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THE OXFORD RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE HUMANITIES



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## 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

Michaelmas Term 2023

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

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St John's College Oxford, MS. 61, fol. 15 v.  
By permission of the President and Fellows of St John's College,  
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[Viewable in full at Digital Bodleian](#)

Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme for Michaelmas Term 2023!	3
Events	4
All Souls Library Open Day	4
Gifts and Books at the Weston Library	5
Merton History of the Book Group	6
Early-printed books from Ukraine: Treasures from the Bodleian	6
Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland Lecture	8
Seminars	9
Celtic Seminars	9
Medieval English Research Seminar	9
Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar	10
Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music	10
Medieval French Research Seminar	11
Medieval German Seminar	12
Medieval History Seminar	12
Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar	13
Medieval Visual Culture Seminar	14
Reading Groups and Societies	15
Old Occitan Reading Group	15
Old Norse Reading Group	16
Anglo-Norman Reading Group	16
Medieval Latin Manuscript Reading Group	16
Medieval Latin Document Reading Group	16

Queer and Trans Medievalisms: A Reading and Research Group.....	17
Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group .....	17
Environmental History Working Group.....	18
Opportunities .....	19
Call For Social Media Contributions.....	19
Bodleian Library Workshops.....	19
Codicology Workshops .....	19
Teaching with manuscripts.....	19
CFP: Brut in Bristol .....	20
Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference 2024 .....	21
Medieval Germany Workshop .....	20
Accessibility and Updates .....	21

## Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme for Michaelmas Term 2023!

Welcome to the Medieval Booklet for Michaelmas Term 2023! I am delighted to be returning as your Communications Officer for the third year in a row. For those of you returning to Oxford: welcome back. For those of you new to Oxford, I'd like to extend a warm welcome on behalf of everyone at OMS. You are now a part of the largest interdisciplinary community of medievalists in the world, consisting of over 200 members of staff and a huge number of graduate students. The Oxford medievalist community is incredible in its size and diversity of scope, and whether you are here for a short time or the rest of your career, I hope that you enjoy being a part of this remarkable interdisciplinary community.

In a letter to Edith, an English noblewoman who joined the religious life after the Norman invasion, Aldhelm, Archbishop of Canterbury, writes: "nolite considerare tantum quid faciatis, sed quid velitis" (Do not consider only what you do but what you intend to do). This seems pertinent for a number of reasons. Firstly, that OMS centres interdisciplinary communication and work: I encourage you to peruse the following booklet at your leisure, and enjoy many events and groups that take place outside of 'what you do'! Secondly, we have, once again, a smorgasbord of happenings on offer this term: this booklet, alongside the weekly email newsletter, aims to help you keep track of 'what you intend to do'. For the very latest news and updates throughout the term, you can also check out our blog ([medieval.ox.ac.uk](https://medieval.ox.ac.uk)) and our various social media accounts [@OxfordMedievalStudies](https://twitter.com/OxfordMedievalStudies).

I'm looking forward to being your guide to the term's events and celebrating and disseminating news of all of your wonderful conferences, seminars and reading groups. Please do get in touch with any queries, or if you wish to contribute a post to our blog. In the meantime, I wish you a term of exciting research discoveries, interdisciplinary communication, and community.

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

[intro from Henrike and Lesley]

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



All Souls Library Open Day



No booking  
needed!

# Open Day for Oxford Students

WEDNESDAY, WEEK 1  
11TH OCTOBER 2023

10AM-12PM & 1PM-5PM

Would you like to apply to be a Reader?  
Come and see the Library!

Entrance via Catte Street with your University Card.

No food & drink.  
For today only, photography allowed!

More details:





EXHIBITION

## Gifts and Books

16 June – 29 October 2023

ST Lee, Weston Library

Free admission

### About the exhibition

The giving and receiving of gifts is fundamental to human societies.

Drawing on material from ancient Sumerian writing tablets to contemporary fiction for children, *Gifts and Books* will explore the importance of gift-giving through books and across time, and how this apparently simple act reveals wider interactions, relationships and belief systems.

Generosity. Power. Reverence. Love. Struggle. Obligation.

Come and explore the meaning of gifts, exchange and the stories we tell about them.

### Curator

This exhibition is curated by Dr Nicholas Perkins, Associate Professor and Tutor in English, St Hugh's College, University of Oxford

### Exhibition tours

*Gifts and Books* exhibition tours are available on Wednesdays and some Saturdays from 2 - 2.45pm and are open to all. These free gallery tours are led by our dedicated volunteer team. Booking is essential, as places are limited. You do not need to book a tour to visit the exhibition. Please meet by the entrance doors to 'Gifts and Books' at the rear of Blackwell Hall.

### Gifts and Books Day, Saturday 21 October 2023

10.30am-3.30pm, at the Weston Library. Free, just drop in!

- Contribute to our giant collaborative artwork and print your own themed keepsake.
- Dare you have a blind date with a book?
- Make a pop-up card and give a story inside
- Take a tour of [Gifts and Books](#) with exhibition curator, Dr Nicholas Perkins
- Discover how books transform lives with charity Give a Book: Prison Reading Groups
- 10% discount on the [Gifts and Books exhibition book](#) on the day in the Bodleian shop.



Thursday 2 November 2023

Time: 17:00

Location: Merton College, T S Eliot Lecture Theatre

## "A Book for a Boy? A New Look at the Bodley Alexander."

Professor Sarah McNamer, Georgetown University



Bodleian Library MS Bodley 264, fol. 3r detail

The splendidly-illuminated Bodley Alexander, which makes up the first and most substantial part of Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Bodley 264 is one of the most celebrated and delightful books to survive from late medieval Europe. Through a new reading of the bas-de-page scenes and the detection of an embedded game hidden within the decorative programme, this talk presents evidence that the book was made for a young prince. The book can thus be regarded not only as a multimodal *speculum principis* for a boy, but a medieval version of a modern picturebook genre for children, the search-and-find book.

The talk will be followed by refreshments.

All are welcome; please RSVP to [julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk)

## Early-printed books from Ukraine: Treasures from the Bodleian



Monday 30 October 2023 (Week 4), 1-2pm, Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre, Weston Library

This public talk is programmed in partnership with the Oxford University Ukrainian Society. A selection of the Bodleian's holdings of early-printed books from Ukraine, including the oldest Ukrainian book, the *Apostolos* of 1574.

All welcome. Registration details to come, on [visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

The Taylor Editions present in several series original work by Oxford-based scholars working with the collections at Oxford. In Michaelmas there are two book launches

Wednesday 18 October 2023

Time: 17:00-18:00

Location: Taylor Institution Library, Room 2

## The Lailashi Codex. The Crown of Georgian Jewry

Dr Thea Gomelaury

For Volume 6 of the series 'Cultural Memory', Thea Gomelaury presents the Lailashi Codex, an ancient Masoretic manuscript (NCM Ms. Ebr. 3), which belongs to the exclusive group of the Hebrew biblical manuscripts known as Vavei Ha'Amudim (words beginning with the letter vav should be the first words on each leaf of the manuscript except for the six cases defined by the scribal tradition).



This is combined with a small exhibition of Georgian and Hebrew material. The presentation will be hybrid; registration details for zoom will be posted on <https://historyofthebook.mml.ox.ac.uk/lailashi-codex/>

Friday 27 October 2023

Time: 17:00-18:30

Location: Taylor Institution Library, Room 2

## Monk-Calf and Nuns on the Run. Two Reformation Pamphlets from 1523

Florian Gieseler, Emma Huber, Henrike Lähnemann, Timothy Powell & team

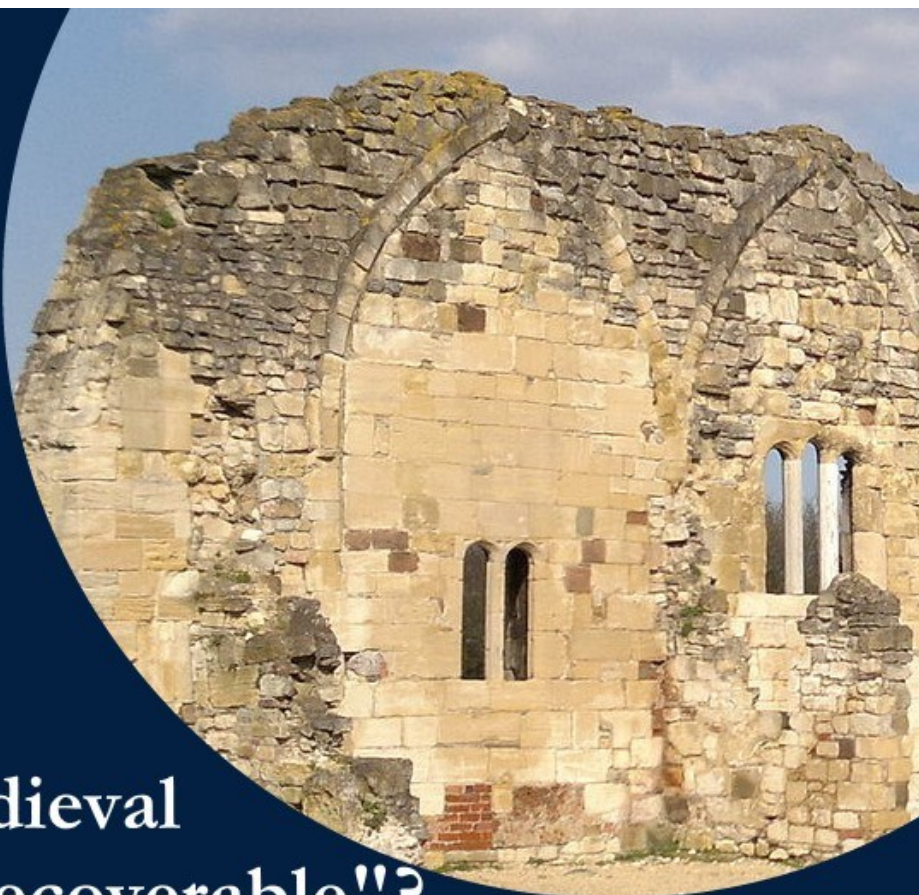


For Volume 6 of the series 'Reformation Pamphlet', a team of Germanists have edited two Reformation pamphlets from 1523 held in the Taylorian by Martin Luther, dealing with the question whether monks and nuns should leave their monastic houses: *Deutung der greulichen Figur des Mönchkalbs* (Interpretation of the Gruesome Figure of the Monk-calf) and *Ursach und Antwort, dass Jungfrauen Klöster göttlich verlassen mögen* ('Reason and Justification Why it Pleases God that Nuns May Leave Their Convents').

The launch will be linked with an exhibition in the Voltaire Room of late medieval and early modern monsters.



## Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland



# Are Early Medieval Women "Unrecoverable"?

Wednesday, 29 November  
12:00 - Russell Room at Balliol

**Dr Janina Ramirez FRSA FRHistS**

Research Fellow in the History of Art, Harris Manchester College

In this talk, Dr Ramirez will discuss how early medieval women like Æthelflæd, Cynethryth, St Hilda and more, have been overwritten, written out, or ignored across the centuries. By looking differently at the sources, and drawing on a wide range of evidence, from coins to ruins, DNA analysis to archaeological excavations, she will argue that medieval women are hidden in plain sight.

Everyone is welcome! Refreshments provided.



## Seminars

### Celtic Seminars

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. When in person, they are in the History of the Book Room in the English Faculty, Manor Road. 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.

12 October CAWCS (online)

Martin Crampin (CAWCS): Emblems of the Past: saints, stained glass and early medieval antiquities

19 October Oxford (hybrid)

Chantal Kobel (DIAS) Secret writing and abstruse language in medieval Irish lawyers' books

26 October CAWCS (hybrid at the Drwm, NLW)

Harkaitz Zubiri Esnaola (Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU), Hezkuntza, Filosofia eta Antropologia Fakultatea)

Making Basque accessible to all: exploring successful actions aimed at effective teaching and learning the language in schools

2 November Oxford (hybrid)

Stuart Dunmore (Edinburgh): Language acquisition motivations and identity orientations among Scottish Gaelic diasporas in Nova Scotia and New England

9 November CAWCS (hybrid at the Drwm, NLW, with translation) 5.00-8.00pm

CAWCS and the National Library of Wales present an evening of talks, readings and performances to mark the tercentenary of Richard Price, Llangainor - one of Wales's most radical and influential thinkers

16 November Oxford (online)

Myriah Williams (Berkeley): Beginnings and endings: Moli Duw yn Nechrau a Diwedd and Cyntefin Ceinaf Amser

23 November CAWCS (online)

Sara Elin Roberts (Chester): "O'r llyvrev gorev a kavas": Cynnull y Llyfrau Cyfraith

30 November Oxford (hybrid)

Oliver Currie (Ljubljana)

The linguistic testimony of Early Modern Welsh manuscript sermons

### Medieval English Research Seminar

Convenors: Prof. Marion Turner and Dr Mark Williams

Seminars take place on Tuesdays at 12.15. All seminars apart from that in 3rd week will take place in Lecture Theatre 2, with a sandwich lunch provided afterwards. The seminar in 3rd week will take place in the Weston Library Lecture Theatre. All welcome!

1st week (October 10):

Prof. David Wallace (University of Pennsylvania), 'National Epics [nationalepics.com]: the Elusive Case of England'

2nd week (October 17):

Victoria MacKenzie, 'Imagining Margery and Julian: a reading and Q and A'

3rd week (October 24, in the Weston Library Lecture Theatre and S T Lee Gallery)

Prof. Nicholas Perkins (St Hugh's), 'Gifts and Books' (talk and exhibition)

4th week (October 31):

Dr Rachel A. Burns (Hertford), 'Hidden Things: A Biblical Context for the Exeter Book Riddles'

5th week (November 7): Double Bill:

Sigrid Koerner (Jesus College), 'Christ's Burial on the Late Medieval Stage'

Shelley Williams (Jesus College), "'Hevenysh Revolucious": The Complaint of Mars in motion'

6th week (November 14):

Prof. Helen Fulton (University of Bristol), 'Urban Humanism and Chaucer's House of Fame'

### Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar

The Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group and Seminar Series meet to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the medieval period. We will be holding both the more informal reading group as well as two research seminars this term. The theme for Michaelmas 2023 is 'Letters and Correspondence.'

Please email [katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk) to be added to the mailing list and get texts in advance, or to find out more.

Thursdays of week 3 and 5, 5pm-6.30pm, Lincoln College

3<sup>rd</sup> Week (26.10.23) *Oakeshott Room*: The Lüne Letters: Late Medieval Female Correspondence (Dr Lena Vosding, Linacre College)

5<sup>th</sup> Week (9.11.23) *Lower Lecture Room*: Tracing Women's Correspondence in Late Antiquity (Mary Hitchman, Wolfson College)

Convenors: Katherine Smith [katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk) and Marlene Schilling [marlene.schilling@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:marlene.schilling@lincoln.ox.ac.uk)



*Bodleyan Libraries Oxford MS. Lat. liturg. f. 4, fol. 31r*

### Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music

We are pleased to announce the seminars for Michaelmas Term 2023. The seminars are all held via Zoom on Thursdays at 5 p.m. British Time (BST for the first seminar, GMT for the others). 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). Please note, this address will now be the main point of contact for these seminars.

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

#### 19 October 2023, 5pm-7pm BST

Presenter: Sam Barrett (University of Cambridge): 'Newly Discovered Aquitanian Polyphony from c. 1100'  
Discussants: Andreas Haug (University of Würzburg) and Margot Fassler (University of Notre Dame).

This paper will present organa for four metra from Boethius' *De consolatione Philosophiae* recently discovered in the margins of an Aquitanian manuscript copied c. 1100. It will show that the principal voices relate to the wider tradition of sung Boethian metra and that the organal voices were generated in accordance with principles outlined in theory treatises written towards the end of the eleventh century. The new find expands the number of recoverable melodies for Boethian metra, augments the number of surviving examples of organa consistent with the *Ad organum faciendum* group of treatises, and extends understanding of early medieval practices of singing non-liturgical versus. The successive disposition of the organum mirrors notational practices used in the earliest layers of Aquitanian polyphony, prompting reconsideration of the implications of surviving neumatic notations for non-liturgical lyric verse and consideration of the possibility that another Aquitanian notation dating from c. 1100 records organum for one of Horace's Odes. It will be proposed, finally, that non-liturgical song traditions provide a previously overlooked background to the New Song.

#### 2 November 2023, 5pm-7pm GMT

Presenter: Jane Bernstein (Tufts University): 'Music Printing in Rome during the Long Sixteenth Century'  
Discussants: Bonnie J. Blackburn (Oxford) and Noel O'Regan (University of Edinburgh).

Rome ranked second only to Venice as a center for music book production in Renaissance Italy. Yet unlike their Venetian counterparts, who standardized their music publications, Roman printers



experimented more readily and more consistently with the materiality of their books. Emphasizing the exceptionalism of Roman music publishing, this talk highlights the innovative printing technologies and book forms devised by bookmen in the Eternal City. By drawing on landmark publications, it reveals a synergistic relationship between music repertoires and the materiality of the book, particularly during the post-Tridentine period, when musical idioms, both new and old, challenged printers to employ alternative printing methods and modes of book presentation in the creation of their music editions.

### **30 November 2023, 5pm-7pm GMT**

Presenter: Peter Lefferts (University of Nebraska): 'Disiecta Membra Musicae: A new facsimile edition of music manuscript fragments from 14th-Century England'

Discussants: Andrew Wathey (The National Archives / University of Northumbria) and Jared Hartt (Oberlin College).

A volume of facsimiles of English fourteenth-century polyphonic music in preparation for the series *Early English Church Music* is intended to supersede Harrison and Wibberley, *Manuscripts of Fourteenth Century English Polyphony* (EECM 26, 1981). It will fill the current gap between Summers and Lefferts, *English Thirteenth Century Polyphony* (EECM 57, 2016) and Bent and Wathey, *Fragments of English Polyphonic Music c. 1390-1475* (EECM 62, 2022). As in the latter two, leaves will be reproduced in colour, mostly at full size, and in their original order; further, about twice as many sources will be reproduced as in the 1981 book. This talk will address some of the most interesting features of the relevant new sources uncovered in the last 45 years, consider questions about provenance that have been raised by scholarship on the codices housing these musical fragments in their bindings, and offer a taste of the discoveries yielded by the use of modern research tools, from basic internet text searching to high-resolution digital and multi-spectral imaging. In addition, the repertoire of the extraordinary Dorset rotulus will serve as the point of departure for remarks about what is new in our picture of 14th-century English music.

Advance Notice for Hilary Term 2024

25 January 2024, 5pm-7pm GMT

Presenter: Susan Forscher Weiss (Peabody Institute and Johns Hopkins University): 'Roman de Volvelles: A Story of Revolving Diagrams in Early Modern Quadrivial Texts'

Discussants: Mary Carruthers and Michael Dodds.

### **15 February 2024, 5pm-7pm GMT**

Presenter: Johanna-Pauline Thöne (University of Oslo): 'New Interpretations and Contexts for the Motet Fragments Basel 71 and 72 (ca. 1400)'

Discussants: Kévin Roger and Anne Stone.

### **7 March 2024, 5pm-7pm GMT**

Presenter: Barbara Haggh-Huglo (University of Maryland at College Park): 'Guillaume Du Fay between the Church and Two Courts: Proposals for a Revised Biography'

Discussants: Anne Robertson and Reinhard Strohm.

## **Medieval French Research Seminar**

The seminars will take place on Tuesdays at the Maison Francaise d'Oxford on Norham Road (<https://www.mfo.ac.uk/>). Drinks will be available from 5pm; presentations start at 5.15pm. All are welcome!

Convenors: Prof Daron Burrows (St Peter's), Prof Sophie Marnette (Balliol), and Prof Helen Swift (St Hilda's)

For more information or to be added to the seminar maillist, please contact [helen.swift@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk](mailto:helen.swift@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk)

Week 1 (10 Oct) Laura Endress (Zurich)

'Missing links or contaminated witnesses? Exploring the manuscript tradition of the Suite-Vulgate du Merlin'

Week 5 (7 Nov) Luke Sunderland (Durham)

'"They travel together like knights": Social Animals in Medieval French Encyclopaedias'

Week 7 (21 Nov) Miranda Griffin (Cambridge):

'Don't look now: missing images and prohibited vision in Bodley 445'

## Medieval German Seminar

Wednesdays, 11.15-12:45, Somerville College

Theme: Konrad Fleck, Flore und Blancheflur

Convenors: Henrike Lähnemann, Almut Suerbaum, Annette Volting

In Michaelmas Term, we are going to discuss the forthcoming study edition by Christine Putzo of Konrad Fleck's 'Flore und Blancheflur'. We will meet in Almut Suerbaum's office in Somerville College. Further information and reading recommendations via the teams channel; if you want to be added to that: please [email Henrike Lähnemann](mailto:henrike.laehnemann@somerville.ox.ac.uk).

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

Image: Blancheflur at sea, [UB Heidelberg cpg 362, fol. 48r](#) (Diebolt Lauber Workshop)



## Medieval History Seminar

Mondays at 5pm in the 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	Andrew Jotischky (RHUL)
9 October	Graze, Forage, Cook: authenticity and authority in medieval monastic reform
Week 2	Sumner Braund (History of Science Museum, Oxford)
16 October	A Measure of Monastic Reform? New saints, ancient saints, and the re-forming of monastic communities in late 10 <sup>th</sup> -century England
Week 3	Matthew Kempshall (Wadham)
23 October	Dante's Political Theology
Week 4	Meia Walravens (Trinity)
30 October	Networked Diplomacy: the Bahmani Sultanate in the Islamic world (ca. 1475)
Week 5	Alison Ray (St Peter's College and Bodleian Library)
6 November	The Pecia System and the Medieval Oxford Book Trade
Week 6	Liesbeth van Houts (Emmanuel, Cambridge)
13 November	Towards a New Biography of Empress Matilda: what can be known about the women around her?
Week 7	Nadine Viermann (Durham)
20 November	Translating Holiness: Relics and the Dynamics of Empire in the Late Antique Mediterranean
Week 8	Rory Naismith (Corpus, Cambridge),
27 November	Coined Money in the Early Middle Ages: did it matter?

Convenors: Julia Smith (on leave), Lesley Smith, Dave Addison, John Merrington, Laure Miolo, Benjamin Thompson



## Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

WEDNESDAYS at 17:00 (UK Time) The Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies 66 St Giles and online via Microsoft Teams [by clicking here](#).

Conveners: Ine Jacobs, Ida Toth

11 October

Stratis Papaioannou, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens

Portraits of the Reader during the Middle Byzantine Period

18 October SPECIAL OCBR LECTURE

Adrian Jusupovic, The Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Byzantine Princess Ruling Rus

25 October

Miranda Williams, Tim Penn and Ine Jacobs, Oxford University

More than “the last monument of Byzantine rule in Cyrenaica”. Taucheira in Late Antiquity

1 November

Michael Hanaghan, Australian Catholic University

Future Perfect? The Ontology of the Future in Sidonius’ Imperial Panegyrics

8 November

Georgi Parpulov, Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities, and Dimitris Skrekas, University of London/Oxford University

Positions of Considerable Emolument: Cataloguing Greek Manuscripts in Oxford

15 November

Mike Humphries, Oxford University

Punitive Mutilation in Byzantine Law: The case of nose amputation in Byzantium and beyond

22 November

Paolo Sachet, L’Institut d’histoire de la Réformation, Geneva

The Greek Fathers in Print: the AGAPE Database and the Early Modern Patristic Editions

29 November

Peter Bara, The Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest

Translators, Patrons, Scholars: Greek Texts in Latin Translations from Production to Audience, ca. 1050-1350

## Medieval Visual Culture Seminar

Convenors: Elena Lichmanova ([elena.lichmanova@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elena.lichmanova@merton.ox.ac.uk)) Gervase Rosser, Martin Kauffmann, Hannah Skoda

**Theme: Sacred Space**

**St Catherine's College, Oxford, Arumugam Building**  
**Thursdays 5 pm (Except for Wednesday 18 October)**  
**All welcome!**



Week 2            Giosuè Fabiano | Courtauld Institute of Art

18 October    'Illuminavit hunc diem': Natural Lighting, Liturgical Time  
and Frescoes in late Medieval Italian Churches

Week 4            John Munns | Cambridge University

2 November    Topographical Realism in Winchester's Holy Sepulchre

Week 6            Liz James | University of Sussex

16 November   The Remembrance of God': Theologising Wall Mosaics

Week 8            Alexandra Gajewski | The Burlington Magazine

30 November   Theodechilde, Potentin and Osanna: Saints and Cult at Jouarre Abbey in the Middle Ages



## Reading Groups and Societies

### Old Occitan Reading Group

Dates: Thursdays, Odd Weeks (Oct 12, 26, Nov 9, 23)

Time: 5-6pm

Location: St Hugh's College, 74 Woodstock Road, Office A4

The Old Occitan reading group welcomes anyone interested in reading and researching texts in Old Occitan. The group will provide practice for both beginners and returning readers of Old Occitan texts.

In Michaelmas, we will work through a programme of set texts, to build language competence for beginners and allow those already familiar with the poetic tradition to revisit classic works. In Hilary term, we will read extracts from *novas* and other forms of text written in Old Occitan.

Trinity Term will be based around texts suggested by reading 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.



M. 819, f. 55r. Pierpont Morgan Library, New York. Catalogue Description: "Within initial T, Folquet de Marseille as bishop, wearing miter and fur-lined garment."

#### Meeting 1 – Is this... *Fin'amor*?

Jaufre Rudel (1125-48): Vida, "Lanquand li jorn son loc en mai"

Bernart de Ventadorn (1147-70): Vida, "Can vei la lauzeta mover"

#### Meeting 2 – The Dawn Song: Just Five Minutes More

Giraut de Bornelh (1162-1199): Vida, "Reis glorios", "Per solhatz revelhar"

Anon., "En un vergier sutz fuella d'albespi"

#### Meeting 3 – Sad! Songs for Disappointed Men

Raimbaut D'Aurenga (1147-173), Vida, "Ar resplan la flors enversa"

Peirol (1188-1222) – Vida, "Per dan que d'amor mi veigna"

#### Meeting 4 – Making a Tradition: Celebration and Satire

Peire d'Alvernhe (1149-68): Vida, "Cantarai d'aquestz trobadors"

Lo Monge de Montaudon (1193-1210): Vida, "Pus Peire d'Alvernh' a cantat"

To **sign up**, and to optionally suggest an Old Occitan text for Hilary and 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) (She/They)

**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.

## Old Norse Reading Group

The Old Norse Reading Group will take place from 5:30-7pm on Mondays of even weeks (starting on October 16). We'll be translating a range of exciting Old Norse texts, along with occasional movie nights! To join the mailing list, email [ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

## Anglo-Norman Reading Group

The Anglo-Norman Reading Group will meet fortnightly, in person and on Zoom, in odd weeks of term (Fridays 13th and 27th October, 10th and 24th November), in the Julia Mann Room, St Hilda's College, 5:00 - 6.30 pm.

Wine and soft drinks will be provided, thanks to St Hilda's.



We shall be reading extracts from the Anglo-Norman Voyage of Brendan, with an introduction in 1st week by Michael Angerer. Texts will be posted and accessible on Padlet, with reminders sent out fortnightly. All welcome, whatever your level; beginners are offered plenty of help and encouragement, insight from all disciplines enjoyed.

Please let us know if you would like to attend, either in person or on Zoom; reminders including the Zoom link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

To register interest, or for more information, please contact Jane Bliss <[jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org](mailto:jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org)> and/or Stephanie <[stephanie.hathaway@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.hathaway@gmail.com)>

## Medieval Latin Manuscript Reading Group

**Medieval Latin manuscript reading group** is back, Mondays during term, 1-2pm on Teams. A friendly venue to practice your Latin and palaeography on a range of texts and scripts over the year. We'll start with an 11<sup>th</sup> century copy of the Colloquies of Aelfric Bata. Sign up to the mailing list to receive weekly updates and Teams invites. <https://web.maillist.ox.ac.uk/ox/info/medieval-latin-ms-reading>

## Medieval Latin Document Reading Group

The Medieval Latin Document Reading Group continues to meet on Teams at 4-5pm. 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.



## Queer and Trans Medievalisms: A Reading and Research Group

**Michaelmas:** Mondays at 3pm, weeks 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Univ



This informal reading group will explore queer and trans themes in medieval texts—as well as the modern texts that draw inspiration from them. In Michaelmas, we'll be thinking about how modern writers and artists have reimagined medieval queerness and transness, putting them in dialogue with some of the texts we explored in 2022-2023.

**Week 2: Transpoetics.** Jos Charles' *feeld* (2018) and Julian Talamantez Brolaski's *Of Mongrelitude* (2017) | medieval lyrics (13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c)

**Week 4: Transing knighthood.** kari edwards' *dôNrm'-lä-püsl* (2017) | the trial of Joan of Arc (1431)

**Week 5: Queer anachronisms.** Robert Glück's *Margery Kempe* (1994) | *The Book of Margery Kempe* (early 15<sup>th</sup> c)

**Week 6: Queer adaptations.** Alex Myers' *The Story of Silence* (2020) | *Le roman de silence* (13<sup>th</sup> c)

**Week 7: blood, saints, leprosy, AIDS.** The medievalisms of Derek Jarman (1942-1994)

**Week 8: Florilegium.** Bring in your own queer medievalisms to discuss! W. H. Auden! Leslie Feinberg! BBC Merlin! Lil Nas X's

'Montero (Call Me By Your Name)!' Endless possibilities!

All extremely welcome! To join the mailing list and get texts in advance, or if you have any questions, email [rowan.wilson@univ.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rowan.wilson@univ.ox.ac.uk)

## Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group

The Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group and Seminar Series meet to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the medieval period. We will be holding both the more informal reading group as well as two research seminars this term. The theme for Michaelmas 2023 is 'Letters and Correspondence.'

Please email [katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.smith@lincoln.ox.ac.uk) to be added to the mailing list and get texts in advance, or to find out more.

Thursdays of even weeks, 3pm-4pm, Lincoln College (Lower Lecture Room)

We are an informal, friendly reading group that meet to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the Middle Ages. We will meet at Lincoln College, meeting at the lodge and walking together to the seminar room. Everyone is welcome, regardless of discipline and level.

2<sup>nd</sup> Week (19.10.23): Epistolary networks around Hildegard of Bingen

4<sup>th</sup> Week (02.11.23): Royal Networks and Letters in late medieval Iberia

6<sup>th</sup> Week (16.11.23): The *Epistole* of Catherine of Siena

8<sup>th</sup> Week (30.11.23): Christine de Pizan's *Epistre a la reine*



Bodleian Libraries Oxford MS. Lat.  
liturg. f. 4, fol. 31r

## Environmental History Working Group

**History Faculty, Gerry Martin Room 12:30pm to 2:00pm**

Week 2 (Thursday, 19th Oct): Ryan Mealiffe, “Clay Accumulators (Pigs and Piggy Banks): Intersections of Material Culture, Environment, and Symbolism in Majapahit Java and the Early Medieval West”

Week 4 (Thursday, 2nd Nov): Aryaman Gupta, “Ecology and nonhuman agency between ‘A Thousand Plateaus’ and Chernobyl”

Week 6 (Thursday, 16th Nov): Dr. Jennifer Oliver, “Mineral Matters: Materials, Making, and Early Modern French Literature”

Week 7 (Thursday, 23rd Nov): Discussion with Dr. Venus Bivar, Associate Professor of Environmental History post-1750 (History Faculty, room TBD)

For further information, please contact [ryan.mealiffe@wolfson.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ryan.mealiffe@wolfson.ox.ac.uk)

## 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.

### Bodleian Library Workshops

#### Codicology Workshops

25 October, 15 November and 29 November, 1:30-3pm, Horton Seminar Room\*, Weston Library.

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.

Wednesday 25 October, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library  
Ink and pigments: Robert Minte and Céline Delattre

Wednesday 15 November, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library  
Writing surfaces and quires: Matthew Holford and Andrew Honey

Wednesday 29 November, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library  
Bindings: Andrew Hone

Wednesday 17 January, 1:30-3pm, Horton Room, Weston Library  
Decoration

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

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

Wednesday 28 February, 1:30-3pm, Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre, Weston Library  
Medieval libraries: Professor Tessa Webber

#### Teaching with manuscripts

Monday 4 Dec. (week 9), Horton Room, Weston Library, 2-3.30pm.

This workshop is for anyone involved in small-group teaching who is considering incorporating medieval manuscript material in their classes. We will cover the practicalities of arranging classes and selecting material and explore what works and doesn't work in the classroom.

Contact [matthew.holford@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.holford@bodleian.ox.ac.uk) or [andrew.dunning@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:andrew.dunning@bodleian.ox.ac.uk) to register.





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)

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. <https://medievalstudies.blogs.bristol.ac.uk/brut-in-bristol/> For more information contact: [brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:brut-conference2024@bristol.ac.uk)



Medieval Germany  
Workshop

Organised by the German  
Historical Institute  
London in co-operation  
with the German

Historical Institute Washington and the German History Society, to be held in London.

This one-day workshop on the history of medieval Germany (broadly defined) will provide an opportunity for researchers in the field from the UK, continental Europe, and the USA to meet in a relaxed and friendly setting and to learn more about each other's work. Proposals for short papers of 10-15 minutes are invited from researchers at all career stages with an interest in any aspect of the history of medieval Germany. Participants are encouraged to concentrate on presenting work in progress, highlighting research questions and approaches, and pointing to yet unresolved challenges of their projects. Presentations will be followed by a discussion.

Attendance is free, which includes lunch, but costs for travel and accommodation cannot be reimbursed. Doctoral students from North America (USA and Canada) who wish to present at the workshop, however, can apply for two travel grants provided by the German Historical Institute Washington. Please express your interest in this grant in your application. Support for postgraduate and early career researchers from the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland is available on a competitive basis, subject to eligibility requirements: postgraduate members of the German History Society currently registered for a higher degree at a university in the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, and those who have completed a PhD within two years of the deadline for application but who have no other institutional sources of funding may apply for up to £150 for travel and accommodation.

Please see the GHS website for further information and application deadlines.

Please send your proposal, which must include a title, an abstract of c.200 words, and a biographical note of no more than c.100 words, to Marcus Meer: [m.meer@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:m.meer@ghil.ac.uk). Questions about all aspects of the workshop can also be sent to Len Scales: [l.e.scales@durham.ac.uk](mailto:l.e.scales@durham.ac.uk)

Students and researchers interested in medieval German history are also very welcome to attend and listen to the presentations. There is no charge for attendance, but pre-booking is essential. If you would like to attend as a guest, please contact Julian Triandafyllou: [j.triandafyllou@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:j.triandafyllou@ghil.ac.uk)  
The deadline for proposal submissions is 20 December 2023.



## Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference 2024

The Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference will be returning in 2024 with the theme of 'Signs & Scripts', and we are looking for **new committee members**, including a **new conference Chair**! If interested, contact Ashley Castelino at [ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ashley.castelino@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

Do also follow us on Twitter [@OxMedGradConf](https://twitter.com/OxMedGradConf) and see our website and blog at [oxgradconf.wixsite.com/omgc](https://oxgradconf.wixsite.com/omgc)!

(image © Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, MS. Rawlinson C. 28 f. 3r)

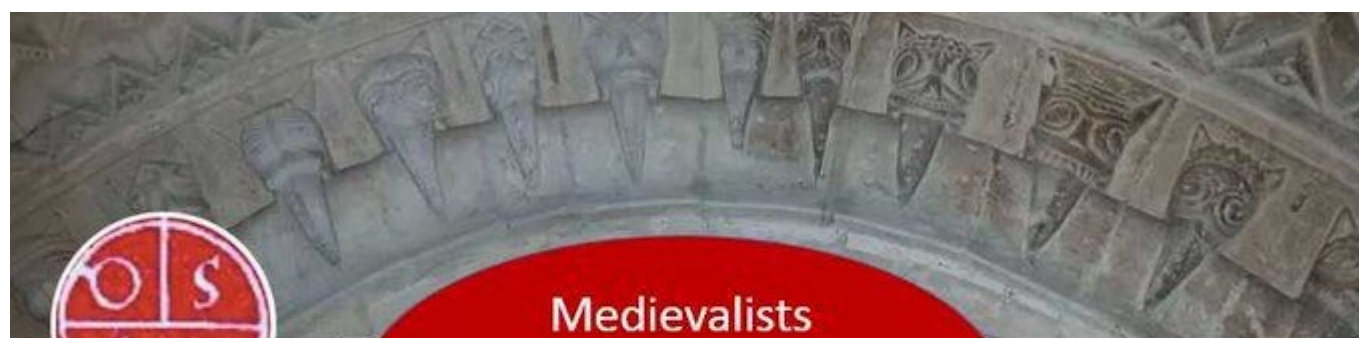
## Accessibility and Updates

Inside is the full programme of medieval events taking place in Oxford in Michaelmas Term 2023. 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**

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**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!**