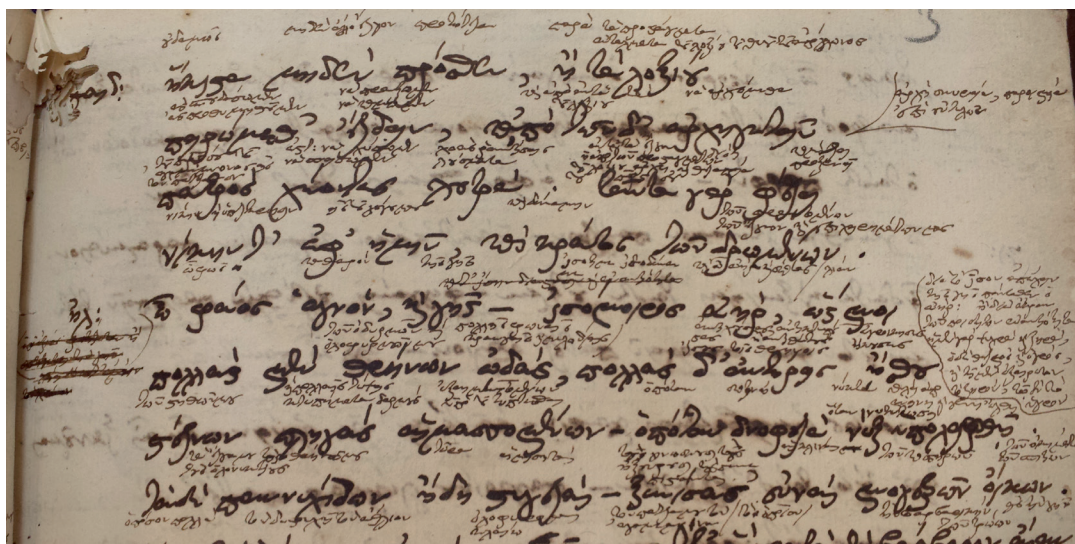




OEAI FELLOWS LECTURE SERIES

LEARNING GREEK IN CONSTANTINOPLE, 1290S-1360S

THE EVIDENCE OF THE MOSCHOPULEAN MANUSCRIPTS IN ATHENS

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For the past three decades, historical sociolinguistics has come to profile itself as an exciting new field of study. Researchers working in this paradigm attempt to describe language use as a social phenomenon, investigating dialectal relationships between language and society. Contemporary sociolinguistic insights form the basis for these descriptions, but given the complexity of the subject, a interdisciplinary approach has been in the making, combining insights from corpus linguistics, historical linguistics, philology, and semiotics.

By presenting case studies, taken from late Byzantine grammars preserved in the libraries of Athens, this talk will focus on the value of then-current language descriptions: They help us to retrieve the original users' linguistic and cultural competencies, leading to a new poetics, a speech-community-oriented understanding of Medieval Greek texts.