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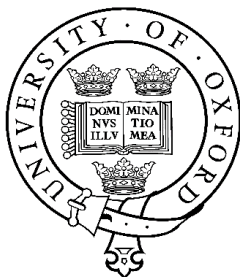
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THE OXFORD RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE HUMANITIES



DRAFT

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 2026



Up-to-date calendar of all events on
torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies

Follow us on social media
<https://beacons.ai/oxfordmedievalstudies>

Please send updates and queries to medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk





From the cover of Emily Winkler's ['Pocket Bayeux Tapestry'](#) (launching October 2026)

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Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme Michaelmas 2026!

A group of medievalists led by Marion Turner and John Fulljames, the director of the cultural programme, have been preparing for a Medieval Afterlives, a Cultural Programme season taking place in Trinity Term 2028. This will include visiting artists such as Lauren Groff, an expanded version of the Medieval Mystery Cycle, and many more events. Part of it will be smaller projects curated by medievalists around Oxford. You are therefore invited to submit [proposals for projects](#) (full call below under opportunities) which explore the relationship between the medieval past and contemporary creativity for up to £10,000. Projects might include talks, workshops, literature, spoken word, craft, dance, drama, music, film, or other forms of creative and cultural activity. Particularly welcome are ideas that bring researchers together with artists, practitioners, cultural organisations and communities. Deadline 11th Jan 2027.

Henrike Lähnemann (German) & Lesley Smith (History), Co-Directors for 2026/27



Events

E A Lowe Lectures

Professor Julia Crick will deliver the E A Lowe Lectures at 5pm on the following days in the MBI Al Jaber Auditorium, Corpus Christi College, on the theme of **'Script and politics: problems in the palaeography of a multilingual island'**. Julia Crick is Professor of Palaeography and Manuscript Studies at King's College London. Her most recent book, *Making Domesday: Intelligent Power in Conquered England*, with Stephen Baxter and C.P. Lewis, was published by Oxford University Press in 2025. 'Script and Politics' investigates the complex and unstable palaeography of Britain in the four centuries before 1100, sometimes perplexing, but always outward-looking, and often revealing of influences and interactions simply not detectable in other kinds of source. In the new era of world palaeography, of digitisation, archaeometry, and AI, manuscript studies is changing fast. This series provides an opportunity to reflect on the implications for traditional palaeography in a politically contested space.

Thursday 5 November - 'Two Islands'

This lecture takes another look at the palaeography of post-Roman Britain and Ireland, at some of its troubled twentieth-century history, and at major shifts in understanding over the last three decades. In particular it asks where we stand on the fraught question of the identification of Irish and English script.

Thursday 12 November – 'Displacement'

This lecture considers instances of engagement between Insular and Continental traditions of writing, both via exemplars and via the presence of living practitioners on both sides of the English Channel.

Thursday 19 November - 'The Old World and the New'

For the half-century after 1050 the palaeography of England is alive with readily detectable external influences. Who are the foreign writers, how does their activity intersect with that of native scribes, what do their collaborations have to tell us about conquered England?



<https://www.ccc.ox.ac.uk/about-corpus/news-and-academic-activities/academic-activities/special-lectures>



Ars Inquirendi 2026

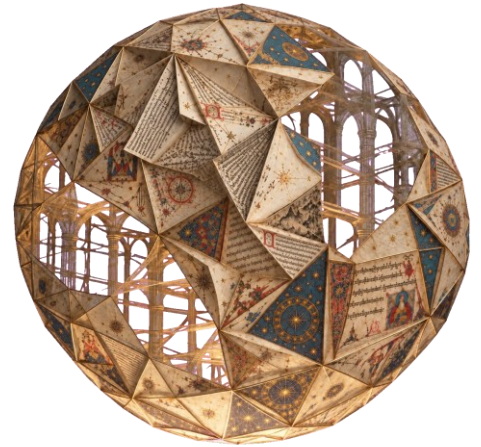
When: 20-22 November 2026

Where: St Edmund Hall, Oxford, and online

Organisers: Querying Pre-Print Cultures with LLMs

Register and Full Programme: arsinq.com/register

Convened with



In November, *Ars Inquirendi* convenes over thirty scholars from around the world to answer two questions: **In the era of large language models, what can we now discover about the pre-print past that we could not before, and what would justify believing it?** Join us, in person in Oxford or online, to explore the rapid advances in what models can do and how scholars use them. The conference moves from charting the evidence of the pre-print world and considering how we make it available to LLMs, as machines learn with startling speed to interpret our artefacts en masse, through historical inquiry at machine scale, to scholarly sovereignty over the new technology.

All talks except the live keynotes and workshops are pre-recorded and released a week ahead, leaving the live days for discussion.

KEYNOTES

Marieke Meelen

University of Cambridge

Language Models for Cultural Heritage: a Case Study in Historical Tibetan

Peter Turchin

Complexity Science Hub Vienna & University of Oxford

A Socio-Technical System for Investigating the Dynamics of Political Instability

In-person places are limited; we recommend early registration.

Full programme, times and abstracts: arsinq.com · enquiries: arsinquirendi@gmail.com

Practical Archival Skills Training at The National Archives

The Practical Archival Skills Training (PAST) programme offers researchers a unique opportunity to obtain the skills and knowledge needed to undertake academic research using original medieval and early modern records at The National Archives. We offer Introduction to Archival Research sessions for those new to working with archives, as well as more in-depth records workshops to get deeper into medieval or early modern collections. Sessions run either online or at our site in Kew. You can see the whole year of workshops and [book on Eventbrite here](#).



Compline in the Crypt



Bodleian Library, MS. Top. Oxon. b91, fol. 168-272

Every Thursday this term at 9.30pm, there will be the opportunity to experience the Norman Crypt underneath St-Peter-in-the-East, which is now the library of St Edmund Hall, during Compline, the last sung service of the day.

Week 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will be sung by the College Choir in English
Week 3 and 8 by the St Edmund Consort, in a variety of medieval languages.

Complines are open to the public and you are welcome to join but please be aware that the access to the crypt is via an uneven staircase and that there is limited seating – early arrival is recommended since there is a cap on visitors. Please contact Henrike Lähnemann henrike.laehnemann@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk if you are interested in joining the St Edmund Consort for singing at one of the Thursdays; there will be a short rehearsal on the Monday preceding Compline at 7pm and on the day at 6pm.



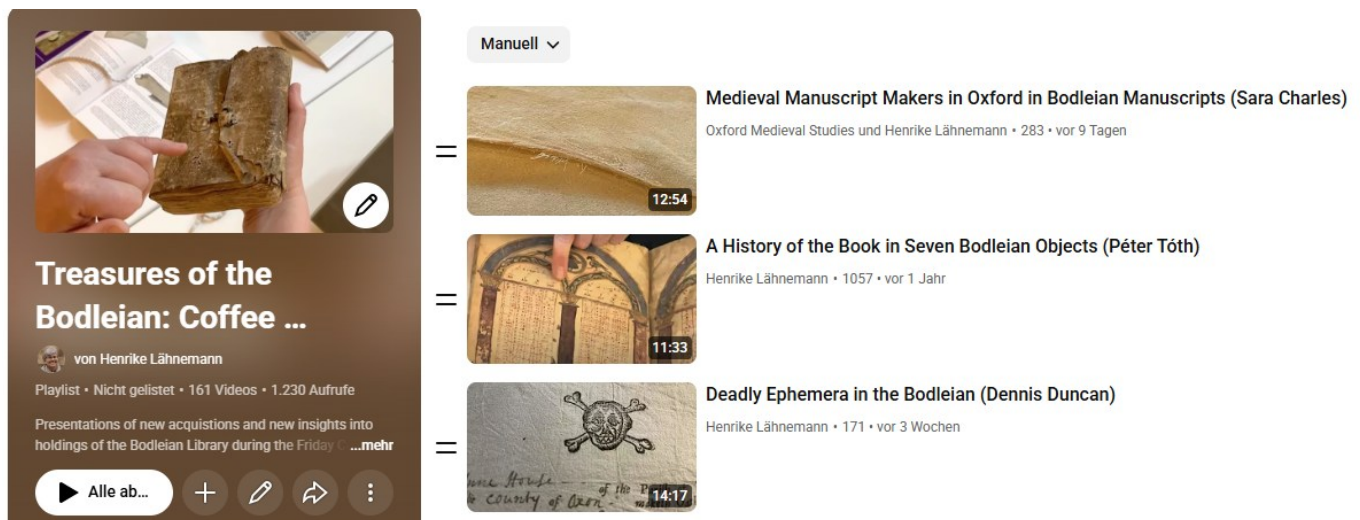
Friday Coffee Mornings

The Centre for the Study of the Book warmly invites members of the Oxford academic community to its Friday Coffee Mornings. The programme showcases current research on books, manuscripts, archives, and visual culture from antiquity to the modern period, including several talks of particular interest to medievalists. Coffee and tea from 10.30am, talks at 10.50am.

Programme:

- **9 October** – Mamtimyn Sunuodula, *18th-century Chinese painting albums*
- **16 October** – Laura Cracknell, *History of photography at the Bodleian*
- **23 October** – Gary Rendsburg, *Queen Elizabeth's Book of Oxford*
- **30 October** – Timothy Powell, *German Reformation and Hans Sachs: edition launch*
- **6 November** – Lauren Dogaer, *Demotic papyri from Ptolemaic Thebes used in the Hermias lawsuit*
- **13 November** – Elizabeth Solopova, *Peter Payne using Bodleian material*
- **20 November** – Jas Elsner, *Late Antique book illustration in the Bodleian collections*
- **27 November** – Duncan Taylor, *3D imaging work and Divinity School bosses*
- **4 December** – Péter Tóth, *The Iliad Papyrus*

All are welcome and no booking is required. For further information, please contact the Centre for the Study of the Book.



The screenshot shows a YouTube interface. On the left is a video player for 'Treasures of the Bodleian: Coffee ...' by Henrike Lähnemann, with 161 videos and 1,230 views. To the right is a list of three videos from the playlist, each preceded by an equals sign (=):

- Medieval Manuscript Makers in Oxford in Bodleian Manuscripts (Sara Charles)**
Oxford Medieval Studies und Henrike Lähnemann • 283 • vor 9 Tagen • 12:54
- A History of the Book in Seven Bodleian Objects (Péter Tóth)**
Henrike Lähnemann • 1057 • vor 1 Jahr • 11:33
- Deadly Ephemera in the Bodleian (Dennis Duncan)**
Henrike Lähnemann • 171 • vor 3 Wochen • 14:17

A playlist of previous coffee morning talks is available on <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeMorningsWeston>



'Enprynted by Me' - conference celebrating the 550th anniversary of William Caxton's Westminster press

enprynted by me: Caxton at Westminster

laurie Atkinson / alex da Costa /
martha w. Driver / alexandra
Gillespie / jane Griffiths / holly
James-Maddocks / omar Khalaf
/ yoshinobu Kudo / john t.
McQuillen / richard Moll / james
h. Morey / christine Nelson
/ matthew Payne / sue Powell
/ ad Putter / fred Schurink /
kathleen Tonry / daniel Wakelin /
lori j. Walters / kaila Yankelevich /



a conference at All Souls College / Oxford /
on 14–15 December 2026 / convened by
Jacob Ridley & Shaw Worth /

We are pleased to advertise registration for 'Enprynted by Me', a two-day conference celebrating the 550th anniversary of William Caxton's Westminster press, to take place at All Souls College, Oxford on 14–15 December 2026.

The conference will bring together twenty papers by experts on Caxton and his reception across disciplines: bibliography, literary and textual criticism, and histories of print beyond Europe. The final schedule will be available to view [here](#). On Wednesday 16th December, delegates and speakers will have the optional opportunity to consult incunabula collections in both the Bodleian and selected Oxford colleges in situ.

There is **no registration fee**, and lunch, tea, and coffee will be provided on both days. Delegates must arrange their own accommodation in Oxford. Space is strictly limited; please **RSVP** through the form [here](#).

Speakers:

Laurie Atkinson	James H. Morey
Alex da Costa	Christine Nelson
Martha W. Driver	Matthew Payne
Alexandra Gillespie	Sue Powell
Jane Griffiths	Ad Putter
Holly James-Maddocks	Fred Schurink
Omar Khalaf	Kathleen Tonry
Yoshinobu Kudo	Daniel Wakelin
John T. McQuillen	Lori J. Walters
Richard Moll	Kaila Yankelevich



Seminars

Medieval History Seminar

Mondays at 5pm, in person in the Wharton room, All Souls College. Drinks and nibbles to follow - all warmly welcome!

For those who can't join us in person, all sessions this term will be in hybrid format: to attend remotely, please join the "Medieval History Research Seminar" group on Teams. In case of problems, or if you are an external guest, please email medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk.

Organiser / Contact: Alice Rio (All Souls)

Doctoral student organisers: Broderick Haldane-Unwin (Worcester), Natasha Jenman (St Edmund Hall), Samuel Riding (St Anne's), Natasha Symes (Balliol)

Monday 12 October

Erin Daley (Leicester) and Seth Stadel (AMES, Oxford)

"Domestic Slavery and Sexual Exploitation in the Households of Late Antiquity: Conclusions and Questions after Five Years of Collaborative Research"

Monday 19 October

Rory Naismith (Corpus Christi College, Cambridge)

"Rethinking Offa of Mercia"

Monday 26 October

Catherine Holmes (University College, Oxford)

"Byzantium: A Kinetic Commonwealth?"

Monday 2 November

Clare Downham (Liverpool)

"The genealogy of Ívarr the Boneless"

Monday 9 November:

Muhammad El Fiky (King's College London)

"Contesting Cheese: Islamic Law and the Limits of Legal Authority in the Medieval Egyptian Market"

Monday 16 November

Irene Bavuso (Magdalen College, Oxford)

"Ecclesiastical properties and metal exploitation in England and Francia, ca. 7th–9th centuries"

Monday 23 November

Patrick Lantschner (UCL)

"Cities and the political order in western Eurasia, c.900-1500"

Monday 30 November

Krisztina Ilko (Queen's College, Cambridge)

"Crafting Medieval Queenship: From the Wazīr to the Queen on the Chessboard (of Politics)"



Medieval Church and Culture



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

Week 1 Social

Convenors: Sumner Braund (History of Science Museum), Elizabeth Crabtree (Bodleian Library),
Bee Jones (HMC), Lesley Smith (HMC)



Medieval Visual Culture Seminar

Thursdays, 5-6:30 pm at **St Catherine's College, Arumugam 2.1** unless otherwise noted

Questions? Contact Nancy Thebaut nancy.thebaut@history.ox.ac.uk



Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music

We are pleased to announce the seminars for Michaelmas Term 2026. The seminars are all held via Zoom on Thursdays at 5 p.m. 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 any questions, please send an email to Joe Mason at all.souls.music.seminars@gmail.com. For more information, and to subscribe to our mailing list and YouTube channel, please visit <https://www.music.ox.ac.uk/all-souls-seminars-medieval-and-renaissance-music>.

Margaret Bent (Convener, All Souls College) and Joseph W. Mason (University of Cambridge)

Seminar programme

22 October 2026, 5pm–7pm BST

Presenter: David Catalunya (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Title: Divine Harmony in Bronze Pipes: The Bethlehem Organ as a Practical Source for Pythagorean Theory

Discussants: Andrew Hicks (Cornell University) and Hans Fidom (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam)

The organ inspired a surge of fascination across medieval Europe as both a technological marvel and as a symbol of divine harmony. Yet despite the instrument's entry into Latin Christian liturgy in the 10th century, the earliest surviving organ pipes in Europe date from the 15th century. The Terra Sancta Museum in Jerusalem preserves the remains of an 11th-century church organ, brought to Palestine by the Crusaders and discovered during archaeological excavations at the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem. This seminar situates the Bethlehem organ within the broader intellectual transformations of the 10th to 12th centuries, when the instrument emerged as a privileged site for interaction between Pythagorean cosmology and artisanal knowledge. A group of theoretical treatises from the late 10th and 11th centuries, known as the *mensura fistularum* tradition, articulated principles for constructing organ pipes according to Pythagorean harmonic proportions. These texts have often been dismissed as abstract idealisations detached from practice, belonging to the speculative realm of musical theory rather than to the workshop. The measurements of the Bethlehem pipes, however, correspond to the mathematical models described in these treatises with millimetric precision. This compels a reassessment of the relationship between theory and practice in the High Middle Ages, raising new questions about how such texts were read, applied, and transmitted.

12 November 2026, 5pm–7pm GMT

Presenter: Davitt Moroney (University of California, Berkeley)

Title: Precursive canons, 1450–1600: Notation, Renotation, and Function

Discussants: Denis Collins (University of Queensland) and Patrick Macey (Eastman School of Music)

Given the many important aspects of Bonnie Blackburn's research, it is easy to overlook her efforts to draw attention to a category of canon that she termed 'precursor canon'. This curious contrapuntal phenomenon, which flourished from about 1450 to about 1600, comprises works where, counterintuitively, the notated canonic part does not start first. Instead, the unnotated derived voice, must start (subversively showing up the misleading limitations of later terminology such as *dux* and *comes*).



My presentation will explore the following points. (1) The characteristics of this phenomenon. (2) The probable causes of notational precursivity and how they draw our attention to the more significant phenomenon of structural precursivity. (3) Pieces where the notation was subsequently altered, obscuring the structural precursivity. (4) Pieces where vestiges of an earlier notation suggest that someone (composer? copyist? printer?) renoted the music, despite no source surviving with the original notation. (5) Canonic structures, notably by Willaert and his followers, that contain canons with two distinct solutions: one where the derived voice follows the notated one, in the expected manner, and the other where the derived voice must be resolved precursively. This double feature, *canon duplex*, exploits the juxtaposition of the two different solutions for a single canonic line, displayed across two contrasting settings of hymn verses, two *partes* of a motet, or two different realizations of a canonic chanson.

3 December 2026, 5pm–7pm GMT

Presenter: Karen Cook (Hartford College)

Title: The Paris-Avignon-Northern Italy information highway: new witnesses to the transmission of late medieval theoretical material

Discussants: Jason Stoessel (University of New England) and Solomon Guhl-Miller

Gathering 16 of Seville, Biblioteca Capitulare y Colombina, MS. 5-2-25 is riddled with connections to a host of late medieval treatises. It provides yet another instance of the contiguous copying of versions of the *Ars contrapuncti* and the *Libellus cantus mensurabilis* (both attributed to Jean des Murs) and the anonymous *Tractatus figurarum*. While certainly Northern Italian, the gathering is uniquely tied to Avignon via its copy of Johannes Pipardi's *De arte cantus*, and thus to Paris given that treatise's ties to the Berkeley manuscript (1375). In this talk, I focus on two anonymous works in the gathering. First, a two-sentence paragraph contains uncommon vocabulary connected to the Berkeley manuscript, the treatise *De semibrevibus caudatis* housed in Paris, and the Avignonese theorist Pierre Taillandier. Secondly, the anonymous "Ad evidentiam tam mensurabilis quam inmensurabilis musice" is interestingly and unusually concordant, on the one hand, with the *Introductio musice secundum Johannes de Garlandia* and *Volentibus introduce*, and on the other hand to the much later *Breviloquium musicale* by Bonaventura da Brescia, the anonymous *Quaestiones et solutiones*, the Crawford anonymous, and works by the later theorists Heinrich Saess and Domingo Marcos Durán. I thus demonstrate that both works reveal further evidence for the transmission of music theories from France, more specifically Paris through Avignon, to Northern Italy, where they connect to later trends in the Veneto.



Medieval English Research Seminar

Michaelmas term 2026 (Thursday 12.15), the Schwarzman, room 00.018

Thursday 15 October, 12.15

Nicola McDonald (U of York)

Writing exercises, pious and obscene, in Oxford, University College, MS 142

Thursday 22 October, 12.15

Laura Kalas (U of Swansea)

A reproductive imaginary: the medieval *Pinea* and women's visionary writings

Thursday 29 October, 12.15

Patrick Outhwaite (U of Groningen)

Doctor-patient interaction in late-medieval England

Thursday 5 November, 12.15

Amy Faulkner (UCL)

The lives of the Evangelists in Old English

Thursday 12 November, 12.15

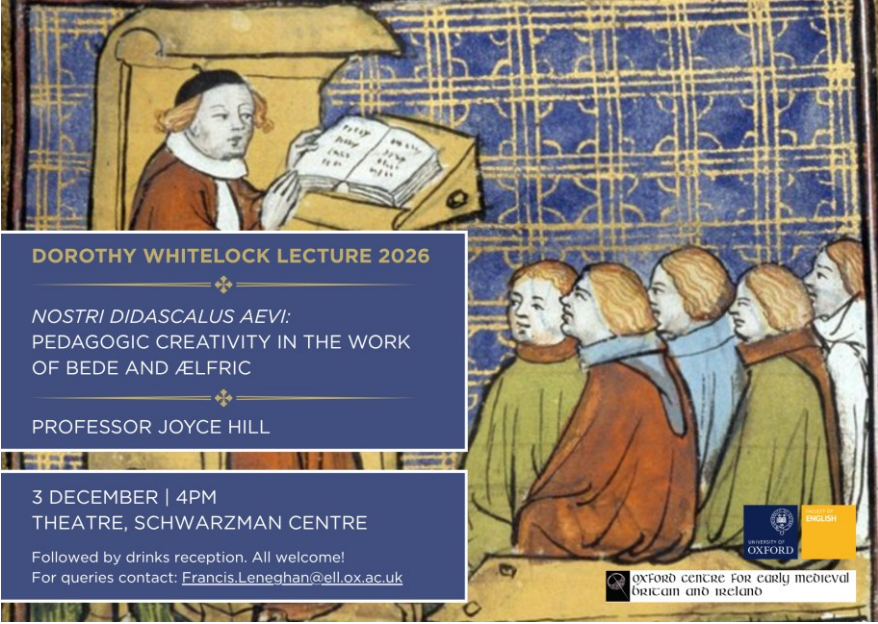
Anthony Bale (U of Cambridge)

'Towards understanding the literary tastes of later medieval English Knights Hospitaller

Thursday 19 November, 12.15

Mary Wellesley (U of Oxford)

Sex, sin and sorcery: literary responses to the Eleanor Cobham scandal



DOROTHY WHITELOCK LECTURE 2026

NOSTRI DIDASCALUS AEVI:
PEDAGOGIC CREATIVITY IN THE WORK
OF BEDE AND ÆLFRIC

PROFESSOR JOYCE HILL

3 DECEMBER | 4PM
THEATRE, SCHWARZMAN CENTRE

Followed by drinks reception. All welcome!
For queries contact: Francis.Leneghan@ell.ox.ac.uk

OXFORD
ENGLISH

oxford centre for early medieval
britain and ireland

The Annual Dorothy Whitelock Lecture

Thursday 3 December, 4.00, at the Theatre at the Schwarzman

Note the different time and place.

Joyce Hill (U of Leeds)

Nostri didascalus aevi: pedagogic creativity in the work of Bede and Ælfric

Convenors: Marion Turner and Daniel Wakelin



Medieval French Research Seminar

13 October (Week1) Oxford Medieval Studies (OMS) *Welcome event* (Harris Manchester College, 5pm)

27 October (Week3) Mireille Seguy (Université Paris, Sorbonne Nouvelle), *Quelle foi accordait-on aux fictions au Moyen Âge ? Le lecteur au miroir de la métalepse (XII^e-XV^e siècles)*

10 November (Week 5) Sebastian Dows-Miller (University College, London), *Scribal abbreviation in French manuscripts and its role as a source of data for quantitative palaeography*

24 November (Week7) Jake Abell (Baylor University) *The Nature and Culture of Wood: Toward an Ecocritical Reflection on the Bible historiale*

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

The seminars will take place in person at the *Maison française d'Oxford* (www.mfo.ac.uk), **except in week 1**. At the MFO, drinks will be served from 5pm; the presentations will start at 5:15pm.

Medieval German Graduate Seminar

The Medieval German Graduate Seminar meets Wednesdays 11.15am–12.45pm in Somerville College in Almut Suerbaum's office. If you are interested to be added to the teams group for updates, please contact her under almut.suerbaum@some.ox.ac.uk.

The topic for this term is ..The first week will be a shortish planning meeting.



Seminar in Palaeography and Manuscript studies

St John's College MS 167 from Syon Abbey

Seminars will take place in the Horton Room, 2:15-3:45pm on Monday afternoons in 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th week. All are welcome; a University or Bodleian reader card is usually required to access the seminar room. Manuscripts will be shown. <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/seminar-in-manuscript-studies-and-palaeography/>

History and Materiality of the Book Seminar series

Organisers: Matthew Holford, Andrew Honey, Laure Miolo <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/history-and-materiality-of-the-book-seminar-series/>

Wednesdays 2-3.30pm (see sessions details below). Venue: Weston Library, Horton room. Anyone interested in manuscript studies is welcome. No registration required. For questions, please e-mail laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk

The series of seminars has been designed to introduce participants to the various material aspects of the book, thereby laying the foundations for the reconstruction of manuscripts' production and history. The objective is to provide the indispensable elements for the analysis of the manuscript.

The seminars also provide a forum for specialists from different fields of manuscript studies to share their expertise. The sessions bring together curators, librarians, researchers and conservators to provide a comprehensive understanding of the various components of the codex from diverse perspectives. These components include the writing surface, ink, binding, decoration, manuscript production in its broadest sense, and its provenance. The seminars thus represent a valuable opportunity to demonstrate the necessity of close collaboration between researchers, curators/librarians, and conservators for a comprehensive consideration of the manuscript in its entirety. Such collaboration facilitates a more profound comprehension of the diverse contexts in which the manuscript was created, copied, and utilised.



Italian Research Seminars

Taylorian, Room 2
Mondays, 5:15pm



Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar



Thursdays, 4-5pm, weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, Somerville College (meet at lodge)

We are an informal, friendly reading group, meeting to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the Middle Ages. We will meet on Thursdays of weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8 at 4-5pm at Somerville College, meeting at the lodge and walking together to the seminar room. Please email costas.gavriel@some.ox.ac.uk if you would like to join our mailing list and receive reading materials in advance. All are welcome!

Convenor: Costas Gavriel, costas.gavriel@some.ox.ac.uk

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

Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures

Unless noted, all meetings are in the Memorial Room, The Queen's College, 5.15pm



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. When in person, they are in Room 20.306 of the Schwarzman Centre, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road. Please contact 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 CAWCS. Please contact a.elias@wales.ac.uk for the link.

Medieval Archaeology Seminar

Mondays 3.00, Institute of Archaeology, Lecture Room

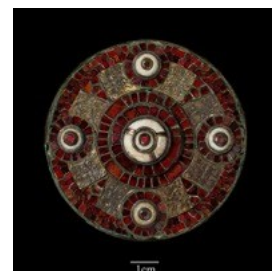
Wk 2: 19 October, Jessica Nutt, Passive or Peripheral? Rethinking Viking Conflict in Early Medieval Wales

Wk 4: 2 Nov. Duncan Wright, Cada's minster and Sæwine's burh: the evolution of an early medieval power centre at Saintbury (Glos)

Wk 6: 16 Nov. Susanne Hakenbeck, Crossing the Danube. Life along a frontier at the end of the Roman Empire'

Wk 8: 30 Nov. Andy Seaman, Llanccadle South: An Early Medieval Cemetery Complex in the Vale of Glamorgan

Convenors: *H Hamerow & J. Kershaw*





OXFORD CENTRE FOR early medieval BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Oxford Centre of Early Medieval Britain and Ireland

Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

Convenors: Marc Lauxtermann and Ida Toth

Time: Wednesdays, 5pm

Venue: Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St. Giles

Join online via Microsoft Teams by clicking [here](#)



Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies Seminar

For more details, please visit <https://www.oxcis.ac.uk/>

The Khalili Research Centre for the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East: Research Seminar

The Khalili Research Centre, Thursdays at 5:15 PM, KRC Lecture Room, 3 St John Street

All welcome

For more info, feel free to contact the KRC administrator:
paula.leite@tss.ox.ac.uk



Maghrib History Seminar

Tuesdays in Weeks 2, 5, and 8, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

The Queen's College, Oxford

All are welcome

This seminar series is held under the auspices of The Queen's College. It aims to provide a forum for scholars and students working on North Africa and its connected regions (the Iberian Peninsula, Sicily, Egypt, the Middle East, and sub-Saharan Africa), and to highlight new research and approaches in the field.

Convenors: Clément Salah, Christian Sahner, Umberto Bongianino.

For further enquiries, please write to: clement.salah@queens.ox.ac.uk



The History of the Bible: From Manuscripts to Print

For more information, cf. the report from last term's trial session <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/bible-layout-through-the-ages/>

Fridays, 12.00-13.30 in the Visiting Scholars Centre at the Weston Library.

This course offers an illustrated introduction to the transmission and history of one of the world's most influential texts: the Bible. Beginning with the Hebrew Bible and the earliest biblical papyri and manuscripts, it traces the development of biblical texts over more than two millennia, from the premodern Mediterranean world to the first printed editions of the Late Middle Ages. Drawing on some of the Bodleian Library's most remarkable biblical treasures, the lectures provide direct insight into how the copying, translation, and circulation of the Bible shaped the history of the book and, more broadly, human culture. Particular emphasis is placed on first-hand engagement with manuscripts in different languages, scripts, layouts, and visual traditions. No prior knowledge of biblical languages is required. By the end of the course, participants will have gained a basic familiarity with biblical manuscripts across multiple traditions and will be able to identify key scripts, layouts, and illustrative features, as well as appreciate their cultural and historical significance.

Places are limited. To register interest and secure a place, please contact the lecturer at peter.toth@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Planned Schedule

- W1: The Hebrew Bible
- W2: The Septuagint and its Transmission
- W3: The New Testament
- W4: Translations of the Bible in the Eastern Mediterranean: Syriac, Coptic, Ethiopic and Arabic
- W5: The Bible in Latin: Old Latin and the Vulgate
- W6: The Bible in Medieval Europe
- W7: Vernacular Bibles of the Middle Ages
- W8: The Bible printed



Reading Groups and Societies

French Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group

Mondays, 10:30 am–12:00 pm – Weston Library (Horton Room)

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 12th century to the 16th century with a special focus on palaeography. 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 Miolo: laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk



Oxford, St John's College MS

The seminar comprises brief lectures on the morphology and function of scripts, as well as the evolution of script shapes and graphic systems in context, followed by transcription practice using original manuscripts and documents. Sessions are structured around the historical development of scripts, progressing from simpler shapes and strokes with minimal ligatures and abbreviations to more cursive and complex forms. A study of the diverse scripts found between the twelfth and early sixteenth centuries in manuscripts and documents written in Old French, Middle French, and Anglo-Norman – and produced in various geographical areas – will allow participants to gain familiarity with a wide range of scripts and abbreviations. The reading of literary texts in parallel with the analysis of manuscripts and their scripts serves to complement both the lectures and transcription practice.



Books Medievalists Should Know



Convivial singers, or reading group attendees, in BnF MS fr. 159, f. 227v.

Graduate reading group

Mondays of even weeks, 2-3:30pm, Lincoln College

Books Medievalists Should Know is an informal reading group for graduate students, intended as an introduction to the most influential texts and authors of the Western Middle Ages. Each work will be introduced by a guest speaker, and we will read key passages together as well as works associated with the text and its tradition. No advance reading is required.

Michaelmas texts are the Bible and Boethius' *Consolation of Philosophy*. Hilary Term will cover the works of Ovid and *Le Roman de la Rose*.

All postgraduate students (taught or research courses) are welcome. For more information or to be added to the

mailing list, please email Rebecca Menmuir <rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk> or Shaw Worth <shaw.worth@all-souls.ox.ac.uk>.

Schedule

W2: The Bible, introduced by Dr Cosima Gillhammer;

W4: The Bible and associated texts;

W6: Boethius' *Consolation of Philosophy*, introduced by Dr Kathryn Peak;

W8: Boethius' *Consolation* and associated texts.

Locations

W2: Lincoln College, Langford Room.

W4, 6, 8: Lincoln College, Beckington Room.

Middle English Reading Group (MERG)

Michaelmas Term 2026: *Troilus and Criseyde*

Thursdays, 10-11am, Weeks 1-8. Lincoln College, Smoking Room.

All are welcome to an informal reading group, which will read *Troilus and Criseyde* over the year. Bring any edition of the original text! There will be tea and biscuits. For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email <rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk>.



In Tesserae. Byzantine. Oxford University Byzantine Society

This term, we are seeking to run a new, interdisciplinary workshop seminar series, called 'In Tesserae.'

'In Tesserae' is an opportunity for students in LABS, Medieval, Classical Archaeology, and AMES Masters and DPhil programmes to give 5-10 minute presentations on their work, a particular section of their thesis, a source, a draft of a conference paper, or anything else that they feel like might benefit from discussion-oriented peer feedback. These presentations will be followed by a minimum of 15-20 minutes of focussed discussion time, assisting students with their work, issue, argument, or whatever else.

This is an unique opportunity to get students from these disciplines together and begin thinking through their similar and different issues!

The OUBS is seeking 'mini-abstracts' of **under 100** words for presentations, to be sent to byzantine.society@gmail.com **by this Sunday, January 18th**. We are aiming to hold the first 'In Tesserae' session on **January 30th**. Depending on demand, we will definitely hold more sessions throughout the term, if there is sufficient interest!

We will provide location and precise timing details in due course to presenters and participants.

Heraldry Society

For further details, livestream links, or to be added to the mailing list, please contact secretary@oxford-heraldry.org.uk

Latin Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group

Tuesdays 2pm–3.30pm – Weston Library (Horton Room)

For those wishing to develop, deepen or maintain their skills in Latin palaeography, we meet every Tuesday between 2pm and 3.30pm in the Weston Library (Horton Room or Visiting Scholars Centre). We explore a wide variety of medieval manuscripts and documents dating from the 9th to the 15th centuries. Each session combines hands-on analysis of different scripts, abbreviations, and codicological features. Regular practice is key to building palaeographical skills and gaining confidence in reading a range of scripts, from clear book and documentary hands to more cursive and heavily abbreviated ones. This reading group is designed to introduce the essential features of each script and abbreviation, enabling participants to read and interpret manuscripts **directly and with confidence**.



Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS.
Laud Misc. 562, fol. 1r

Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo, at laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk

Greek Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group

Mondays 15.00-16.30 Horton Room Weston Library. Teaching is for two terms (MT and HT) with fortnightly tutorials in TT. Contact Peter Toth for further details: peter.toth@bodleian.ox.ac.uk.



Exploring Medieval Oxford through Surviving Archives

Fridays 2pm–3pm – Weston Library (Horton Room).

This weekly one-hour seminar offers participants the opportunity to work directly with original documents from various Oxford parishes, held in the Bodleian Libraries. Focusing primarily on thirteenth-century deeds, these documents provide rich insight into everyday life in medieval Oxford. Open to undergraduates, postgraduates, and early career researchers, the seminar welcomes all those interested in working with primary sources and conducting in-depth contextual analysis of historical records

Working individually or in pairs on a self-selected original document, participants will closely examine its physical and material features (such as writing surface, layout, and signs of use), carry out transcription and translation, and identify the individuals and locations mentioned in order to situate the document within its historical context. Particular emphasis will be placed on the seals attached to the documents.

Alongside collaborative work on these unpublished or little-studied sources, participants will gain experience in the digitisation and cataloguing of archival materials, and will have the opportunity to present their research and original documents to a wider audience during a one-day workshop in Trinity Term.

This seminar is held at the Weston Library (Horton Room) in collaboration with Matthew Holford, Tolkien Curator of Medieval Manuscripts. Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo via email: laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk

Theory and Play: Comparative Medievalisms

Monday 5.15, Lady Margaret Hall, Weeks 4, 6, 8

Theory and Play: Comparative Medievalisms is an experimental and playful reading group for those interested in engaging with medieval primary and secondary texts at a global and comparative scale. We will take a couple of complex conceptual texts (in translation!) and read them closely in conversation with, and across, one another. Our chosen texts purposefully range across genre and discipline; including poetry, literary criticism, mysticism, epic narrative, precursory works of autotheory, and other critical theories. Emphasis is placed on engaging with novel and challenging texts for the purposes of comparison, exploration, collaboration and expansion. To this end we welcome suggestions for our week 8 reading.

Week 4 – Selections from: Anandavardana's *Dhvanyaloka* (9th century CE, tr. *The Light of Suggestion*); Mechthild of Magdeburg's *Das fließende Licht der Gottheit* (13th century CE, tr. *The Flowing Light of the Godhead*); Cywydd Ymryson Cyntaf Dafydd ap Gwilym (14th Century CE, tr. *Dafydd ap Gwilym's First Debate Poem*)

Week 6 – Selections from: Dhuoda's *Liber Manualis* (9th Century CE, tr. *Handbook for William*); Boethius' *Consolatio* (6th Century CE, tr. *Consolation of Philosophy*); *Ode in Praise of al-Mansur Al-Amiri, Emir of Córdoba* by Ibn Darradj al-Qastalli (10-11th Century CE)

Week 8 – *TBC*.

To join the mailing list please email capps.juliano@lmh.ox.ac.uk or harriet.carter@lmh.ox.ac.uk



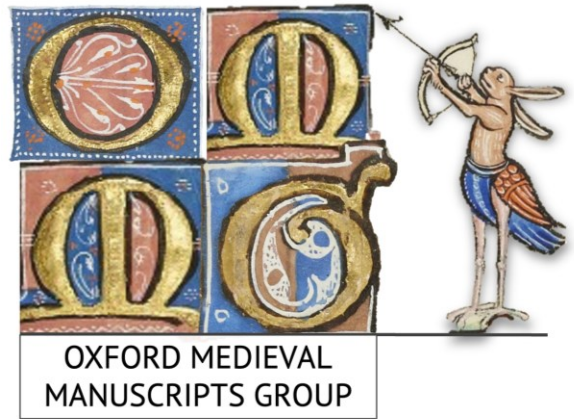
Oxford Medieval Manuscript Group

The Oxford Medieval Manuscripts Group (OMMG) is a collective of postgraduate students and early-career researchers who bonded in Oxford over their passion for medieval manuscripts. We host a seminar series catered towards a community of emerging scholars, from the University of Oxford and beyond, where we focus on the study of medieval books and the art of illumination. We meet on **Fridays at 5pm**, unless otherwise stated.

Email: oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com

Instagram: [@medieval.mss](https://www.instagram.com/medieval.mss)

Conveners: Irina Boeru, Fergus Bovill, Blanche Darbord, Antonia Delle Fratte, Hannele Hellerstedt, Elena Lichmanova, Mathilde Mioche, and Ana de Oliveira Dias



Old English Graduate Reading Group

A reading group for grad students by grad students! We will be meeting 17.15--18.45 on Thursdays of odd weeks (1, 3, 5, 7) for a friendly read-through. This term we will be reading some of the Exeter Riddles [<https://theriddleages.bham.ac.uk/>]. All are welcome whatever level of Old English you have. We'll read, translate and talk through the text together in a social and relaxed environment. Our Location is variable so please email Hattie (harriet.carter@lmh.ox.ac.uk) or James (james.titterington@stcatz.ox.ac.uk) if you're interested. Newcomers welcome!



Older Scots Reading Group

Thursdays, odd weeks, 3-4pm, Room 30.401 in the Schwarzman Centre

The Older Scots Reading Group is for people interested in literature produced in Scotland between 1375-1550. This is an incredibly rich period, featuring authors experimenting with form and language. The texts themselves are written in Older Scots – a language closely related to Middle English, but with some unique attributes. This reading group will provide a relaxed introduction to this period and language. This term we will focus on reading and comprehension. We will read one or two fairly short poems (300 lines max) per session by some of the most prominent Scottish Makars. No preparation required. All are welcome. There may be snacks! If you have any questions, contact megan.bushnell@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk.

Schedule:

- **Week 1 (15 October):**
 - Robert Henryson, *The Morall Fabillis of Esope the Phrygian*, 'The Cock and the Fox' (ll. 397-613)
<https://metseditions.org/editions/jXWVLB2Lt7KETm8m11rXrHwQAXpWq4A>
- **Week 3 (29 November):**
 - William Dunbar, *The Golden Targe*
<https://metseditions.org/editions/XgeZ2LvrfN4qpUwNNfRQ6QFBwq6rQm2N>
- **Week 5 (12 November):**
 - Gavin Douglas, *Eneados*, 'Prologue XII'
Best edition:
https://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/permalink/44OXF_INST/rl48sd/alma990223166510107026

Free online text:
<https://github.com/mebushnell/OSRG/blob/main/Eneados%20Prologue%20XII.txt>
- **Week 7 (26 Nov):**
 - Sir David Lyndsay, *The Answer Quhilk Schir David Lindesday Maid to the Kingis Flyting*
<https://metseditions.org/editions/L2L52eDC99KKuZL5Lijr3LfV50dAG4p1>
 - Sir David Lyndsay, *The Dreme*, 'Epistle' and 'Prologue', ll. 1-147.
https://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/permalink/44OXF_INST/rl48sd/alma990150701010107026

Old Norse Reading Group

Old Norse reading group will be on Wednesdays at 4pm. Email brooklyn.arnot@magd.ox.ac.uk for the location (which is subject to change weekly).



Medieval Latin Reading Group

An informal Medieval Latin Reading Group meets on **Fridays at 5.30pm** in Christ Church from 1st to 8th week: meet under Tom Tower and we can walk over together. In 1st week we will meet in Lecture Room 1.

This term, we will be reading the *Cosmographia* of Bernardus Silvestris in the original. Peter Dronke's edition is available online via SOLO; Winthrop Wetherbee has printed Dronke's text with a translation in the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library.

All with some reading knowledge of Latin are very welcome! For more information, please contact Clara Bykvist (clara.bykvist@queens.ox.ac.uk) or Monty Powell (monty.powell@chch.ox.ac.uk).



Guild of Medievalist Makers



Join **The Guild of Medievalist Makers**, a newly formed organisation for academic and academic-adjacent creatives and makers. The Guild is dedicated to furthering creative-critical practice in the humanities and making space for creative play!



Our online **Making Space Sessions** offer you the chance to set aside time for your creative-critical project. We are regularly joined by a lively and generous company of zine makers, textile artists, cartoonists, novelists, poets, translators, illustrators, flax spinners, print makers and more! Please note that you must become a member of the Guild to join our Making Space Sessions (this is so we can avoid being overrun by bots). **Read more about us and join today for free at www.guildmedmak.com**



Follow us on Bluesky and Instagram @GuildMedMak and find us on Substack as Guild of Medievalist Makers.

Images: top (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Douce 219, f. 8v); middle (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Ashmole 1431, f.18v); bottom (Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodleian Library MS. Douce 5, f.18r)



John Lydgate Book Club

All Souls College / Wednesdays of Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 / 5:15pm

Text: Guillaume de Deguileville trans. John Lydgate, *The Pilgrimage of the Life of Man* (1355/1426)



The Pilgrim meets Hagiography. BL, Cotton MS Tiberius A VII (s. xv2/4), f. 91v, detail.

This term we are delighted to welcome several guest speakers, who will present on various topics related to Lydgate's *Pilgrimage*, followed by discussions of the text. We will focus on the second half of the poem (excerpts will be circulated in advance).

Please do email Rebecca or Shaw for more details: rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk / shaw.worth@all-souls.ox.ac.uk.

PROGRAMME

The Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group

The Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group continues to meet every Wednesday at 4pm for an hour or so on Teams when we read through and translate a variety of documents from the medieval archive at New College, giving an opportunity to engage with documents ranging from papal bulls to manorial and college accounts, from royal letters patent to manorial court rolls, from college statutes to deeds of title, and from letters to receipts. The document(s) to be studied will be circulated the day before. To join and/or to find out more about this and the possibility of some hands-on experience of cataloguing such documents to develop further your research skills, please contact michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk.



Environmental History Working Group (EHWG)

Environmental History Writing Workshop

[Week 1] Thursday 22 January, 12:30–2:00pm, Schwarzman Centre History Hub Room 20.421

A workshop for undergraduates and master's students who are writing or considering writing essays and dissertations in environmental history. The workshop will cover some of the major themes and modes of writing in environmental history and act as a forum to ask questions to DPhil students working with diverse geographies, time periods, and approaches to the field.

EHWG 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, new ideas and approaches, and to have interdisciplinary conversations. We try to keep discussions and presentations informal and encourage anyone at all interested in these kinds of approaches to join our meetings, regardless of research specialism or presumed existing knowledge. Our sessions are mainly attended by graduate students and undergraduates who were considering writing a dissertation or embarking on further study in the field, but all are welcome.

For further information or to join the mailing list, please email environmentalhistoryworkinggroup-owner@maillist.ox.ac.uk. Alternatively, you can find our schedule on OxTalks and the Faculty's Environmental History website.

Snowdrop and stock flower panel from Flemish Hours. Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Douce 112, fol. 75r.

Church Historian Pub Night

Open to all graduate students and faculty with any interest in religious history. Join us every Tuesday in term, 6pm at the Chequers Inn, off High Street. For more information, please contact Rachel Cresswell (rachel.cresswell@bfriars.ox.ac.uk).

Bede Reading Group (Bede-ing Group)

Join us to read Bede's Ecclesiastical History of the English People, his landmark narrative of England's origins and conversion. The reading group will meet every Thursday in term, 6pm at Blackfriars Priory, St Giles, OX1 3LY. To sign up, email Maura McKeon at maura.mckeon@bfriars.ox.ac.uk. Don't stop Bede-lieving.



Celtic Teaching

Please contact the relevant lecturer (david.willis@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, becky.shercliff@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, nora.baker@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, hanna.hopwoodgriffiths@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk) with any questions.



Opportunities

Call for Committee Members: Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference 2027

The Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference (OMGC) is a two-day, interdisciplinary conference hosted in Oxford each year. This event provides a venue for graduate students studying topics from across the medieval period to share their research. The committee is seeking members to organise the 2027 conference, which will be on the theme of 'Craft and Creativity'. No previous conference organising experience is required; anyone interested should contact oxgradconf@gmail.com.

OMS Small Grants

The TORCH **Oxford Medieval Studies Programme** invites applications for small grants to support conferences, workshops, and other forms of collaborative research activity organised by researchers at postgraduate (whether MSt or DPhil) or early-career level from across the Humanities Division at the University of Oxford.

The scheme has a rolling deadline. **Closing date for applications: Friday of Week 4 each term** for activities taking place during that or the following term. An additional deadline for summer activities and Michaelmas Term is **last Friday of July**.

Grants are *normally* in the region of £100–250 and can either be for expenses or for administrative and organisational support such as publicity, filming or zoom hosting. They can also be used to support staging a play for the **Medieval Mystery Cycle**, e.g. for buying props or material for costumes. Recipients will be required to supply a report after the event for the **Oxford Medieval Studies blog** and will be invited to present on their award at an OMS event.

Applicants will be responsible for all administrative aspects of the activity, including formulating the theme and intellectual rationale, devising the format, and, depending on the type of event, inviting speakers and/or issuing a Call for Papers, organising the schedule, and managing the budget, promotion and advertising.

Applications should be submitted to Prof. **Lesley Smith** using the **word grant application form**. Informal enquiries may also be directed to Lesley. The Oxford Medieval Studies Programme money is administered by **The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH)** and the money will be paid out via their expenses system.

Medieval Afterlives: Cultural Programme Open Call

We are inviting proposals for projects to be programmed as part of **Medieval Afterlives**, a Cultural Programme season taking place in **Trinity Term 2028**.

We are looking for ambitious, imaginative projects that explore the relationship between the medieval past and contemporary creativity. Proposals should be research-led or research-connected and may request **investment of up to £10,000**.

Projects might include **talks, workshops, literature, spoken word, craft, dance, drama, music, film**, or other forms of creative and cultural activity. We particularly welcome ideas that bring researchers together with artists, practitioners, cultural organisations and communities.

Open call for project proposals (up to £10,000; deadline 11th Jan) for the Medieval Afterlives Cultural Programme season (Trinity 2028):

<https://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/medieval-afterlives-cultural-programme-open-call>



Lynn Museum Friday Talks



LYNN MUSEUM FRIDAY TALKS, 27 NOVEMBER 2026, 2PM

At the end of November, we have been invited to speak about *The Book of Margery Kempe* at the Lynn Museum as part of their series of Friday afternoon talks. Tickets are £2 so come along if you would like to hear more about her extraordinary life (and some of the challenges of representing it on screen).

If you are interested in joining the newsletter contact mirabelle.intothemystic@gmail.com or luke.intothemystic@gmail.com.

The Multicultural Middle Ages podcast proposal for 6th season

The Medieval Academy of America's podcast series *The Multicultural Middle Ages* ([website here](#) // Bluesky: [@mmapod.bsky.social](#)) is now accepting episode proposals for its 6th season! We wanted to share the details with you in case you would be willing to share the full CFP (attached) with those who might be interested.

Applications are due October 15th.

Medieval Manors Research Network

Calling Researchers of the Medieval Manor... Medieval Manors Research Network is launching!

A new interdisciplinary forum designed to break boundaries between subfields and connect researchers working on medieval manors.

What?

- Meet, connect, share, network, collaborate

How?

- Online Meetings: hear the latest research, network, advertise CfPs
- Update & Collaborate: share resources, update, find new contacts
- Active Blog: a digital platform for sharing the latest research



- Newsletters: updates from the network
- Website: hub for useful online manorial resources

Who?

- Any career stage welcome

Get involved: [Click here](#) to subscribe to the mailing list

Spread the word: Please share this poster with colleagues and departments.

Contact: medievalmanorsresearchnetwork@gmail.com

Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Two-year postdocs at the University of Notre Dame, in the following areas (one each for every area): Art (History), English, German / Slavic / Eurasian, History and Philosophy of Science, Initiative on Race and Resilience, Philosophy, Romance Languages, Theology; international applications and medievalists welcome!

Visit for more information: <https://strategicframework.nd.edu/initiatives/provosts-postdoctoral-fellowship-program/>

Publishing with the Journal Manuscript and Text Cultures

Are you interested in submitting to the journal *Manuscript and Text Cultures*? Please review the [About the Journal](#) page for the journal's section policies, as well as the [Author Guidelines](#). Authors need to [register](#) with the journal prior to submitting or, if already registered, can simply [log in](#) and begin the five-step process.

John W. Baldwin Post-Doctoral Fellowship

We are currently accepting applications for the **John W. Baldwin Post-Doctoral Fellowship**, a two-year position beginning July 1, 2027, for recent Ph.D. recipients whose work focuses on European medieval studies within a global comparative context. The application deadline is **November 13, 2026**.

Full position details and application link: <https://recruit.apo.ucla.edu/JPF11239>

Bodleian Purchasing Opportunity

Do you know of books that would aid your work but are not in the Bodleian? Help us strengthen the university's collections. You can submit details of suggested books via <https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/collections-and-resources/recommend-a-purchase> or by email to medieval@bodleian.ox.ac.uk.

We also welcome donations of books that we do not hold, or of which we lack a circulating copy. Donations may be sent to:

Acquisitions Services – Donations
Bodleian Libraries, Osney One Building, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EW

Your knowledge helps shape the future of the Bodleian's collections.



CfP- Manuscript and Text Cultures Graduate Seminar

The Manuscript and Text Cultures Graduate Seminar is a new initiative supported by the Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures (CMTC). Its purpose is to create a regular, collaborative space in which graduate students (Master's and DPhil) and early-career researchers (Post-docs, Junior Research Fellows, Career Development Fellows) are invited to present their work-in-progress, share methodological challenges, and engage in conversations that bridge disciplinary and cultural boundaries in the field. This seminar forms part of the CMTC's broader mission to encourage meaningful dialogue across manuscript and text traditions, to foster a strong interdisciplinary community, and to support the training and intellectual development of students working on any aspect of manuscript culture.

Scope

The Manuscript and Text Cultures Graduate Seminar welcomes presentations that, while based in a particular manuscript tradition, raise analytical, methodological and/or conceptual questions that speak across manuscript and text cultures. Examples might include: reflections on libraries and manuscript repositories; scribal practices; textual transmission; materiality and manuscript art; colophons; collecting practices; methodological or cross-cultural approaches to working with manuscripts and texts; or related issues. These themes are meant to guide contributors toward presentations that, although rooted in their specialist area, invite broader discussion and resonate with colleagues working on any manuscript tradition. Contributors are encouraged to present on-going research and the conceptual question arising from it.

Format

Three sessions will be held in Trinity Term 2026 (provisionally on Thursdays in Weeks 2, 5, and 8). Each session will feature a 30-minute presentation, followed by a response from a more advanced researcher, and then ample time for open discussion. Sessions are open to the broader CMTC community, and we particularly encourage attendance and engagement from graduate students across disciplines. Depending on interest and availability, additional sessions may be organised in Hilary Term 2026. Submissions should include: a provisional title, a brief expression of interest (2–3 sentences outlining the proposed topic and its broader relevance), and the prospective speaker's institutional affiliation (college and/or faculty).

Deadline

To allow us to finalise the programme and advertise before the start of term, we would be grateful to receive proposals by 12th of January.

Contact

For questions, suggestions, or expression of interest, please feel free to get in touch with:

Ana de Oliveira Dias: ana.dias@history.ox.ac.uk

Clément Salah: clement.salah@queens.ox.ac.uk



Accessibility and Updates

Inside is the full programme of medieval events taking place in Oxford in Hilary Term 2025. 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 Tristan Alphey at medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk. Any further suggestions: get in contact with Henrike Lähnemann, Lesley Smith or Tristan Alphey, either via email or teams.

What is happening:

- A shared calendar on the website on <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/> and torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies
- Regular email updates via the mailing list 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. 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
- And finally: weekly coffee mornings in the Visiting Scholars Centre of the Weston Library! If you have an exciting Special Collections related theme you would like to talk about, get in contact with Dr Chris Fletcher, Keeper of Special Collections. Playlist of past show-and-tell sessions to be found under <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeMorningsWeston>



**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!

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supported by @TORCHOxford Follow us
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