

Summer School
BIP/Erasmus+
“Bioethics in Context XIII”

The Natural and the Artificial:
Bioethical Reflections

13-18
SEPTEMBER 2026

Rethymno

programme

La Parisienne
(fresco),
Heraklion
Archaeological
Museum



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE



FernUniversität in Hagen



*Ladies in Blue (fresco)
Heraklion Archaeological
Museum*

Lectures:

1hr & 15min
(presentation 45-60
min, discussion 15-
30 min)

Student presentations:

30 min per person, i.e.
15 min presentation,
15 min discussion, x2
parallel sessions, 2hrs
each)

3 Seminars:

1hr & 15 min each

programme

BIP-Summer School 2026

Rethymno, Crete, Greece,
13-18 September 2026

Sunday, 13 September

18.00-18.45 Welcome Addresses, Round
of Introduction

18.45- 20:00 Opening Lecture
PD Dr. Marcus Knaup (Hagen)

Bioethics in the Age of Makeability: On the
Natural, the Artificial, and the Future of Humanity



*The Minoan
Snake Goddess,
Heraklion
Archaeological
Museum*



Rethymno

Monday, 14 September

9:00 -10:15 **Prof. Dr. Thomas Sören Hoffmann (Hagen)**
Analoga rationis: On the Relationship Between the Natural, the Artificial, and the Rational

10:15-10:30 **Coffee break**

10:30-11:45 **Dr. Dr. Max Gottschlich (Linz)**
The Nature of Modern Technology

11:45-13:00 Seminar
Helge Christian Köttgen, MA (Hagen)
J-space and AI normativity

13:00- 15:30 **Lunch break**

15.30-17.30 Student Presentations I
(parallel sessions 2 x 4 presentations)

17:30-17:45 **Coffee break**

17.45-19:00 **Prof. Dr. Antonis Argyros (Crete)**
When Computers Learn to See: Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision, and Our View of Intelligent Machines

19:00-19:30 **Prof. Emerita Dr. Stavroula Tsinorema (Crete)**
Can AI Systems be Regarded as Cognitive Agents? Philosophical Challenges

Tuesday, 15 September

9:00 -10:15 **Assist. Prof. Dr. Marko Kos (Zagreb)**
The Promise of Technology

10:15-10:30 **Coffee break**

10.30-11.45 Seminar
Assist. Prof. Dr. Marko Kos
Understanding Technological Societies

11:45-13:45 Student Presentations II
(2 sessions x 4 presentations each)

13.45-15.30 **Lunch break**

15.30-16.45 **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kostas Koukouzelis (Crete)**
Climate Change and Fairness: On Natural and Artificial Limits

16:45-17:00 **Coffee break**

17:00-18:15 **Assoc.Prof. Dr. Valentina Kaneva (Sofia)**
New Technologies and Human Identities

18:15-19:30 Seminar
Assoc. Prof. Valentina Kaneva
Challenges of Neurotechnology

*Minoan octopus vase, Heraklion
Archaeological Museum*



Wednesday, 16 September

Gold plate from Eleutherna, Museum of
Ancient Eleutherna



9:00 -10:15 **Prof. Dr. Michael Spieker**
(Benediktbeuren / München)

No Nature without Culture? On Naturecultures in
Agriculture and on the Problem of Immediacy

10:15-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-11:45 **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lina Papadaki (Crete)**

Treating Things as People and Treating People as
Things: From Pornography to AI

12:00-19:00 *Excursion to Eleftherna archeological site. Dinner.*



Archeological site of Eleutherna

Thursday, 17 September

9:00 -10:15 **Prof. Dr. Hrvoje Jurić (Zagreb)**

Concepts of the Natural and the Artificial in
the Case of Parenthood: *In vitro* Insemination,
Surrogacy, Adoption, Fostering

10:15-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-12:30 Student Presentations III
(2 sessions x 4 presentations each)

12:30-13:45 **Prof. Dr. Miltiades Vantsos (Thessaloniki)**

Considerations on Artificial Intelligence: Insights
from Platonic and Patristic Thought

13:45-15:30 Lunch break

15:30-16:45 **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vassil Vidinsky (Sofia)**

The Genealogy of the Intelligent Machine
(Philosophical Perspectives on AI)

16:45-17:00 Coffee break

17:00-19:00 Student Presentations IV
(2 sessions x 4 presentations)

Friday, 18 September

University of Crete, Library

9:00 -10:15 **Prof. Emeritus Dr. Vassilis Voutsakis (Athens)**

Natural vs. Artificial:
Normative Implications of a
Recurring Dilemma

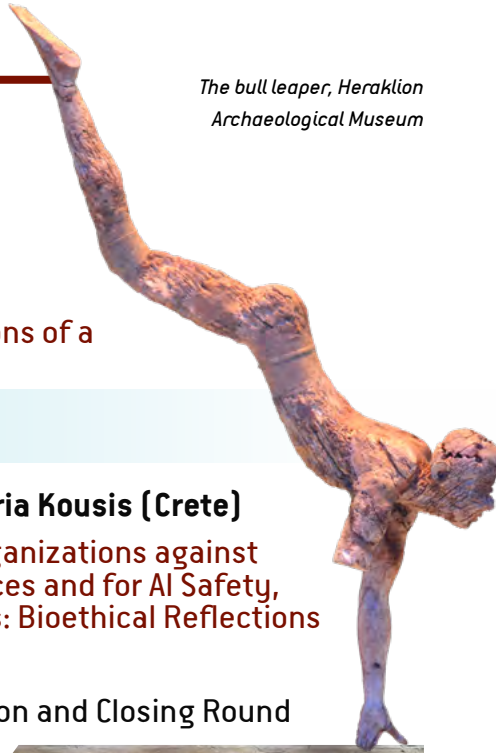
10:15-10:30 **Coffee break**

10.30-11.45 **Prof. Emerita Dr. Maria Kousis (Crete)**

Social Movement Organizations against
AI Harms and Injustices and for AI Safety,
during Intense Times: Bioethical Reflections

11:45- 13:45 **Concluding Discussion and Closing Round**

*The bull leaper, Heraklion
Archaeological Museum*



The Toreador (fresco), Heraklion Archaeological Museum



Online Component:

2 October 2026

Venue

Sunday 13
Wednesday 16
Friday 18

Student Cultural
Centre "Xenia"

46 Nikolaou Psarrou
street, Rethymno
74100

Monday 14
Tuesday 15
Thursday 17

Faculty of Philosophy
Buildings: Rooms 9, 4,
6, 8

Gallos University
Campus, University of
Crete, Rethymno



	Sunday, 13	Monday, 14	Tuesday, 15	Wednesday, 16	Thursday, 17	Friday, 18
9:00-10:15		Prof. Dr. Thomas Sören Hoffmann <i>Analogia rationis</i> : On the Relationship Between the Natural, the Artificial, and the Rational	Assist. Prof. Dr. Marko Kos The Promise of Technology	Prof. Dr. Michael Spieker No Nature without Culture? On Naturecultures in Agriculture and on the Problem of Immediacy	Prof. Dr. Hrvoje Jurić Concepts of the Natural and the Artificial in the Case of Parenthood: <i>In vitro</i> Insemination, Surrogacy, Adoption, Fostering	Prof. Emeritus Dr. Vassilis Voutsakis Natural vs. Artificial: Normative Implications of a Recurring Dilemma
10:15-10:30		Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
10:30-11:45		Dr. Dr. Max Gottschlich The Nature of Modern Technology	Seminar Assist. Prof. Dr. Marko Kos Understanding Technological Societies	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lina Papadaki Treating Things as People and Treating People as Things: From Pornography to AI	10.30-12.30 Student Presentations III (2 sessions x 4 presentations each)	Prof. Emerita Dr. Maria Kousis Social Movement Organizations against AI Harms and Injustices and for AI Safety, during Intense Times: Bioethical Reflections
11:45-13:00		Seminar Helge Christian Köttgen, MA J-space and AI normativity	Student Presentations II (2 sessions x 4 presentations each)	12.00-19.00 <i>Excursion to Eleftherna archeological site. Dinner.</i>	12.30-13.45 Prof. Dr. Miltiades Vantsos Considerations on Artificial Intelligence: Insights from Platonic and Patristic Thought	11.45-13.45 Concluding Discussion and Closing Round
13:00-15:30		Lunch break	Lunch break		Lunch break 13.45-15.30	
15:30-16:45		15.30-17.30 Student Presentations I (parallel sessions 2 x 4 presentations)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kostas Koukouzelis Climate Change and Fairness: On Natural and Artificial Limits		Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vassil Vidinsky The Genealogy of the Intelligent Machine (Philosophical Perspectives on AI)	
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17:30-17:45			17.00-18.15 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Valentina Kaneva New Technologies and Human Identities		17.00-19.00 Student Presentations IV (2 sessions x 4 presentations)	
		17.45-19.00 Prof. Dr. Antonis Argyros When Computers Learn to See: Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision, and Our View of Intelligent Machines	18.15-19.30 Seminar Assoc. Prof. Valentina Kaneva Challenges of Neurotechnology			
18:00-18:45	Welcome Addresses, Round of Introduction					
18:45-19:30	18.45-20.00 PD Dr. Marcus Knaup Bioethics in the Age of Makeability: On the Natural, the Artificial, and the Future of Humanity		19:00-19:30 Prof. Emerita Dr. Stavroula Tsinorema (Crete) Can AI Systems be Regarded as Cognitive Agents? Philosophical Challenges			

Contact persons:

Prof. Emerita Dr. Stavroula Tsinorema (Crete)

Interinstitutional Postgraduate Programme in Bioethics,
Department of Philosophy,
University of Crete
E-mail: tsinorev@uoc.gr

Prof. Dr. Thomas Sören Hoffmann

Institut für Philosophie/ Lehrgebiet II
FernUniversität in Hagen
E-mail: thomas.hoffmann@fernuni-hagen.de

Organised by



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

University of Crete
Department of Philosophy
Interinstitutional Postgraduate Programme
in Bioethics

SOFIA UNIVERSITY
ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI



St. Kliment Ohridsky University of Sofia
Faculty of Philosophy



FernUniversität in Hagen

FernUniversität in Hagen
Institut für Philosophie/ Lehrgebiet II
Praktische Philosophie:
Ethik, Recht, Ökonomie



KATHOLISCHE
PRIVATUNIVERSITÄT LINZ

Catholic Private University, Linz
Institute for Practical Philosophy/Ethics



University of Zagreb
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
(Sveučilište u Zagrebu
Filozofski fakultet)

Katholische
Stiftungshochschule
München



University of Applied Sciences

Katholische Stiftungshochschule
München, University of Applied Sciences