

FACULTY OF  
MUSIC

FACULTY OF  
THEOLOGY  
AND  
RELIGION

FACULTY OF  
HISTORY

FACULTY OF  
MEDIEVAL  
AND  
MODERN  
LANGUAGES

FACULTY OF  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
AND  
LITERATURE



THE OXFORD RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE HUMANITIES



---

# University of Oxford

## Conferences, Seminars and Events in Medieval Studies

Information included from:

English Language and Literature, History, Medieval  
and Modern Languages, Music, Theology and  
Religion, Reading Groups, Societies

Hilary Term 2024

---



Up-to-date calendar of all events on [torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies](https://torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies)

Follow us on twitter [@OxMedStud](https://twitter.com/OxMedStud)

Please send updates and queries to [medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk)





St John's College Oxford, MS. 61, fol. 50 r.

By permission of the President and Fellows of St John's College, Oxford.

[Viewable in full at Digital Bodleian](#)

Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme for Hilary Term 2024! .....	4
Events .....	5
OMS Hilary Term Lecture .....	5
Oxford Medieval Society .....	6
Chaucer Now .....	7
Crafting Documents: Project Launch .....	7
Oxford Interfaith Forum .....	8
'The Medieval Library' with Professor Teresa Webber, Trinity College, Cambridge .....	9
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies Online Conference .....	9
Old English Work-in-Progress (WOOPIE) Seminar .....	10
Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland Lecture .....	11
Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland: A Research Conversation .....	12
London Old and Middle English Research Seminar (LOMERS) .....	12
Oxford Comparative Criticism and Translation (OCCT) .....	13
Seminars .....	14
Medieval English Research Seminar .....	14
Medieval Church and Culture .....	15
Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar .....	16
Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music .....	17
Late Roman Seminar .....	18
Medieval History Seminar .....	19
Medieval German Seminar .....	19
Medieval French Research Seminar .....	20
Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar .....	20
Europe in the Later Middle Ages Seminar .....	21
Medieval Visual Culture Seminar .....	22
Celtic Seminar .....	23

Tolkien 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Seminar Series.....	24
The Ethics of Textual Criticism.....	25
Oxford Medieval Manuscripts Group (OMMG) .....	26
Medieval Archaeology Seminar .....	27
Exploring Medieval Oxford through Lincoln Archives .....	27
Oxford University Heraldry Society .....	27
Reading Groups and Societies .....	28
Old Occitan Literature Workshop .....	28
Medieval Latin Document Reading Group .....	28
Old Norse Reading Group.....	29
Old High German Reading Group .....	29
Anglo-Norman Reading Group.....	29
Late Antique Latin Reading Group .....	30
Dante Reading Group .....	30
French Palaeography Reading Group .....	30
Germanic Reading Group .....	30
Medieval Misuse Reading Group .....	31
Middle Welsh Reading Group.....	31
Medieval Women’s Writing Reading Group .....	32
Environmental History Working Group.....	33
Latin and Ancient Greek Reading Group .....	34
Opportunities .....	35
Call For Social Media Contributions.....	35
Heritage Pathway Training Programme .....	35
Micro-internship Opportunities with Heritage Organisations.....	35
Codicology Workshops .....	35
CFP: COLSONOEL 2024 .....	37
CFP: International Courtly Literature Society British and Irish Branch Conference 2024 .....	38
CFP: Brut in Bristol .....	38
CFP: Bristol Centre for Medieval Studies Graduate Conference 2024.....	39
Postgraduate Archival Skills Training at The National Archives.....	39
Accessibility and Updates .....	40

## Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme for Hilary Term 2024!

Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a restful and peaceful vac and are returning to Oxford well-rested and ready for the exciting programme of events that we have to offer this term. It may be dark and cold outside, but within Oxford's walls the fires of Medieval Studies are burning extremely brightly. We have such a wonderful range of events and seminars lined up, from old favourites to brand new reading groups! As I read all of your wonderful booklet submissions, I was reminded of this extract from a letter from Matilda of Scotland to Anselm, in summer 1106 (from the *Epistolae* project):

*Quid namque vestris, domine, scriptis aut stilo ornatius aut sensu refertius?*

[What is there more wonderfully adorned in style and more replete with meaning than your writings?]

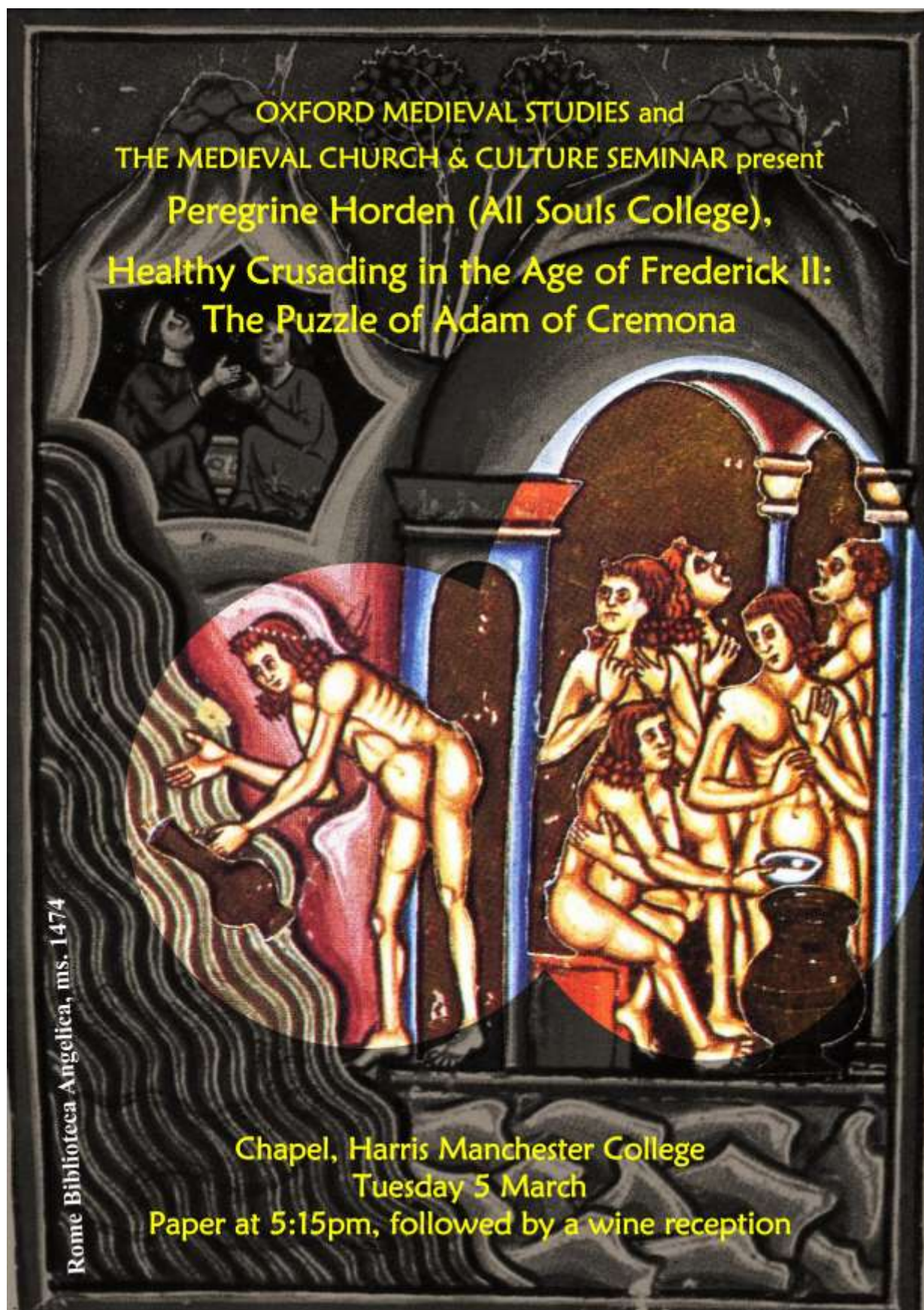
I hope that you will find this booklet both stylish and meaningful, and look forward to seeing you at various events this term!

*Luisa Ostacchini* (English), Oxford Medieval Studies Communications Officer

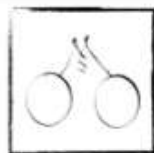
Welcome to Hilary term 2024! We hope you've had a refreshing break and are looking forward to our usual bumper offering of medieval events in Oxford. This term's booklet has old friends and new discoveries - something for everyone. Save the date for this term's Oxford Medieval Studies lecture, given by the distinguished historian of medicine, Prof. Peregrine Horden on 5th March (8th week).

*Henrike Lähnemann* (German) and *Lesley Smith* (History), Co-Directors of the Programme for 2023/24









Oxford Medieval Society

**Andrew Dunning (Bodleian, Jesus) and Alison Ray  
(St Peter's, All Souls)**

**'The hooly blisful martir for to seke:  
Manuscripts with Chaucer's pilgrims'**



Thursday 29th February  
Week 7

15:00-16:30

Weston Library, Lecture  
Theatre

Please register your attendance with OMS at [oxfordmedievalociety@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordmedievalociety@gmail.com)

**Friday 2nd Feb, 6pm**  
**Weston Library**  
**Free (but booking required)**



The prize-winning poet Patience Agbabi performs some of her versions of the tales, in forms ranging from rap to sonnets. These poems are interspersed with excerpts from *The Wife of Willeloden*, Zadie Smith's 2021 version of *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*. These excerpts will be performed by award-winning Oxford-based theatre company, Creation, who make site-specific performances of classic plays. In *The Wife of Willeloden* Chaucer's Alison becomes a 21st century woman from North-West London and her tale is now set in 18th century Jamaica.

The performances will be framed by an introduction and a Q&A.

After the performance, the exhibition *Chaucer Here and Now* will be open for viewing with curator Marion Turner.

### Crafting Documents: Project Launch



The speakers will be Professor Julia Smith (All Souls' College), Professor Ira Rabin (BAM, Berlin), Dr Ana de Oliveira Dias (Faculty of History), and Dr José Andrés Porras (Wadham College)





## Thematic International Reading Groups

More details @ <https://www.oxfordinterfaithforum.org/>

29 Jan		Prof Aaron Koller, Yeshiva University, USA <b>The Talmud among Victorian Christians: Polemics and Humanism in Interfaith Encounters</b>
8 Feb		Dr Katherine Aron-Beller, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel <b>Christian Images and Jewish Desecrators: The History of the Allegation in Manuscript Illustrations</b>
19 Feb		Prof Laura Lieber, Duke University, USA <b>The Role of Performance in Studying Late Ancient Hymnody</b>
22 Feb		Prof Alan Cooper, Jewish Theological Seminary, USA <b>Psalm 40 and Messiness of Prayer</b>
26 Feb		Poet Admiel Kosman with Lisa Katz (trans.) Prof Adriana Jacobs (Oxford) and Dr Tamar Hess (Jerusalem) <b>Poetry Book Launch: All Things Are Yours</b>
29 Feb		Dr Aaron Maniam, Blavatnik School of Governance <b>Sounding the Silence - Contemplation as Poetic Practice; Poetry as Contemplative Practice</b>
4 Mar		Professor Lawrence H. Schiffman, NYU, USA <b>The Dead Sea Scrolls and Jewish-Christian Dialogue</b>
7 Mar		Professor Febe Armanious, Middlebury College, USA <b>The Miracle of Pilgrimage: A Coptic Journey to the Holy Land during the Ottoman Period</b>

For further information, please contact Thea Gomelauri, [oxfordfaiths@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordfaiths@gmail.com)





*Shofar player opening Psalm 80, with the caption 'Cantate domino canticum novum' in a Psalter from the Cistercian convent of Medingen, ca. 1500, Bodleian Library, MS. Don. e. 248, fol. 145v*

29 January at 6 pm online - "[The Talmud among Victorian Christians: Polemics and Humanism in Interfaith Encounters](#)"

8 February at 6 pm online - "[Christian Images and Jewish Desecrators: The History of the Allegation in Manuscript Illustrations](#)"

10 February, 11:15-12:00: [Interfaith Harmony: Singing from Manuscripts](#) with Henrike Lähnemann and Andrew Dunning, organised as part of the [One World Family Festival](#) at the Ashmolean Museum. Cast Gallery.

This event will begin with music from medieval manuscripts in the Bodleian Library. The performance will also feature songs in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, German, and English for all to join, and will be interspersed with the sound of shofar and shell horn. Click [here](#) to learn more about singing from Medieval Sources in the Bodleian Library.

19 February at 5 pm online "[Setting the Stage: The Rose of Performance in Studying Late Ancient Hymnody](#)"

4 March at 6 pm online "[The Dead Sea Scrolls and Jewish-Christian Dialogue](#)"

7 March at 5 pm online "[The Miracle of Pilgrimage: A Coptic Journey to the Holy Land During the Ottoman Period](#)"

'The Medieval Library' with Professor Teresa Webber, Trinity College, Cambridge

**Tuesday 5 March, 2:30-4:30pm**

**Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre, Weston Library**



This seminar explores the codicological and documentary evidence for reconstructing the contents and organisation of the libraries of ecclesiastical and academic institutions in the Middle Ages. It provides an introduction to two key resources for the study of medieval libraries: N. R. Ker's *Medieval Libraries of Great Britain* (and its online counterpart MLGB3) and the *Corpus of British Medieval Library Catalogues*, before focusing upon the remarkable record of the library of the Augustinian canons of Leicester Abbey that survives in the Bodleian as MS Laud. Misc. 623.

[Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies Online Conference](#)

Session of interest to medievalists:

**2:30pm -3:45 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> week (March 5, 2024)**

**The "Middle" Period (14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Centuries)**

Dean Irwin, University of Lincoln

"England Remembers, Jews Forget: Memory of Jews and England, 1290-1541"

Rory MacLellan, British Library

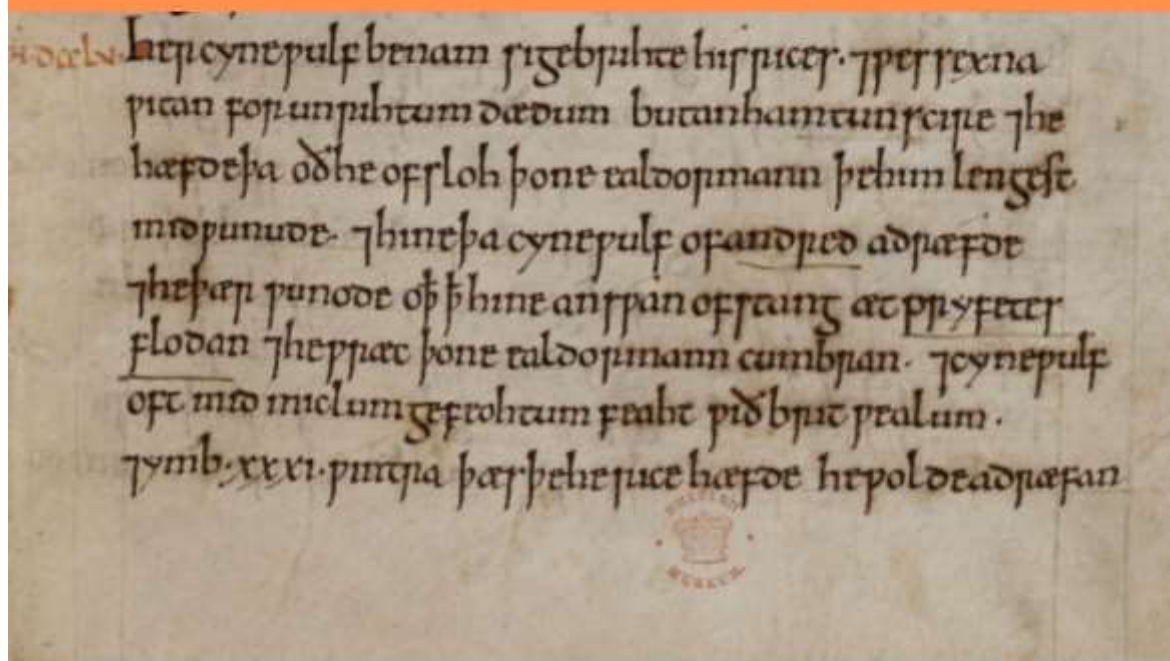
"Converts at the Royal Court in the 14th and 15th centuries"

Cynthia Rogers, Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, Univ Texas

"Crypto Jews and Jewish Heritage in England: The Ames Family"

PROF. DANIEL ANLEZARK  
(UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY):

‘THE ORIGINS OF ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE  
AND THE EIGHTH CENTURY’



OXFORD OLD ENGLISH WORK-IN-PROGRESS (WOOPIE)

ST CROSS ROOM, ST CROSS COLLEGE

THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2024, 5.15PM

FOLLOWED BY A DRINKS RECEPTION

ALL WELCOME

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE CONTACT:

FRANCIS.LENEGHAN@ELL.OX.AC.UK

FACULTY OF  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
AND  
LITERATURE



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD



**Centre for Early  
Medieval Britain  
and Ireland**



## **Silver Linings: Money, Plague and Economic Change in 7th and 8th c. England**

**Tuesday, 23 January at 1 PM**  
**Memorial Room, Worcester College**

---

**Professor Rory Naismith**  
**University of Cambridge**

**All are very welcome to attend!**

Any inquiries should be directed to Meredith Cutrer <[meredith.cutrer@worc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:meredith.cutrer@worc.ox.ac.uk)>



## *Early Medieval or Late Antique Britain and Ireland?*

2-3.30pm, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February (5<sup>th</sup> Week)  
The Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Interest in an Insular late antiquity has been a notable trend of much recent research on early Britain and Ireland, from increasing evidence of the Byzantine East's influence on early English material culture to studies of Irish conversion in its late antique context. The Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland is pleased to organise an informal research conversation for anyone interested in considering the utility of thinking about a late antique (rather than just an early medieval) Britain and Ireland.

Researchers at any stage or from any background are most welcome and no preparation is required; simply come prepared to talk about your research and ideas about the connection between late antiquity and the Insular world. The conversation will be tailored toward sharing insights, forging connections and building our research community.

Please RSVP by the start of 3<sup>rd</sup> week to Conor O'Brien ([conor.obrien@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:conor.obrien@queens.ox.ac.uk)) to confirm numbers for refreshments - but feel free to show up on the day regardless if interested

## London Old and Middle English Research Seminar (LOMERS)

Date: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Time: 5:30-7:00

Location: Senate House, London (room 102) / online



Professor Francis Leneghan will speak on the topic of his new project, 'Towards a New Literary History of Old English Prose', at the London Old and Middle English Research Seminar (LOMERS). No book-length literary history of Old English prose has ever been written, and perhaps for good reason. The corpus is vast and much of it has traditionally been regarded as non-literary. In this paper, I will make the case for the value of such a project, outlining my approach and explaining the rationale for the book's structure and scope. Moving away from the 'great man' view of literary history, this project will place the achievements of named prose authors such as Alfred, Wulfstan and Ælfric in a much wider story of prose experiment and stylistic development stretching from the seventh to eleventh centuries.

Please join us at Senate House, where the paper will be followed by drinks; or online via TEAMS.

Registration: <https://ies.sas.ac.uk/events/towards-a-new-literary-history-old-english-prose>

Discussion Group: The Saxon 'Other' and the Saxon 'Self' in the Translation of Genesis B

22 January 12:45 to 14:00

Seminar Room 10, St Anne's College

*Elliot Vale, University of Oxford*

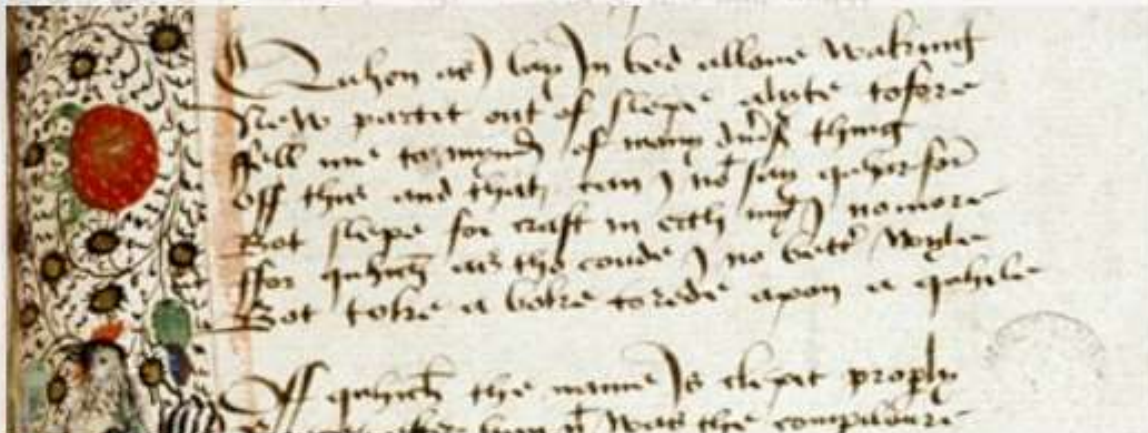
Translation and adaptation were crucial to the formation of English literature from its earliest development in the Anglo-Saxon period, especially in the scriptural poetry of MS Junius 11. *Genesis B*, which narrates the Fall of the Rebel Angels and the Fall of Man, appears to derive from an Old Saxon *Genesis* poem of which three short fragments survive. One of these corresponds almost *verbatim* to a short section of *Genesis B*, suggesting the poem is an 'intralingual translation' from Old Saxon into the mutually intelligible Old English. *Genesis B* is the result of deep and enduring historical connections between the Anglo-Saxons and Old Saxons, from the migration of the former to the Christianisation of the latter. Close analysis of the Old Saxon fragment alongside its equivalent passage in *Genesis B* reveals numerous linguistic and stylistic changes made in the process of translation. The translator(s) engages creatively with the source text to create a poem that would appeal to the target Anglo-Saxon audience. This double fidelity results in the deliberately hybrid nature of *Genesis B*, which exhibits both the Saxon 'other' and the Saxon 'self'.

# MEDIEVAL RESEARCH SEMINAR HT24

**Convenors:** Prof. Kantik Ghosh & Prof. Jane Griffiths

**Wednesdays 5.15 PM, Weeks 1-6**

**Lecture Theatre 2, St Cross Building**



## **WEEK 1: 17 January**

Jasmine Jones (Oxford)

'Monasticism, Mystery, and the Mind: The Vernacular Theology of the Old English *Daniel*'

And

Charlotte Ross (Oxford)

'Manuscripts and Readers of Thomas Hoccleve's *The Regiment of Princes*'

## **WEEK 2: 24 January**

Miri Rubin (QMUL)

'Black/Beautiful: the History of Song of Songs 1:5'

## **WEEK 3: 31 January**

Elizabeth Archibald (Durham)

'Bathing for Health and Pleasure in the Middle Ages – Literary and Social Attitudes'

## **WEEK 4: 7 February**

Marco Nievergelt (Paris)

'A Middle English Poetics of Experience? The Case of *Reson and Sensuallyte*'

## **WEEK 5: 14 February**

Elaine Treharne (Stanford)

'The Presence of Absence in Life before Death'

## **WEEK 6: 21 February**

Michael Kuczynski (Tulane)

'Chaucer's Parson in London'

Seminars followed by wine Reception. All Welcome!







Tuesdays, Wellbeloved Room, Harris Manchester College

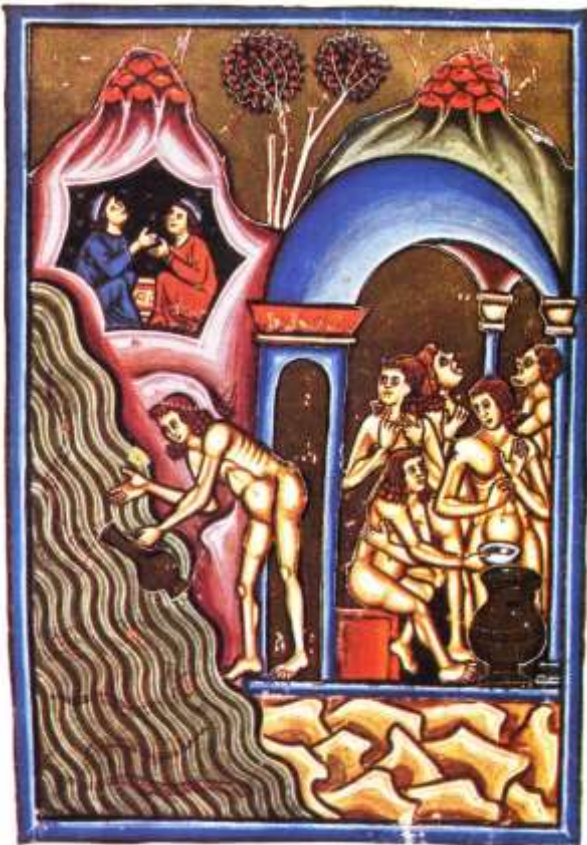
Tea & coffee from 5pm; papers begin at 5.15pm

Everyone is welcome at this informal and friendly graduate seminar

Our continuing theme for the term is *The Material Middle Ages*

Convenors: Lucia Akard (Oriental), Sumner Braund (History of Science Museum),  
Bee Jones (Jesus), Lesley Smith (HMC)

- Week 1  
16 January Emma-Catherine Wilson (Hertford)  
*'Crying Rich Folks' Lauds: the social status of heralds in the late Middle Ages*
- Week 2  
23 January Ana Dias (History Faculty)  
*Scribes and Scripts: the curious case of early medieval relic labels*
- Week 3  
29 January Exploring astronomical instruments and manuscripts  
**NB Monday meeting: Bodleian Weston Library, 3.30-4.30pm**  
Places limited: please email [lesley.smith@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lesley.smith@hmc.ox.ac.uk) to sign on
- Week 4  
6 February Helena Hamerow (Institute of Archaeology)  
*Women of the Conversion Period: a biomolecular investigation of mobility*
- Week 5  
13 February Bodleian Conservation Studio Visit  
Max. 12 places, 4.30pm start  
Email [sumner.braund@hsm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sumner.braund@hsm.ox.ac.uk) to sign on.
- Week 6  
20 February James Miller (Univ)  
*The Body of St Benedict and the History of Monasticism*
- Week 7  
27 February Richard Gameson and Andy Beeby (Durham) : aka Team Pigment  
*Pigment Identification: how, when, where, and why*



### Week 8 Oxford Medieval Studies Termly Lecture

5 March Peregrine Horden (All Souls)

*Healthy Crusading in the Age of Frederick II: the puzzle of Adam of Cremona*

Image: *Balneum sudatorium* in The Baths of Pozzuoli. =  
Rome Biblioteca Angelica, ms. 1474



The Medieval Women's Writing Research Group meets to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the medieval period. We hold both a research seminar series as well as the more informal reading group in even weeks (see: Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group). All welcome!

Seminars will take place in the **Main Hall of the Taylorian** on **Thursdays 5pm-6:30pm**, weeks 3, 5, 7.

Stay up to date with events by [joining our mailing list](#) or following us on X [@MedievalWomenOx](#).

---

**Week 3** Sophie Bacchus-Waterman (St John's College Library, Oxford)

**1 February** The French Psalter of Anne Boleyn

---

**Week 5** Hilary Pearson

**15 February** God Placed Cloisters on My Hearing: Teresa de Cartagena's Spirituality of Deafness

---

**Week 7** Carolin Gluchowski (New College, Oxford)

**29 February** Transforming the Material to Curate the Spiritual: Late-Medieval Prayerbook Revisions in the Cistercian Convent of Medingen

---

Convenors: Katherine Smith, Marlene Schilling, Carolin Gluchowski and Santhia Velasco Kittlaus

Funded by the "TORCH Critical-Thinking Communities" fund.



## Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music

We are pleased to announce the seminars for Hilary Term 2024. The seminars are all held via Zoom on Thursdays at 5 p.m. British Time (all GMT). If you are planning to attend a seminar this term, please register using [this form](#). For each seminar, those who have registered will receive an email with the Zoom invitation and any further materials a couple of days before the seminar. If you have questions, please just send an email to [all.souls.music.seminars@gmail.com](mailto:all.souls.music.seminars@gmail.com).

Margaret Bent (Convener, All Souls College) and Matthew P. Thomson (Merton College)

Thursday 25 January, 5pm-7pm GMT

Presenter: Susan Forscher Weiss (Peabody Institute and the Johns Hopkins University)

Title: Roman de Volvelles: A Story of Revolving Diagrams in Early Modern Quadrivial Texts

Discussants: Mary Carruthers (Oxford and New York University) and Michael Dodds (North Carolina School for the Arts)

Recent scholarly attention has focused on diagrams in early modern quadrivial texts. Representations of hands in musical texts reveal nuanced differences in their inscriptions. In addition to the hand, other diagrams such as trees and geometric shapes, particularly the circle, symbolize new ways of thinking about music that stretch the limits of the gamut. These diagrams also reveal that music was aligning itself with discourse and language that united the two *artes*, mathematical and rhetorical.

That these diagrams imply movement is reinforced by the presence of 3-D interactive wheel charts known as *volvelles*, early versions of analog computers, by-products of an expanding interest in the science of navigation. These devices appear in manuscripts as early as the 1100 CE, as visual enticements and pedagogical aids for learning both visually and kinesthetically in astronomy, astrology, calendrical calculations, cryptography, navigation, and architecture. In this paper, I will trace the progression of diagrams in musical sources leading to arguably the earliest musical text containing a set of windowed *volvelles*, Ambrosius Wilfflingseder's *Erotemata musices practicae*, published in Nuremberg in 1563, and how these images reflect changes in music theory and practice that demonstrate a shift from a vocal toward an instrumental conceptualization of music.

Thursday 15 February, 5pm-7pm GMT

Presenter: Johanna-Pauline Thöne (University of Oslo)

Title: New Interpretations and Contexts for the Motet Fragments Basel 71 and 72 ca. 1400

Discussants: Antonio Calvia (Università di Pavia), Kevin Roger (University of Tours) and Anne Stone (CUNY Graduate Center)

Since their discovery by Wulf Arlt and Martin Steinmann some thirty years ago, two independent parchment fragments now housed at the University Library of Basel - the bifolio FIX.71 and the single folio NI6.72 (hereafter **Basel71** and **Basel72**) - have awaited detailed study. This paper analyses, from multiple perspectives, the two different versions of the same fourteenth-century motet uniquely and incompletely recorded in these fragments.

I shall not only untangle the complex voice transmission and musical structure of this motet, but also explore the chronology and interdependence of its two alternative poetic texts: ...*Papam querentes/Gaudeat et exultet* (triplum and motetus in **Basel71**, concerning the papal schism of 1378) and *Novum sidus orientis* (triplum in **Basel72**, drawn from a Franciscan sequence). Finally, I discuss the composition's striking musical and possibly also historical connections to the widely transmitted motet *Rex Karole/Leticie pacis/Virgo prius*, which is also partially preserved in **Basel72**.

Overall, this remarkable case raises overdue and somewhat unexpected questions concerning manuscript transmission, compositional process, political propaganda, and musical and poetic creativity in the late fourteenth century.

Thursday 7 March, 5pm-7pm GMT

Presenter: Barbara Haggh-Huglo (University of Maryland at College Park)

Title: Guillaume Du Fay between the Church and Two Courts: A Reassessment of his Biography

Discussants: Anne Walters Robertson (University of Chicago) and Reinhard Strohm (University of Oxford)

In this paper, I reassess Du Fay's biography to emphasize his years in Savoy that I claim defined his career and his fame. A gap in his biography in 1433-34 corresponds to Auclou's travel from Rome to Dijon to bring a Miraculous Host to Duke Philip, the birth of his son Charles to whom Du Fay willed his music, and the court's travels to the Savoy wedding of 1434: a stay of Du Fay in Dijon would explain Duke Philip's



subsequent promotion of his career. At Philip's court in 1433 was Henri Arnaut de Zwolle: K. Sachs associates a short text on counterpoint in the Buxheim Organ Book (with Du Fay songs) with a Dijon organ drawn by Zwolle, and language in Martin Le Franc's *Le Champion des Dames* suggests Du Fay did play the portative organ. *Le Champion* includes a set of arguments against and for the Virgin Mary's conception without Original Sin used by Carlier in his Parisian commentary on the Sentences suggesting Le Franc knew Carlier's text. While in Savoy, Du Fay spent the winter of 1438/39 with Louis I of Savoy and Anne, where Le Franc may have heard him. Such stays in court castles during Du Fay's Savoy years lead me to reassess the transfer of the Shroud to Louis I and music by Du Fay, including two songs and a rediscovered fragment of his *Missa Ecce ancilla Domini*. When Du Fay returned to Cambrai as a composer of distinct renown, he sought to raise the Cathedral's music to court standards. His testamentary documents, post-mortem recognition by Dominicans and Franciscans, and the fate of his chant composed in Savoy for the Cambresian *Recollectio festorum beate Marie virginis* bear witness to his years in Savoy. That Du Fay, the priest, lacks the anecdotes of the later Josquin but was praised by Le Franc as a 'most eminent and utterly modest musical practitioner' corresponds to his appreciation by the two dukes who employed him in times of war and theological and political division.

## Late Roman Seminar

**Thursdays at 4 PM**  
**Seminar Room, Corpus Christi College**  
**Convened by Conrad Leyser and Alison John**

(W 1) 18 January

Ana Dias

'May the voice of the faithful resound': colophons in early Iberian manuscripts'

(W 2) 25 January

David Addison, Martina Carandino, John Merrington

'Soul and Embodiment in the Late Antique World: Three Case-Studies'

(W 3) 1 February

Bryan Ward-Perkins

'Why saints were seen much more often in the late antique East than in the West'

(W 4) 8 February

Dorothee Schenk (Göttingen)

'Character Networks, Semantic Networks and Social Network Analysis: Examples around Fulgentius of Ruspe'

(W 5) 15 February

Andrew Morrison (Glasgow)

'Shaping the letter collections of Basil and Gregory of Nazianzus'

(W 6) 22 February

James Corke-Webster (KCL)

'Letters of Refuge: From Ancient Lyons to Modern Calais'

(W 7) 29 February

Alan Ross (Ohio)

'Julian in Gaul'

(W 8) 7 March

Yaniv Fox (Bar-Ilan)

'The Symbolic Worlds of Justus of Urgell and Gregory the Great'

## Medieval History Seminar

**Mondays at 5pm**  
**Wharton Room, All Souls College and on Teams**

The Teams session can be accessed by logging in to Teams with your .ox.ac.uk account and joining the group “Medieval History Research Seminar” (team code rmppucs). Alternatively, it can be accessed via [this link](#). If you have any difficulties please email: [medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk)

Week 1 15 January	Conor O’Brien (Oxford) ‘The Rise of Christian Kingship and the De-Secularization of the Latin West’
Week 2 22 January	John Merrington (Oxford) ‘Did Charlemagne Worry about his Body?’
Week 3 29 January	Andrew Wathey (TNA/All Souls) ‘Philippe de Vitry in Clement VI’s Avignon’
Week 4 5 February	Emily Winkler (Oxford) ‘Thinking about Grief and Loss in the High Middle Ages’
Week 5 12 February	Claire BurrIDGE (University of Oslo) ‘Medicine in the margins: Exploring the unexpected environments of early medieval medical knowledge’
Week 6 19 February	Nicholas Morton (Nottingham Trent) ‘Re-examining the role of inter-faith rivalry as the main driver of conflict in the Middle East at the time of the Crusades’
Week 7 26 February	George Garnett (Oxford) ‘James Campbell, William Stubbs, and German Idealism’
Week 8 4 March	Alison Beach (St Andrews) ‘From Text to Teeth: Embodied Stories of Premodern Women at Work’

## Medieval German Seminar



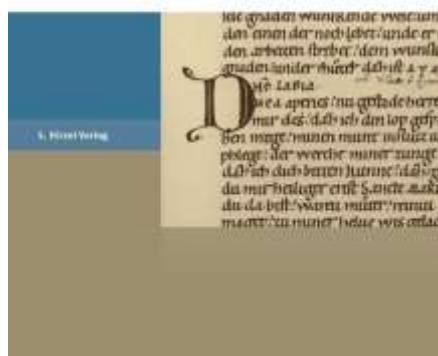
Wednesdays, 11.15-12:45, Old Library, St Edmund Hall

Theme: Frau Ava

Convenors: Henrike Lähnemann and Almut Suerbaum

In Hilary Term, we are going to discuss the writings by ‘Frau Ava’, the first women author whose name we know, transmitted in the Vorau Manuscript. We will work with the edition by Maike Claußnitzner and Cassandra Sperl. We will meet in the Old Library in St Edmund Hall. Tea and coffee are provided but please bring your own mug! Further information and reading recommendations via the teams channel; if you want to be added to that: please [email Henrike Lähnemann](mailto:henrike.laehnemann@all-souls.ox.ac.uk).

In week 1, we will have a shorter organisational meeting.



## Medieval French Research Seminar

**Tuesdays at the Maison Francaise.**  
**Drinks will be served from 5pm; the presentations will start at 5:15pm**

Week 3 - 30 January Professor Sarah Kay (NYU) 'Nature and the landscape of adventure in Erec et Enide, a Macrobian perspective'

Week 5 - 13 February Roundtable on Professional Careers for Medieval French Postgraduates: Dr Liam Lewis (University of Nottingham), Dr Hannah Marcos (School of Advanced Study, University of London), Dr Edward Mills (University of Exeter), and Dr Kate Travers (St Hugh's College, Oxford)

Week 7 - 27 February Dr Kate Travers (St Hugh's, Oxford) 'French Narratives, Italian Contexts: Approaching Chivalric Literature in Northern Italy'

## Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

**Byzantium in Dialogue with China, the Iranian and Arab Worlds**  
**Wednesdays, 5pm**  
**Seminar convenors: Yuhua Vevaina, Ida Toth, Ine Jacobs**  
**Venue: Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St. Giles, Oxford**  
**Teams link: [Click here to join the meeting \(\\*\)](#)**

W1, 17 January	Christian Sahner (University of Oxford) - 'How Zoroastrians Debated Muslims in the Early Islamic Period'
W2, 24 January	Natalija Ristovska (University of Oxford) - 'The Byzantine Craft of Enamelling and its Links with Islamic Metalwork, c. 800-1204'
W3, 31 January	Michael Shenkar (the Hebrew University of Jerusalem) - 'The 'Timeless Empire': Sasanian Iconography as a Historical Source'
W4, 7 February	Matt Canepa (University of California, Irvine) - 'Festive Discipline and Punishment in a Global Late Antiquity: The Iranian Political Sensorium as an Afro-Eurasian Technology of Power'
W5, 14 February	Alessia Zubani (University of Oxford) - 'Automated Dialogues: Diplomacy, Technology, and Power in Late Antique and Medieval Eurasia'
W6, 21 February	Niels Gaul (University of Edinburgh) - 'PAIXUE Byzantine and Tang/Song literati culture'
W7, 28 February	Ekaterina Nechaeva (Université de Lille) - 'Elite captives and defectors between Rome and Sasanian Iran. A prosopographical approach'
W8, 6 March	Petros Bouras-Vallianatos (National & Kapodistrian University of Athens) - 'Byzantine Medicine in Light of the Global Middle Ages: Current Trends and Future Avenues'



## Europe in the Later Middle Ages Seminar

Theme: Family

Tuesdays 2-3.30 p.m, Hilary Term 2024, in the Dolphin Seminar Room, St John's College. Tea and coffee available from 1.45pm. Undergraduates welcome.

### Week 1 Discussion Session

16 January

### Week 2 James Cogbill, Oxford

23 January

*A City of Dynasts? Patronage, Competition and Challenge in later medieval Constantinople*

### Week 3 Jose Andres Porras, Oxford

30 January

*Florentine Orphans and their Parents*

### Week 4 Jane Whittle and Grace Owen, University of Exeter

6 February

*Acknowledging the known unknowns: gender and wage labour in late medieval England*

### Week 5 Julia Bray, Oxford

13 February

*Families in the Muslim Middle Ages - do they Matter?*

### Week 6 Judith Bennett, USC Dornsife

20 February

*City of Women: Singlewomen, Spinners, and Houseling People in Late Medieval Coventry*

### Week 7 Trevor Dean, University of Roehampton

27 February

*Families and Assassination Narratives in Italy and Europe*

### Week 8 Sophie Charron, Oxford

5 March

*Queens and Popes in the Later Middle Ages: Bohemian Case Studies*

Natalia Nowakowska

Hannah Skoda

John Watts

Convenors: Elena Lichmanova  
elena.lichmanova@merton.ox.ac.uk  
Gervase Rosser, Martin Kauffmann, Hannah Skoda

# MEDIEVAL VISUAL CULTURE SEMINAR

Hilary Term 2024  
St Catherine's College, Oxford, Arumugam Building  
Thursdays 5 pm  
All welcome

## Sacred Space

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Week 2<br>25 January  | Emily Guerry   University of Kent<br><i>Diplomacy and Devotion in the Gothic Wall Paintings of Angers Cathedral</i>   |
| Week 4<br>8 February  | Jacopo Gnisci   University College London<br><i>Sacred Space and Imperial Authority in 'Medieval' Ethiopia: The Portrait of Yekunno Amlak in Gannata Maryam</i> |
| Week 6<br>22 February | Paul Binski   University of Cambridge<br><i>Henry III's Bed: Peace and Sacred Space at Westminster</i>  |

## Celtic Seminar

The Celtic Seminar is held jointly by Oxford and the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies (CAWCS), Aberystwyth. All Oxford seminars will be at 5.15 pm on Thursdays either hybrid (online and in person) or online-only via Microsoft Teams. Locations for the Oxford seminars are given below. Please contact [david.willis@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk](mailto:david.willis@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk) if you need a link to join online. All CAWCS seminars will be held online at 5.00 pm on Thursdays via Zoom, and, for hybrid seminars, in person at the National Library of Wales. Please contact [a.elias@wales.ac.uk](mailto:a.elias@wales.ac.uk) for the link.

### 18 January

no meeting

### 25 January

Oxford: Memorial Room, Jesus

Caitlyn Brinkman-Schwartz (University of Oxford)

Race, Revival and Revolution: Defining the Irish 'Celt'

### 1 February

CAWCS (via Zoom)

Nathan Abrams (Prifysgol Bangor)

Capturing and preserving north Wales's Jewish history

### 8 February

no meeting

### 15 February

Oxford: Memorial Room, Jesus

Ranke de Vries (St Francis Xavier University)

*Táin Bó Cúailnge* as a medical text

### 22 February

Oxford (via Teams)

Brent Miles (University of Toronto)

*Kunstprosa* or dodgy Welsh? Some challenges preparing a students' edition of *Ystoria Dared* "Dares's History of Troy"

### 29 February

CAWCS (via Zoom, or in person in Oxford)

Oxford: Seminar Room A, Jesus

Elaine Treharne

'Moved by the nature of art': Welsh poets and the medieval

### 7 March

CAWCS (via Zoom)

E. Wyn James

Watford: man cyfarfod radicaliaethau rhyngwladol

### 14 March

CAWCS hybrid in Y Drwm, National Library of Wales

Abigail Burnyeat (Sabhal Mòr Ostaig)

Who's to blame for Connla's death? Changing *causae occidendi* from *Aided Óenfir Aife* to Bàs Chonnlaioich



## Tolkien 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Seminar Series

A weekly series of free talks to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of J. R. R. Tolkien

All seminars are on **Friday afternoon, 4-5pm**, in different venues as indicated below. Free access (no need to book).

Venues at Corpus Christi and the Classics Faculty have **step-free access**; to access the T.S. Eliot Lecture Theatre at Merton College one needs to go up and down some steps (please email [julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk) if you need step-free access).

### Week 1 - 19 January (**MERTON COLLEGE T.S. ELIOT LECTURE THEATRE**)

*Mark Atherton (University of Oxford)*

The Arkenstone and the Ring: wilful objects in Tolkien's *The Hobbit*

### Week 2 - 26 January (**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE AUDITORIUM**)

*Elena Vermeer (University of Oxford)*

Tolkien's 'Sellic Spell' and Beowulfian Poetics: the Artist and the Critic

### Week 3 - 2 February (**MERTON COLLEGE T.S. ELIOT LECTURE THEATRE**)

*Bond West (University of Oxford)*

Mr. Underhill: Topography and the Ring's Temptation

### Week 4 - 9 February (**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE AUDITORIUM**)

*Holly Ordway (Word on Fire Institute)*

"Fundamentally religious and Catholic"? Authorial Intent and the Intentional Fallacy

### Week 5 - 16 February (**MERTON COLLEGE T.S. ELIOT LECTURE THEATRE**)

*Dion Dobrzynski (University of Birmingham)*

Ents and Ecological Entanglements

### Week 6 - 23 February (**FACULTY OF CLASSICS LECTURE THEATRE**)

*John Garth (Writer and Journalist)*

Inventing on the hoof: How the Riders of Rohan suddenly became Anglo-Saxon

### Week 7 - 1 March (**FACULTY OF CLASSICS LECTURE THEATRE**)

*Eduardo Gutierrez (University of Oxford)*

Tolkien Beyond Tolkien: Unleashing the Sub-Creative Imagination in an Era of Bridge Building

### Week 8 - 8 March (**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE AUDITORIUM**)

*Anine Englund (University of Oxford)*

"In the halls of Mandos": Death, Deathlessness and Inter-Racial Relations in Beren and Lúthien

Recordings of the seminars held in Michaelmas Term in Exeter College are now available here:

<https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/fantasy-literature>



Centre for the  
Study of the Bible  
Oriel College | UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Corpus Christi  
College Oxford



FACULTY OF  
CLASSICS

FACULTY OF  
THEOLOGY  
AND  
RELIGION



# The Ethics of Textual Criticism

Hilary Term, 2024

Thursdays, 10:00–12:00

(Harris Seminar Room, Oriel College unless otherwise  
specified)

Please note the extra session in Week 1\*

## Week 1 (18 Jan.) Harris Lecture Theatre, Oriel College

Tristan Franklino (Oxford) – “On whose authority? Editing ancient and medieval Latin texts – some examples”

**\* (19 Jan.), 14:00–15:30, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles**

Irene Peirano Garrison (Harvard) – “Latin grammar in the age of philology”

## Week 2 (25 Jan.)

Alison Salvesen (Oxford) – “Hebrew authority, textual criticism, and translation technique: Symmachus and the Megillot”

## Week 3 (1 Feb.)

Harald Samuel (Oxford) – “Textual criticism of Hebrew texts in different textual cultures”

## Week 4 (8 Feb.)

Colleen Curran (Galway) – “A new transmission of Aldhelm’s *Carmen de uirginitate*”

## Week 5 (15 Feb.)

Chiara Meccariello (Exeter) – “Papyri and textual criticism: textual microhistories, materiality, and the prioritisation of text”

## Week 6 (22 Feb.)

Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv) – “Editing nasty texts: *Gʿzar-dina de-Yeshu* (“The Sentencing of Jesus”) as a test-case”

## Week 7 (29 Feb.)

Daniel Wakelin (Oxford) – “Editing the Everyday in Middle English”

## Week 8 (7 Mar.)

Carmen Cardelle de Hartmann (Zurich) – “Marginalized authors, anonymous texts: the problems of attribution”

Consult at the **Oriel College porter’s lodge** for the **4-digit passcode** to enter the **Harris Seminar Room**

For any enquiries, please write to [ocsb@oriel.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ocsb@oriel.ox.ac.uk)

Wassily Kandinsky,  
‘Circles in a Circle’, 1923



# Oxford Medieval Manuscripts Group OMMG

Hilary Term 2024  
Fridays 5 pm (the Weston Library Visit is at 2 pm)  
Merton College

This is a new seminar series whose goal is to foster a community at Oxford University, and beyond, of those who study medieval manuscripts. With a particular focus on illuminated manuscripts, we will be discussing the most exciting recent research in this field; sharing our own projects and ideas in a supportive and friendly environment; learning from seminars given by experienced colleagues; and examining medieval manuscripts together during library visits.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>19 January<br>Hawkins Room  | <b>Reading and discussion of Elina Gertsman, <i>The Absent Image: Lacunae in Medieval Books</i> (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2021)]</b><br><i>All welcome. Write to the email below if you do not have access to the online version of this book</i>   |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>2 February                  | <b>The Weston Library Visit</b><br><b>Study and discussion of illuminated manuscripts</b><br><i>Limited spaces, write to the email below by 21/01/2024</i><br><i>First come first served basis</i>  |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>16 February<br>Hawkins Room | <b>Work in Progress Meeting</b><br><b>Presentation and discussion of articles, thesis chapters, conference papers in progress that concern medieval manuscripts</b><br><i>We are still accepting applications. If you like to present your work in progress and receive our feedback, write to the email below by 1/02/2024</i> |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>1 March<br>Mure Room        | <b>Peter Kidd, Independent Researcher</b><br><b>'Provenance and Medieval Manuscripts'</b><br><i>Drinks reception and dinner at Gino's</i><br><i>All welcome</i>   |

To subscribe to our mailing list, participate in library visits, propose a presentation of your research for work in progress meetings, or submit any queries, please write to:  
[elena.lichmanova@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elena.lichmanova@merton.ox.ac.uk)



## Medieval Archaeology Seminar

**Mondays 3.00, Institute of Archaeology, Lecture Room**

**Wk 2 (22 Jan) Brandon Fathy (University of Reading)**

Becoming Ipswich: A Story of Urban Emergence in the Early Middle Ages

**Wk 4 (5 Feb) Kate Franklin (Birkbeck College)**

Making a World in Mongol Armenia: Vayots Dzor on the Silk Road

**Wk 6 (19 Feb) John Naylor (PAS, Oxford)**

The use of gold coins in Anglo-Saxon graves

**Wk 7 (26 Feb). Lyn Blackmore (Museum of London Archaeology)**

The seventh-century bed burial at Harpole: Aspects of recent work

**Wk 8 (4 March). Karen Dempsey (Cardiff University)**

Special deposits in medieval households

*Convenors: H. Hamerow/J. Kershaw*

## Exploring Medieval Oxford through Lincoln Archives

Convenors: Lindsay McCormack and Laure Miolo

Time and place: Fridays 2-3pm, Seminar Room 2, EPA Centre, Museum Road, OX1 3PX

This weekly seminar aims to investigate unpublished medieval documents, mostly deeds, dating back to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, that bear witness to everyday life in Oxford at the time.

Anyone interested in analyzing primary sources and conducting a comprehensive examination of the documents are welcome to attend. Working in pairs on a self-selected source, the research will entail the examination of the record's external characteristics (such as writing surface, layout, marks of use) as well as transcription, translation, and identification of locations and individuals mentioned in the records to establish a context. Special importance will be given to the seals attached to these documents.

As well as collaborating on unpublished sources, attendees will gain experience in digitisation of sources and publish their analysis online. Students will prepare their item for exhibition, and a one-day workshop on these sources will be held in Trinity Term.

Those who are interested can contact Lindsay McCormack and Laure Miolo via email: [lindsay.mccormack@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lindsay.mccormack@lincoln.ox.ac.uk) and [laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk)

## Oxford University Heraldry Society

Zoom lectures. 6:30pm UK time. For more information, please email Priscilla Frost ([secretary@oxford-heraldry.org.uk](mailto:secretary@oxford-heraldry.org.uk))

**18<sup>th</sup> January 2024:** Ann Darracott : *The Heraldry of Bisham Abbey*

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2024:** David Phillips : *The Audley Beast*

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** Dr Simon Rousselot, Treasurer of the International Academy of Heraldry : (*Title TBC: it will include Islamic inscriptions on metals*)

**April 2024 - date to be confirmed** Bruce Patterson: Deputy Chief Herald of Canada: (*Title TBC*)

**May 2024 - date to be confirmed:** Vicky Fletcher: *Church Graffiti*

## Reading Groups and Societies

### Old Occitan Literature Workshop

Dates: Thursdays, Odd Weeks, 3 meetings only.

Time: 5-6pm

Location:

18th January – Taylor Institution, Hall

15 February – Taylor Institution, Rm2

29 February – Taylor Institution, Rm2

In association with Oxford Medieval Studies, sponsored by The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH).

In Hilary term, we will read and translate extracts from texts written in Old Occitan. **All welcome!**

Please **email the address below** for details of the texts we will be working on. Interested members will be invited to translate short passages which we will then workshop in meetings 2 and 3.

Trinity Term will be based around texts suggested by group members and will involve workshopping translations relevant to members' own interests. The group may also wish to explore the possibility of submitting a short translation for publication in a journal.

To **sign up**, and to optionally suggest an Old Occitan text for Trinity Term, or for any other queries, email:

**Kate Travers:** [katherine.travers@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.travers@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

**Trigger Warning:** Please be advised that much Old Occitan poetry contains mentions of non-consensual sexual contact, coercive behaviour, and other triggering content. For more details on the specific material for each session, please contact the address above.

### Medieval Latin Document Reading Group

The Medieval Latin Document Reading Group continues to meet on Teams at 4-5pm, Wednesdays. We read and translate medieval documents from New College's archive as part of the cataloguing work being carried out there, so there will be a variety of hands, dates and types. A document is sent out in advance but homework is not expected. Please contact Michael Stansfield ([michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk)) for further details and the Teams link.



M. 819, f.55r. Pierpont Morgan Library,

New York. Catalogue Description: "Within initial T, Folquet de Marseille as bishop, wearing mitre and fur-lined garment, holding crozier with right hand, raising left hand." Text: "Tant m'abelis l'amoros pensamens".

## Old Norse Reading Group

The Old Norse Reading Group will take place from 5:30-7pm on Mondays of even weeks (starting January 22). We'll be translating some ridiculously fun Old Norse texts, along with fitting in occasional Viking movie nights! To join the mailing list, email [ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

## Old High German Reading Group

This fortnightly reading group will be an opportunity to read a variety of Old High German material in a relaxed setting. Unless otherwise specified, texts—with a different theme for each session—will be chosen from different sections of the *Althochdeutsches Lesebuch* (Braune 1994), alternating between verse and prose. The group will meet on **Tuesdays of even weeks at 16:00 in the Committee Room, 41 Wellington Square**. If there is appetite amongst attendees, the group will migrate to the Lamb and Flag after the session. Handouts will be provided and no prior knowledge is required!

Week 2 - *Biblical* (verse)

*Christus und die Samariterin* (Braune XXXIV) - "Christ and the Samaritan Woman"

Week 4 - *Daily life* (prose)

*Sangaller Schularbeit* & *Contra Paralysin Theutonice* (handout to be provided) - "St Gallen School Work" & "Medicine for Gout"

Week 6 - *Moral instruction* (verse)

*Memento Mori* (Braune XLII)

Week 8 - *Old Saxon* (prose)

*Altsächsische Beichte* (Braune XXII.5) - "Old Saxon Confession"

For further information, please get in touch with [william.thurlwell@wolfson.ox.ac.uk](mailto:william.thurlwell@wolfson.ox.ac.uk).

## Anglo-Norman Reading Group

The Anglo-Norman Reading Group will meet, in person and on zoom, on Fridays of odd weeks this term. Please join us at St Hilda's College, 5 - 6.30.

The text - some Jousting Letters from Edinburgh - will be provided via Padlet, and refreshments as usual to help us along. All welcome, at any level of Medieval French!

Please contact Stephanie Hathaway  
<[stephanie.hathaway@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.hathaway@gmail.com)> or Jane Bliss  
<[jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org](mailto:jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org)> for further details.





## Late Antique Latin Reading Group

12:00 - 13:00 Fridays, wks. 1-8

Hovenden Room, All Souls College

The Late Antique Latin Reading Group offers an opportunity to practise reading late antique Latin texts in an informal and friendly atmosphere. Each week we will read selected passages from a critical edition of a different Latin text (usually 2-3 pages), ranging chronologically from Tertullian (2nd century) to Isidore of Seville (7th century). These will be circulated a week in advance via email, with some suggestions for (optional) further reading. Each text will be briefly introduced by one of the convenors, who will offer historical context.

The Late Antique Latin Reading Group is open to anyone engaged in research on the late antique world. Though prior knowledge of Latin is required, we welcome people with a range of abilities. We particularly welcome graduate students and early career academics. If you would like to attend, or you have any questions, feel free to contact either of the convenors. Please do RSVP if you intend to attend, so that we can gauge numbers and circulate the readings.

David Addison ([david.addison@all-souls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:david.addison@all-souls.ox.ac.uk))

Alison John ([alison.john@all-souls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alison.john@all-souls.ox.ac.uk))

## Dante Reading Group

**17:30-19:00 on Wednesdays in Seminar Room 11 of St. Anne's College (meet outside the lodge)**

Whether you are a dedicated Dante scholar or someone who has never gotten round to picking up the *Comedy*, the new Dante Reading Group is for you! Each week, we will be reading through and discussing a canto of the *Divine Comedy* in a relaxed and informal setting, delving into Dante's language and imagination in manageable chunks. It is open to those with or without a knowledge of Italian, the reading being sent out in the original and in translation. Refreshments, both alcoholic and otherwise, will be provided! To register or ask any questions, please email [charles.west@regents.ox.ac.uk](mailto:charles.west@regents.ox.ac.uk) (Sponsored by TORCH)

## French Palaeography Reading Group

This group is open to anyone with an interest in Old French, Middle French and Anglo-Norman manuscripts. We study and read manuscripts from the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. We meet every Monday between 10.30am-12pm in the Weston Library. If you are interested in joining the group or would like more information, please write to: [laure.miol@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laure.miol@history.ox.ac.uk)

## Germanic Reading Group

We'll be holding three online meetings of the Germanic Reading Group, Thursdays at 4:00. Please contact Howard Jones [Howard.Jones@sbs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Howard.Jones@sbs.ox.ac.uk) to request the handouts and to be added to the list.

Thursday, 1 Feb, 4:00: OHG Christ and the Samaritan Woman (Will Thurlwell)

Thursday, 15 Feb, 4:00: Old/Middle/modern Scots English (Hamish Pottinger)

Thursday, 29 Feb, 4:00: Old Low Franconian (Johanneke Sytsema)



Medieval history and its imagery is consistently misused and warped by political parties, extremist online groups and domestic terrorist movements. This fortnightly reading and discussion group aims to explore the misuse of medieval history (defined in the broadest chronological and geographical terms) and culture (including art, literature, architecture etc) within a modern world, along with how academia can hope to challenge this issue in the future.

Please email [tristan.alphey@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:tristan.alphey@stx.ox.ac.uk) to be added to the email list.

Time and Place: TBA

All welcome, hybrid available

## Middle Welsh Reading Group

**Convenor:** Svetlana Ó Siochfhradha Presern

**Email:**

[svetlana.osiochfhradhapresern@jesus.ox.ac.uk](mailto:svetlana.osiochfhradhapresern@jesus.ox.ac.uk)

**Time:** 2pm - 4pm, Thursdays of Hilary Term

**Location:** Jesus College, Oxford (Habakuk Room: W 1 - 7; Seminar Room A: W 8)

I will be running an informal Middle Welsh reading group that is open to everyone! No previous knowledge of Middle Welsh is assumed.

Translations will be provided with plenty of time to ask questions at the end. We'll read a selection of early and late Middle Welsh prose and poetry to offer everyone a chance to experience the richness of Middle Welsh and its literary tradition. The class will have a heavy focus on language and language change, but this is by no means exclusive!

In Week 1, I'll be waiting at the porters' lodge by the Turl Street entrance (see blue dot on the map) until about 2:05pm. For any late comers do just send me an email and I'll come get you!

I'd be grateful if you could just drop me a quick line so that I know how many heads to expect. Please also let me know if you have any accessibility or other requirements 😊

I hope to see as many of you very soon!

Pob dymuniad da.





The Medieval Women's Writing Research Group meets to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the medieval period. We hold both a reading group as well as a research seminar series in odd weeks (see: Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar). All welcome!

The reading group will meet in **Lincoln College, Lower Lecture Room** on **Thursdays 5pm-6:30pm**, weeks 2, 4, 6, 8.

Stay up to date with events by [joining our mailing list](#) or following us on X [@MedievalWomenOx](#). Texts for the reading group are shared on the mailing list.

---

**Week 2**      Frau Ava's Poetry  
**25 January**

---

**Week 4**      The Lais and Fables of Marie de France  
**8 February**

---

**Week 6**      Gwerful Mechain's Erotic Poetry  
**22 February**

---

**Week 8**      Female Poets in Al-Andalus  
**7 March**

---

Convenors: Katherine Smith, Marlene Schilling, Carolin Gluchowski and Santhia Velasco Kittlaus

Funded by the "TORCH Critical-Thinking Communities" fund.







# ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY WORKING GROUP



We are a group which runs informal meetings for those interested in studying the past in ways that recognize the interactions and interconnectedness of animals, plants, humans, other beings, and the environment. We make space to talk about exciting developments in our fields, interdisciplinary conversations, and new ideas and approaches. We try to keep discussions informal, and we encourage anyone at all interested in these kinds of approaches to join our meetings, regardless of research specialism or presumed existing knowledge.

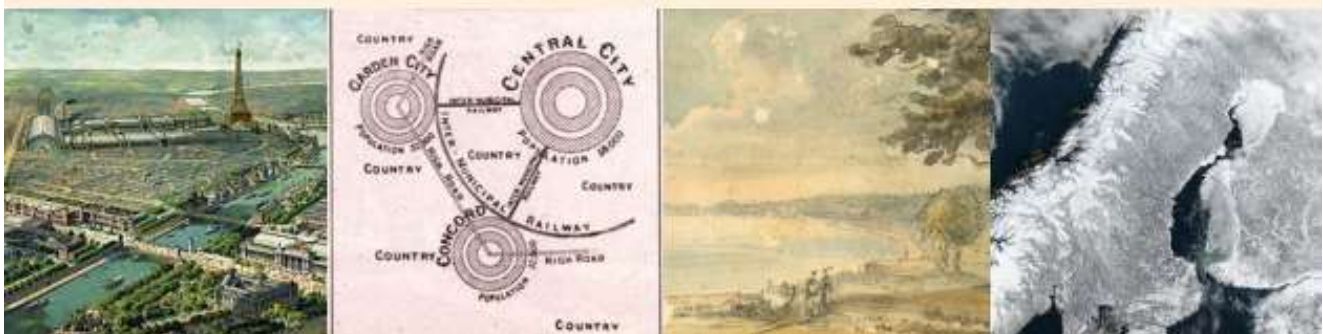
**12.30pm - 2.00pm**

**Thursday, Weeks 2, 4, and 6**

**History Faculty Building**

**To join the mailing list, contact Ryan or Ruka at:**

**[environmentalhistoryworkinggroup-owner@maillist.ox.ac.uk](mailto:environmentalhistoryworkinggroup-owner@maillist.ox.ac.uk)**



### **Week 2: Thursday, 25 January:**

Susannah Bain, "The Accounts of a Genoese Aqueduct: Tapping into the Social History of Water in Medieval Cities"

This paper will focus on the sole surviving book of accounts of an aqueduct from fourteenth-century Genoa, Italy. It will explore how we can understand the place of water in daily life in medieval cities, and how we can think about the relationship between natural resources, public use and private ownership.

### **Week 4: Thursday, 8 February**

Bethan Wallace, "Environmental History of the Wildlife of Yellowstone National Park"

Yellowstone National Park is the world's first national park, founded in 1872. Large predators were decimated in the park, and wolves eradicated, but wolves were returned in 1996 leading to a 'trophic cascade' effect which has been studied in great depth. This research examines whether the changes seen post wolf reintroduction in 1996 are restoring Yellowstone to its original state, and whether historical sources can be used for biological research.

### **Week 6: Thursday, 22 February**

Baruch Gilinsky, "Hills of Eternity?: Cemeteries and Urban Growth in 19<sup>th</sup> century San Francisco"

Cities are bustling metropolises, teeming with the living. But they are also necropolises, filled with the dead - in graveyards, churches, and cemeteries. This paper explores urban history from the perspective of the cemetery, taking as a case study San Francisco in the Nineteenth Century.

### **Latin and Ancient Greek Reading Group**

The Oxford Medieval Society will begin a new reading group for those wishing to read Latin and Ancient Greek. The reading group will alternate between Latin and Ancient Greek each week and, using texts with parallel translation, it is suitable for those with no knowledge of the language and those already familiar with these languages who wish to revisit relevant works. We hope to expand our understanding of these languages for the betterment of our own medieval studies by reading texts that are referenced or known of in the medieval world; please note that this is not a strict rule.



The group will have its first meeting Week 3, Tuesday January 30th 5-6pm, ground floor lecture room 2 at 47 Wellington Square. Ancient Greek will be read in odd weeks, and Latin in even weeks. Anyone from any background is welcome to attend. To register your interest, or for more information, please contact the society at [oxfordmedievalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordmedievalsociety@gmail.com)

## Opportunities

### Call For Social Media Contributions

Are you passionate about medieval studies and public engagement? Would you like to share your research with a wider audience? Oxford Medieval Studies is looking for volunteers at any and all career stages to share fun medieval facts and stories or the most interesting parts of their research in one-minute video clips that will be posted across all our social media channels. Get in touch with [ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk) for more details.

### Heritage Pathway Training Programme

[Heritage Pathway](#) is a series of training and engagement activities which run termly. Since 2015, Heritage Pathway has provided undergraduate and postgraduate students, along with Early Career Researchers at the University of Oxford with the skills, knowledge and confidence to engage effectively with a wide range of partners in the heritage, museums and cultural sector.

Heritage Pathway is designed and delivered by [Alice Purkiss](#) and [Dr Rachel Delman](#) and organised through the [Humanities Researcher Training and Development Programme](#). Sign up to this term's sessions, which are open to all students and ECRs with an Oxford SSO, here: [Heritage Pathway | TORCH | The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities](#)

### Micro-internship Opportunities with Heritage Organisations

For this term's micro-internship opportunities with Heritage organisations, including the National Trust, the London Charterhouse, English Heritage and others, see here: [The Micro-Internship Programme: Sector List | Oxford University Careers Service](#)

### Codicology Workshops

A series of workshops using the Bodleian Special Collections for postgraduate students of manuscripts covering topics of interest across Medieval/Early Modern Studies. The sessions are taught by Bodleian curators, researchers and conservators and include a focus on ink and pigment, writing surface, bindings, decoration and provenance. These sessions are offered to Medieval Studies, History and English.

Register for one or the whole series: e-mail [bookcentre@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:bookcentre@bodleian.ox.ac.uk), subject: Codicology workshop.

**Decoration & Illustration:** Martin Kauffman  
Wednesday 17 January, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library

**Provenance 1:** Matthew Holford  
Wednesday 31 January, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library

**Provenance 2** (calendars and dating systems): Laure Miolo  
Wednesday 14 February, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library

**Medieval libraries:** Professor Teresa Webber  
Tuesday 5 March, 2:30-4:30pm, Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre, Weston Library





CFP: Mystical Theology Network  
**Mysticism and Action**

St John's College, Oxford

19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

**Keynotes**

Joy Bostic (Case Western Reserve)

Tine van Osselaer (Antwerp)

Andrew Prevot (Georgetown)

Ben Morgan (Oxford)

Dylan Esler (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

Simon D. Podmore (Liverpool Hope)

Cole Arthur Riley (New York Times Bestselling Author)

**Mystics throughout history and across religious traditions have played seminal roles in the public sphere, in political activism, and social reform. Yet the relationship between mysticism and action remains contested.** This interdisciplinary conference brings together theologians, historians, philosophers, literary scholars, art historians, artists, psychologists and specialists in the areas of religion, gender and race to examine this dynamic and its importance for past and present theoretical considerations of mysticism. Artists are making important contributions to our understanding of this topic and the conference will dialogue with artistic and other practical responses.

In addition to the keynotes, there will be over 60 short 20 minute papers, discussing a wider range of themes, from medieval though to the modern days. Topics include, traditional and untraditional responses to Mary and Martha, bees and other busy animal imagery in mystical texts, Quietism and antinomianism, comparative religious approaches to contemplation, action, and non-action, politics and/or social action, Black Theology, Feminist Theology and Liberation Theology and negative work and other philosophical considerations, as well as other approaches to and interpretations of the theme.

Registration will follow shortly

For more information please email Louise Nelstrop

email: [louise.nelstrop@theology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:louise.nelstrop@theology.ox.ac.uk)



# COLSONOEL 2024

## REBIRTH RENEWAL RENAISSANCE



@ColsonoelSympo

After a four-year hiatus, we are excited to announce the rebirth of the **Cambridge, Oxford and London Symposium for Old Norse, Old English and Latin!**

This symposium will take place on **Friday 3 May** at **St. Hilda's College, University of Oxford.**

The aim of this symposium is to bring together and foster a shared academic community of graduate students from the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and the London group who are currently working in the fields of Old Norse, Old English and medieval Latin. In light of the rebirth of this symposium, applicants are invited to respond to this year's theme of Rebirth, Renewal and Renaissance. There is no limitation on topic choice and participants are invited to engage with the theme from any research angle.

We invite abstracts from postgraduates, both masters and PhDs, currently undertaking degrees or recently graduated from the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and from the London group. Papers will be twenty minutes in length and followed by questions.

Please submit abstracts of no more than 250 words with a short biography to **[colsonoelsymposium@gmail.com](mailto:colsonoelsymposium@gmail.com).**

**Deadline for abstract submissions is 31st January 2024.**

Bodleian Library MS. Bodl. 764, fol. 70v

## CFP: International Courtly Literature Society British and Irish Branch Conference 2024

Court Cultures: Texts and Contexts  
Trinity College, the University of Dublin  
18-19 June 2024

Following a Covid-imposed hiatus, we are delighted to invite proposals for the 2024 meeting of the ICLS (British and Irish Branch), hosted by the Trinity Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the French Department, Trinity College Dublin. Papers may address any aspect of court culture within an international framework and across a broad range of disciplines which interconnect with literature. Underpinning the conference will be the perennial questions: what is the place of the court in the construction of courtly culture? What is the relationship between the court writer and his/her subject? How do written texts relate to other forms of premodern culture? And how do we transmit, respond to and refashion courtly texts today? Quite apart from advancing scholarship in the field, the conference will be a welcome opportunity for scholars of courtly literature to develop their collaborative research networks.

We invite proposals in English or in French (maximum 200 words) for either 20-minute papers or full panels of three papers (each of 20 minutes duration) to be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday 16 February 2024 to Dr Sarah Alyn Stacey ([salynsta@tcd.ie](mailto:salynsta@tcd.ie)) and Dr Thomas Hinton ([T.G.Hinton@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:T.G.Hinton@exeter.ac.uk)). Acceptance of papers will be confirmed by Friday 1 March 2024.

## CFP: Brut in Bristol

Brut in Bristol

Thursday 27 June - Saturday 29 June 2024

The Centre for Medieval Studies at Bristol is very excited at the prospect of hosting the International Brut Conference, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

We invite proposals for 20-minute papers in English or French on the wider Brut tradition from all angles and disciplines, including medieval and Early Modern languages and literatures, and art, book, cultural, intellectual, political, religious, or any other kind of history. Proposals are welcome from academics at all career stages and from independent scholars.

For more information contact: [brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk)



### CALL FOR PAPERS **BRUT IN BRISTOL**

27-29 JUNE 2024  
ST JAMES' PRIORY, BRISTOL

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL BRUT  
STUDIES

CENTRE FOR MEDIEVAL STUDIES,  
UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

We invite proposals for 20-minute papers in English or French on the wider Brut tradition from all angles and disciplines, including medieval and Early Modern languages and literatures, and art, book, cultural, intellectual, political, religious, or any other kind of history. Proposals are welcome from academics at all career stages and from independent scholars.

Deadline for abstracts: 15/01/2024

Please send 200 word abstracts to:  
[brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk)



**Bodies and Boundaries**  
**HYBRID POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE**  
**11-12 April 2024**

Following the success of the 2023 'Identities, Communities and 'Imagined Communities'' Conference, we are delighted to invite you to the next installment of the longest-standing postgraduate conference in medieval studies: the 2024 'Bodies and Boundaries' PGR Conference.

This conference marks a significant milestone as we celebrate the 650th anniversary of Bristol's royal charter which makes the subject of embodiment in medieval contexts a highly topical theme. Imagining how past people moved within Bristol, analysing the spatial and sensory dimensions of medieval Bristol and considering how those people may have understood their bodies and environments provides a fascinating lens through which we can comprehend the medieval experience.

We welcome papers that consider bodies and boundaries across the Middle Ages, exploring theories and ideologies that underpin medieval embodiment. How did medieval individuals and communities comprehend the intricacies of their individual and collective bodies, and how did they draw the boundaries between them? How did people in the past view the complex boundary between the corporeal and the spiritual, material and immaterial? These are just some of the questions participants may consider for this conference.

**DEADLINE: 22 January 2024**

We encourage abstracts from postgraduates and early-career researchers, exploring aspects and approaches to bodies and boundaries in all relevant disciplines pertaining to the medieval period, broadly construed c.500- c.1500. Abstracts are 300 words for 20-minute papers. This year's conference will be a hybrid event, taking place both online and on the campus of the University of Bristol. Please indicate in your abstract whether you intend to participate in-person or online.

### Postgraduate Archival Skills Training at The National Archives

**19 to 20 March 2024** - [Skills and Methodology: Medieval & Early Modern](#)

Join us at The National Archives for this two-day archival workshop, which is designed to develop the skills and knowledge of students undertaking research on the Middle Ages and Early Modern period (c.1086-1782).

#### **Course outline**

Day One will focus on developing expertise in finding records at The National Archives and elsewhere. You will learn how best to use the Advanced Search functionality in Discovery, our catalogue, and what to do when online searches do not return you the results you expect. We will introduce key skills in handling, pagination and dating of records. The rest of the day will introduce you to key series at The National Archives that are relevant for premodern research, covering Chancery, Exchequer and Treasury, State Papers, and records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, covering medieval and early modern wills and probate.

Day Two will split the medieval and early modern groups, to focus on thematic research in these specialist areas. The medieval will cover law and justice, following individuals through the records, Special Collections and its nineteenth-century creation, and tracing hidden medieval voices. The early modern will cover the early modern state, early modern law and justice, maps and deeds, and the global early modern age. Both groups will then finish with a session on finding documents for your own research.

At the end of the course you will have increased confidence in your ability to find and access previously challenging medieval and early modern documents and to read their contents.

## Accessibility and Updates

Inside is the full programme of medieval events taking place in Oxford in Hilary Term 2024. The booklet does not claim to be comprehensive. It only includes such entries as were submitted. If you wish to have further information for the seminars listed in this booklet, please consult the name of the convener of the seminar (where given) or the appropriate Faculty.

Please send any entries for next term's booklet to Luisa Ostacchini at [luisa.ostacchini@ell.ox.ac.uk](mailto:luisa.ostacchini@ell.ox.ac.uk). Any suggestions: get in contact with Henrike Lähnemann, Lesley Smith or Luisa Ostacchini, either via email or via twitter [@OxMedStud](https://twitter.com/OxMedStud). Blog entries to go up on the website are also welcome - email [medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk)

What is happening:

- A shared calendar on the website on <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/> and [torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies](https://torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies)
- Regular email updates via the mailing list [medieval-news@maillist.ox.ac.uk](mailto:medieval-news@maillist.ox.ac.uk); if you are not on the list, you can also **sign up on the website** [torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies](https://torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies). Should you know of any medievalist new to Oxford - whether student, staff, or academic visitor - please also alert them to the list.
- Podcasts and videos about medievalists and medieval projects on the podcast and itunes server of the University [podcasts.ox.ac.uk](https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk)
- And finally: weekly coffee mornings in the Visiting Scholars Centre of the Weston Library!



**OxMedievalStudies**  
@OxMedStud · Folgt dir

OxMS is the interdisciplinary platform for medieval studies across Oxford supported by @TORCHOxford Follow us for events & knowledge exchange across disciplines

📍 Oxford, England  
🌐 [torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies](https://torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies)

**Medievalists  
Coffee Morning!  
Friday 10:30-11:30**

**Visiting  
Scholars Centre  
in the Weston Library.**

Access via the Readers Entrance on Museum Road  
**All medievalists working in Oxford welcome!**