

Authorship

At Kosmos we encourage members to write blogposts, and we also want to encourage high standards of scholarship. If you are familiar with publication guidance, please go ahead using the guidance here. If you are not familiar with academic writing, please contact our editorial team (at kosmos.helpdesk@gmail.com) and someone will help you with the procedure.

Posts made on the Kosmos Society website are at the discretion of the Editorial team.

Any Kosmos Society member in good standing can propose a topic they would like to write about. From time to time, the Editorial team might approach members to ask if they would be interested in writing about a topic, for example, when there might be a theme that could incorporate several posts on related matters, or if a member might be known to have a particular field of interest or research.

Authors can choose whether they are credited with a byline and brief bio (1–4 sentences, typically, which should not link to commercial websites.) or whether they prefer to publish collectively, or anonymously on behalf of the Society.

Subject Matter

In general, posts should aim to meet one or more of these criteria:

- be informative about some aspect of classical studies
- generate discussion within the community
- announce events or projects within the community
- encourage close reading of original texts
- provide awareness of topics being researched by CHS and closely allied colleagues
- distinguish between personal opinion and factual evidence

All posts should meet the Kosmos Society standards of civil discourse and the [code of conduct](#).

Check the website for other blogposts and/or Open House discussions on a similar topic. Where applicable, refer to it/them, either by way of continuing the treatment of the theme, or to encourage people to read further.

Style

A post does not have to be heavily academic, nor does it require extensive reading of secondary sources. It is also fine to raise questions for discussion. However, a very personal tone might be better suited to the forums, or for publication on an individual's own site rather than to the Kosmos Society. It might be useful to read existing posts to get an idea of the style.

Treatment

If you are thinking about posting in a different style from existing blog posts, please submit a proposal with your suggested treatment for discussion by the Editorial team, rather than spending time writing something that turns out not to be suitable.

Length

In general, aim for somewhere between six and ten paragraphs, depending on the subject matter and number of quotations. Try to keep paragraphs short—around four sentences.

If you have a subject you wish to post at more length, consider breaking it into installments, each focusing on a particular theme.

Quotations, References, Notes, Citations

The main focus of many blog posts is to encourage careful reading of the original texts. You don't have to quote the original Greek (or Latin, or whatever), although you may choose to do so especially if you are discussing particular words or translation issues. However, please bear in mind that most of the readers may not know these languages.

Quoting passages

If a passage is included in the works in the [Kosmos Society Text Library](#), it might be useful to readers if you used that as the English version since certain core Greek terms are incorporated. Sometimes, however, you might find a more detailed or accurate translation of some passages on [Perseus](#).

A sentence or two can be quoted within the text, in double quotation marks. Otherwise put the quotation into a separate paragraph and indent it.

Include the original Greek author where known (e.g. Aeschylus), the title of the work in italics (e.g. *Libation Bearers*), and the line numbers, or Book/Rhapsody number and verse numbers (e.g. 1203–1207, or *Iliad* 10.190–206.) Also include the translator.

Ideally use versions that are readily available for free online, and include the full publication details and link in a footnote. (See 'References' below.)

Transliterating Greek

We usually use a simplified version without accents, as in *H24H* and the Sourcebook. This is the convention:

α	a / ā	
β	b	
γ	g	see also double letters below
δ	d	
ε	e	
ζ	z	
η	ē	
θ	th	
ι	i / ī	
κ	k	
λ	l	
μ	m	
ν	n	
ξ	x	see also double letters below
ο	o	
π	p	
ρ / ῥ	r / rh	
σ/ς	s	
τ	t	
υ	u / ū	
φ	ph	
χ	kh	not ch
ψ	ps	
ω	ō	
Rough breathing:	h	at the start of the word
Double letters:		

ΥΥ	ng	
ΥΚ	nk	
ΥΞ	nx	
ΥΧ	nkh	

Adding notes

If you are referring to an argument made by a modern author, for example, or want to add further details or explanation outside your main subject, you would make a brief reference in the body of the post and add a note, using footnotes (in Word) rather than endnotes. The production team will sort out the format in WordPress.

When published, these notes are listed at the end of the post.

References

For details of how to cite references, we mainly follow MLA:

<https://pitt.libguides.com/citationhelp/mla9thedition>

Books: Surname, First Name. *Book Title*. City: Publisher, year.

Journals: Surname, First name. Year. "Article title," *Journal Title*, Edited by First Name Surname [repeated as necessary]. Page numbers. Publisher, City [and Another City].

If the publication is available online, please also provide a link.

Illustrations

When suggesting or providing illustrations to accompany the blog post ideally they should have an open, public domain, or Creative Commons licence. But please note:

- Some images online state a CC licence which is from the person who uploaded the image onto the website, rather than being licensed by the owner of the image, and it might not always be possible to use such images—for example, if someone uploaded a copy of a book illustration and said they were making it freely available but that book were still in copyright.
- Similarly watch out for sites (such as art galleries) that make images available with a Creative Commons licence for personal use but which do not allow publication (even for educational purposes).

If the pictures are simply decorative or generally illustrative, they can be from any period or culture. (We have a standard disclaimer about this when images are used in a post when they are simply decorative illustrations.)

If they are to illustrate a specific point in the post, they would need a caption (and, optionally, a Figure number for reference).

If the image itself is being discussed, please provide as much information as possible about its provenance and date, e.g. from a museum's website.

You may provide your own photographs, in jpg or png format, provided they were taken at a site that gives explicit permission for photography for educational publication. You can choose whether you would like credit by name, or as "Kosmos Society,"

All sources should be listed at the end, including the website from where the image was taken, if applicable, and a link to the licence.

The Editorial team will add an "alt text" note to the image within the blog post to describe it for those with visual impairments.

Submitting the post to the Editorial team

You can use any standard word processing software, but please note that Notes files cannot be read by everyone. We suggest a Word document—or an email would suffice. A PDF is not suitable.

Images must be provided separately, although you can also include them in the document to show where you would like them to be placed.

You can lightly format it to demonstrate how you intend it to be laid out. Note, however, that the final version will be produced in WordPress. If you feel that a particular layout is important to the post, please indicate these suggestions separately.

The team will discuss your post at the next scheduled meeting, and respond with any feedback, suggestions or questions.

Once finally agreed, the post will be scheduled for publication to fit in with other scheduled posts, and you will be notified when it is published.