

“Alcohol, rituals and spiritual world in ancient China and beyond: An interdisciplinary perspective” at Stanford Archaeology Center on April 15-16, 2019.

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**Alcohol and rituals in ancient Greece: an integrative exploration from prehistoric villages
to the first cities**

Alcoholic drinks and their role in social cohesion and the emergence of elites have featured widely in archaeological discourse in different parts of the world. In prehistoric Europe, wine, beer and mead have been the alcoholic drinks that have been detected in the archaeological record through various lines of evidence, including archaeobotanical remains, ceramic vessel shape and decoration, residue analyses of pottery and for the end of the Bronze Age, textual evidence. Alcohol consumption, wine in particular, becomes more prominent both among archaeological finds and textual evidence during the 1st millennium B.C. This presentation builds upon a wide range of archaeological, textual and pictorial evidence from Greece, spanning the Neolithic through to the 1st millennium B.C. and explores different contexts of ritual uses of alcohol in the study region. This integrated, diachronic overview of the evidence, relies heavily on recent archaeobotanical remains of prehistoric wine and beer and offers an opportunity to discuss culinary identities and their change through time in the region. This is work in progress in the context of ERC project PLANTCULT, GA682529