



Doris Post Essay Prize 2026

The Herodotus Helpline is delighted to launch the 2026 Doris Post Essay Prize, an annual competition in memory of Doris Post, co-founder of the journal *Syllogos*, teacher and scholar of the ancient world.

The prize is an award of £300 to the best original essay on any topic related to Herodotus and his world, including the reception of the *Histories* in other ancient and modern literatures. The winning essay will also be published in *Syllogos*.

CANDIDATES

The 2026 Doris Post Essay Prize is open to any current PhD student (or equivalent) and to anyone who has confirmation of the award of their doctorate after 31/12/2024.

ESSAY

Essays may be submitted in one of the following languages: English, French, German, or Italian. They should be no longer than 8000 words, inclusive of footnotes and bibliography, and must be submitted in electronic format (.doc and .pdf) to the Chair of the *Syllogos* Editorial Committee, at the address syllogosjournal@gmail.com. The submission deadline is midnight British Summer Time on 31/07/2026.

FORMAT

Essays should include an abstract in English of no more than 200 words (not included in the word count). They must also include a bibliography and may be accompanied by images (if free of copyright; it is the responsibility of the author to secure permission for the reproduction of illustrations from copyrighted material).

Entries submitted to The Doris Post Essay Prize must not be under evaluation for publication elsewhere.

APPLICATION

The closing date for submission will be midnight British Summer Time on 31/07/2026.

Each entry must include two copies of the essay (in .doc and .pdf):

- A pdf version, including a cover page with name, address, other details (e.g. department and institution).
- A doc version with no cover page and no identifying details. This is the version that will be sent to the Evaluation Committee.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Essays will be evaluated according to the following criteria: relevance to the remit of the journal; originality; methodological sophistication; coherence of structure and argument; clarity of exposition; and attention to detail in respect of presentation and referencing.

The Evaluation Committee will comprise members of the Editorial Committee of *Sylogos* and the specially invited scholar, Professor Ruobing Xian (Fudan University).

The decision of the Evaluation Committee, endorsed by the Herodotus Helpline Steering Committee, will be final.

WINNER

The winner will be announced on the Herodotus Helpline website and will have the opportunity to present their essay online at one of the Herodotus Helpline seminars.

The winning entry will also be published in English in *Sylogos* (usually in the next issue), after translation from the original language, if written in a language other than English, and with an indication of the prize obtained.