum*, *Classical Views*, *The International Journal of Nautical Archaeology and Underwater Exploration*, *Αρχαιολογική Έφημερίς, Πλάτων*).