University of Birmingham

Wei-sheng Lin

Doctoral researcher

Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies (/research/activity/bomgs/index.aspx)

Contact details

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About

Title of thesis: **Dynamics in the Economic Phenomena in Cilicia in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries**
Supervisor: **Dr Archie Dunn (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/bomg/dunn-archie.aspx)** and **Dr Ruth Macrides (/staff/profiles/bomg/macrides-ruth.aspx)**
Funding: College of Arts and Law Doctoral Scholarships

Qualifications

- BA Diplomacy (National Chengchi University, Taiwan)
- MA Byzantine Studies (University of Birmingham)

Biography

My interest in Byzantine Studies began when I was an exchange student at the Department of History, Bilkent University, between 2007 and 2008. My travel experiences in Anatolia during that year had maintained my interest in Byzantine Studies after returning to Taiwan. I started my MA in Byzantine Studies at the University of Birmingham in 2011.

Doctoral research

PhD title Dynamics in the Economic Phenomena in Cilicia in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries
Supervisors **Dr Ruth Macrides (/staff/profiles/bomg/macrides-ruth.aspx)** and **Dr Archie Dunn (/staff/profiles/bomg/dunn-archie.aspx)**
Course **Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning) (/postgraduate/courses/research/bomgs/byzantine-ottoman-mod-greek.aspx)**

Research

I am interested in how the environment affected economic developments in the region of Cilicia in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

Although Anatolia had always been a unique geographical space where cultures, religions and political actors interacted in the medieval times, the thirteenth and subsequent centuries are one of the periods that drew much attention to its social and political transformation before the rise of the Ottomans. The thirteenth century was also a period of Byzantium without Byzantium, with no uncontested and overarching imperial authority for almost half a century. This change in political landscape had led to much evaluation of the impact of political realignments on overall economic developments. Less discussed are the effects of the environment on the economic development in the region of Cilicia. My research aims at examining how the environment influenced economic developments of central and southern Anatolia, despite the perceived dominance of political factors in determining such developments in the region.

Other activities

Teaching

2013
Teaching Assistant for Byzantium and the Transformation of the Roman World (with Professor Leslie Brubaker)

2014
Teaching Assistant for Barbarians and the Transformation of the Roman World (with Dr. Alexander Skinner)

2014
Teaching Assistant for Byzantium and the Transformation of the Roman World (with Professor Leslie Brubaker)

Research Funding

2013 College of Arts and Law Doctoral Scholarship University of Birmingham

Research Papers Delivered / Reviews

26 May 2012
Paper 'The Byzantines in the Iberian Peninsula c.554 – c.624 AD' delivered at the 13th Postgraduate Colloquium 'Middle Earth' organised by the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies, University of Birmingham

October 2014
Review '**Travellers, Merchants and Settlers in the Eastern Mediterranean, 11th-14th Centuries (http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/review/1671)**' by David Jacoby published in *Reviews in History* (ISSN 1749-8155), Institute of Historical Research, University of London

October 2014
Paper 'Assessing the Economic Impact of Mongol Expansion Into Anatolia in the Thirteenth Century: A Methodological Attempt' (**http://medieval.hse.ru/DynMA2014Part (http://medieval.hse.ru/DynMA2014Part)**) delivered at The Dynamic Middle Ages II PhD and post-doctoral training school, Moscow

Membership of Organisations

2013-
General Editor of ***Diogenes (/research/activity/bomgs/students/diogenes.aspx)*** , the online postgraduate journal at the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies, University of Birmingham

Website

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