Stanford



Kacper Jan Lepionka

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Bio

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Kacper is a Fulbright Junior Fellow at Stanford University and a PhD student at the University of Warsaw, where he graduated in History and South Asian Studies. Through the Erasmus+ exchange programme he also studied at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Freie Universität Berlin, and the École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris. His research focuses on the history and literature of ancient Greece, particularly the Archaic period, and ancient South Asia, from the beginnings of Buddhism to the end of the Gupta Empire. He is also increasingly interested in evidence of Greek presence in ancient Central and South Asia.

His research compares the "implied audience" of the Homeric poems, the Iliad and the Odyssey, with that of the great Sanskrit epics, particularly the Mahabharata and, occasionally, the Ramayana. He is especially interested in how these texts engage with the social and cultural realities of their time. His research aims to deepen our understanding of poetic craft in both epic traditions while offering new insights into their historical contexts.