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LANGUAGE  
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LITERATURE



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

**Trinity Term 2025**

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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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The Norman porch at Iffley Church

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## Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme!



Performance of an extract from the Towneley Last Judgement play at the Weston Library coffee morning, see <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/2025/04/10/apocalypse-the-trailer/>

Welcome to a new term which started with the [4th instalment of the Medieval Mystery Cycle on 26 April 2025, 12noon to 5pm, in St Edmund Hall](#) - watch out for the reports from that in the coming weeks! Our header image shows the 'trailer' production of the Towneley Last Judgement play in an improvised short version during a Weston Library coffee mornings, combining two of our favourite past-times: performance and show-and-tell sessions (in this case a medieval play roll and Apocalypse blockbooks). We hope that opportunities for mingling with medievalists such as the Mystery Plays and the [Medievalist Coffee Mornings](#) bring together the lively community at Oxford with visitors from near and far. See [here the full programme](#) - we thought even those who cannot make it to St Edmund Hall on Saturday would enjoy seeing the wonderful variety on offer and read the commentary by each group for their play.

Another great opportunity to sample the wide variety of medieval topics in Oxford is the Medieval Church and Culture seminar where in Trinity Term traditionally the current cohort from the interdisciplinary MSt. in Medieval Studies are presenting (see below in the 'Seminars' section). And then there is anything from late antique Byzantium to 21st century medievalism in the form of events, seminars, reading groups, and societies.

A special call-out to current Oxford Graduate students: please see the opportunities at the end of this booklet for a) the role of Social Media Officer (deadline Friday of week 2 - [read the blogpost by our outgoing Social Media Officer Ashley Castelino about what the role entails](#)) and b) for [Small Grants](#) (deadline Friday of week 4).

We plan to end the term with a collective viewing of the filmed version of the Medieval Mystery Cycle in week 8 after the last session in the chapel of Harris Manchester College.

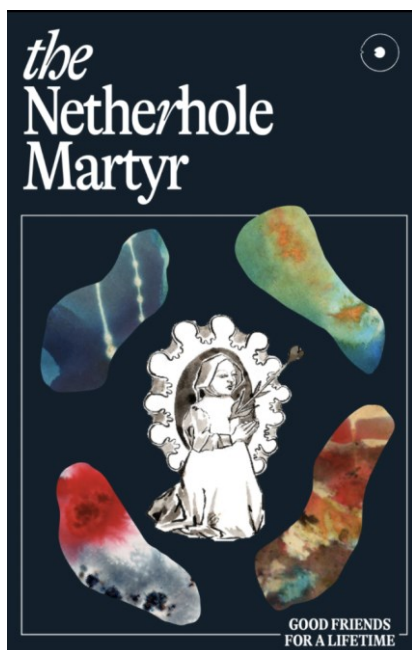
Hope to see you at one or more of these events!

*Henrike Lähnemann* (German) and *Lesley Smith* (History),  
Co-Directors of the Programme for 2024/25





# Events



## The Netherhole Martyr - A Dramatic Reading

2 May 2025, 6-7.30pm, Crypt of St-Peter-in-the-East (St Edmund Hall). [Info](#)  
Come one, come all! Prepare to worship the power of a good shit and marvel at the agonies and ecstasies of excrement! The year is 1320 in the stinking town of Netherhole. A young nun feels the hand of God clutch her guts...

This semi-staged reading of the play by [Good Friends for a Lifetime](#) (Maeve Campbell, Minna Jeffery and Lily Levinson) celebrates its recent publication by Strange Region Press. Written in shades of Donne and Swift, the text of this surreal and macabre work is fully illustrated by Oxford DPhil student Sigrid Koerner and Hannah Mansell.

The event is free to attend and no booking is required. Copies of the book will be available to purchase. The event will begin with drinks at 6pm, followed by a performance in the Crypt that will last approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.

## Compline in the Crypt

Every Thursday at 9.30pm during term time, there is 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, 3, 4, 5, 6 sung by the Choir of St Edmund Hall in English

week 2 (8 May) in German and week 7 (12 June) in Latin sung by the St Edmund Consort.

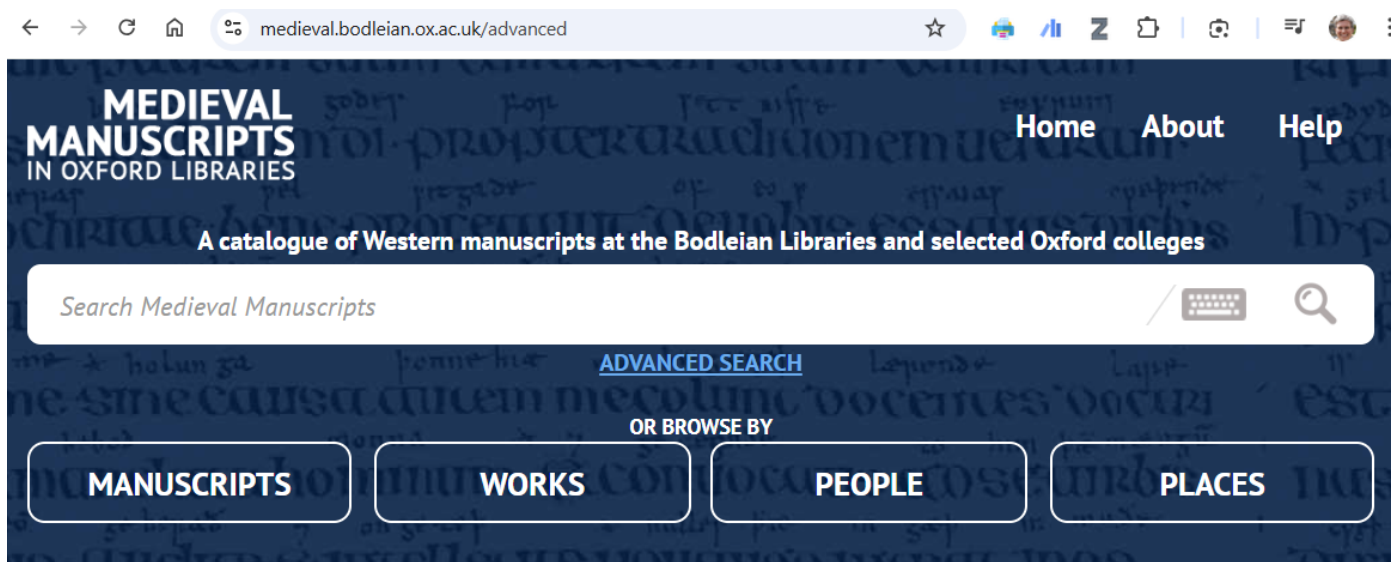
Complines are open to the public and you are welcome to join but please be aware that the access to the crypt is via an uneven staircase and that there is limited seating - early arrival is recommended since there is a cap on visitors. Please contact Henrike Lähnemann [henrike.laehnemann@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:henrike.laehnemann@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk) if you are interested in joining the St Edmund Consort for singing in week 2 or 7; there will be a short rehearsal on the Monday preceding Compline at 7pm and on the day at 6pm.



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



# 'Big Data' and Medieval Manuscripts



← → ↻ 🏠 [medieval.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/advanced](https://medieval.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/advanced) ☆ 🌐 📊 📄 📁 📧 📞

**MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS**  
IN OXFORD LIBRARIES

Home About Help

A catalogue of Western manuscripts at the Bodleian Libraries and selected Oxford colleges

Search Medieval Manuscripts

[ADVANCED SEARCH](#)

OR BROWSE BY

MANUSCRIPTS WORKS PEOPLE PLACES

<https://medieval.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

Are you curious about what manuscripts can tell us beyond their texts? Join **Digital Scholarship @ Oxford** and the **Bodleian Libraries** for a hands-on workshop using data from manuscript catalogues to explore trends and patterns in medieval manuscript production.

You'll learn:

- What kinds of data can be recorded about manuscripts
- How to interpret and analyse manuscript catalogue entries
- Ways to identify trends and patterns using simple tools like Excel

You'll have the opportunity to work directly with manuscripts from the Bodleian's collections, learning new skills that you can apply in your future studies and research. You'll also get to contribute to the ongoing development of the manuscript catalogues, with your contributions credited on the Bodleian website.

**No technical experience is required**, just a basic familiarity with Excel.

Spaces are limited and will be filled on a **first-come, first-served** basis.

**Workshop dates:**

- Thursday of 3rd week (15th May), 1-5pm - undergraduates
- Thursday of 4th week (22nd May), 1-5pm - undergraduates
- Thursday of 7th week (12th June), 1-5pm - postgraduates

Please still fill in the form if you are unavailable on these dates, as we may be able to make additional workshops available if there is demand.

**Signup deadline:** Midday, Friday of 2nd Week (9th May)

**Signup using the online form here:** <https://forms.office.com/e/cHL1Zg7qJU>

If you have any questions, please contact Seb Dows-Miller at [sebastian.dows-miller@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sebastian.dows-miller@bodleian.ox.ac.uk).

## Kommenian Legacy Symposium

**The Komnenian Restoration of Byzantium & its Legacy**

Worcester College, University of Oxford 22nd - 24th May 2025

Scholars have used the concept of the 'Komnenian Restoration' of Byzantium for many years, and yet the term has never received a critical analysis: what did the Komnenoi believe they were restoring? Did they achieve any of their aims, in what ways, and what was the legacy of their successes and failures?



This workshop aims to gather both established and emerging Komnenian Scholars to analyse these questions, and to do so across all fields including cultural, religious, administrative, legal and societal history as well as military. Likewise, it will have an especial focus on the Komnenian legacy, both towards the Byzantine successor states of the 13th century, and also the Turkish and Latin polities that arose after their 12th century peak.

This symposium will also discuss the publication of a handbook of Komnenian scholars, and so welcome attendees who would also consider contributing to such a volume. This event will also involve associated cultural events, such as a workshop on Komnenian manuscripts in the Bodleian Library.

For more information and to register interest in attending, please fill in this online form by the 14th April 2025 - late contact will be considered, but the event may have reached capacity by then.

## Middle Ages in the Modern World (MAMO) conference

Registration is now open for the 5<sup>th</sup> Middle Ages in the Modern World (MAMO) conference, a multidisciplinary conference on medievalism in the post-Middle Ages. Featuring over 100 speakers, plenary lectures, performances, events and roundtables, MAMO will explore the ways in which the Middle Ages have been received, imagined, invoked, relived, used, abused, and refashioned in the modern and contemporary worlds. This year's MAMO incorporates a special strand on the London Chaucer Conference: Reception.

It will be held on 24-26 June 2025, King's College London (Strand Campus). Further details can be found at <https://themamo.org/>.

## Handle with Care: The Oldest Translations of the Bible in English

Thursday 5 June 2025, St Cross Lecture Theatre, 4.30pm

Register [here](#)

**A Lecture by Professor Francis Leneghan, Professor of Old English and Fellow of St Cross College.**

The translation of the Bible into English did not begin, as is often thought, with the King James Bible. In fact, parts of the Bible were translated into English as early as the eighth century when the Venerable Bede began a translation of the Gospel of John. During the ninth and tenth centuries, the translation of scripture into English gathered pace as vernacular versions of the Gospels and the first seven books of the Old Testament (the Heptateuch) were produced, as well as a multitude of English glosses on Latin Bibles and homilies and biblical paraphrases. With these translations, the Bible was becoming increasingly available for the first time to readers outside of the walls of the monastery: noble laymen and women could now read parts of the Bible in their own homes. At the same time Benedictine monks such as Abbot Ælfric of Eynsham were pushing back against this widening access to scripture, fearing that lay readers might be confused and led into sin by unsupervised exposure to some of the Bible's more contradictory and complex elements, especially the Old Testament. This talk will tell the story of the earliest translations of the Bible in the English language, demonstrating how the Bible played a central role in the emergence of English national identity during this transformational period.

## Merton College History of the Book Group Lecture

Wednesday 7 May 2025 (2<sup>nd</sup> week), 5pm

Location: Merton College, Mure Room

Speaker: Professor Orietta Da Rold (Professor of Medieval Literature and Manuscript Studies, University of Cambridge)

**“The many crafts of paper”**

Attendees will have the opportunity to view medieval works on paper from the Merton Library and Archives.

The talk will be followed by refreshments.

All are welcome, and we would appreciate an RSVP to [julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:julia.walworth@merton.ox.ac.uk)



# Transmitting and Preserving Languages in the Medieval and Early Modern Mediterranean

Date: 5th June 2025

Venue: Balliol College, Gillis Lecture Theatre and Massey Room (Oxford OX1 3BJ) & online

Convenors: Daniel Gallaher and Ugo Mondini

The workshop explores how and why languages were taught, learned, and sustained across the diverse and shifting socio-cultural landscapes of the late medieval and early modern Mediterranean. Integrating history with historical sociolinguistics and adopting a comparative and cross-disciplinary perspective, the workshop aims to identify shared trends, comparable elements, and distinctive features in language learning and transmission. This approach offers a renewed perspective on the interconnected Mediterranean world—a region where multilingualism, mobility, and intercultural exchange were and are central to daily life. The impact of these dynamics on language teaching, preservation, and use has often been underestimated.

The event will include dedicated time for discussion and reflection, allowing participants to engage in a broader conversation about language, identity, and cultural transmission. At its core, the project reimagines the medieval and early modern Mediterranean, not merely as a space of teaching, learning, and multilingual exchange.

The activity is sponsored by the Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute.

Please see the OMS blog for the full programme. For more information about the programme and to register for online attendance, please contact Ugo Mondini at [ugo.mondini@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ugo.mondini@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk).

## Poetry, Power, Literacy, and the Emergence of Vernacular Literatures

Date: 16th June 2025, 9 am - 6:30 pm

Venue: Radcliffe Humanities Building, Seminar Room (Oxford OX2 6GG) & online

Convenors: Ugo Mondini and Michael Angerer

Confirmed speakers: Wiebke Denecke (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Thibaut d'Hubert (University of Chicago), Jane Gilbert (University College London), Martin Orwen (Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale), Alberto Ravani (Princeton University), and Elizabeth Tyler (University of York).

The workshop is part of the activities of the TORCH Network Poetry in the Medieval World.

For more information about the programme and to register for online attendance, please contact Ugo Mondini at [ugo.mondini@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ugo.mondini@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk).





# Oxford Medieval Manuscript Group - Practice-based Workshop



OXFORD MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS GROUP

## ***GOLD in Medieval Illumination: Practiced-based Workshop***

16 May 2025

2pm

with

Sara Charles, School of Advanced Studies,  
University of London

All materials are provided. **£10 fee.** Limited places available.  
For enquiries and registration contact us at  
[oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com) by 10 May 2025.

*In association with Oxford Medieval Studies, sponsored by The Oxford  
Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH) and the Faculty of History*

## **Lincoln Unlocked 2025: 'Achilles at Lincoln: Unlocking the Medieval Text of a Classical Poem'**

Thursday 19th June 2025

5:15-7pm

Weston Library

A Bodleian Centre for the Study of the Book / *Lincoln Unlocked* Lecture.

Book for free at: <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/jun25/achilles-at-lincoln>

This *Lincoln Unlocked* lecture showcases Linc. Coll. MS Lat.27, a remarkable medieval manuscript containing a heavily glossed copy of Statius' *Achilleid*. Owned by prominent Lincoln College donor and English humanist Robert Fleming, the manuscript unlocks a world of medieval and humanist intellectual culture. In today's appreciation of the Classics, Statius receives less airtime than he deserves, especially his unfinished *Achilleid*. Examining the extensive, elaborate, early glosses to this poem in Lat.27 illuminates the ways in which the Classics were read and valued in the Middle Ages. An exhibition of Bodleian and Lincoln College manuscripts will situate Lat.27 amongst manuscripts of Statius and Lincoln's special collections.

After the lecture, there will be a reception in Blackwell Hall.

Speakers: Rebecca Menmuir (Lincoln College, Oxford) and Simon Whedbee (Loyola University, New Orleans)





# O'Donnell Lecture: The Morrigan Revisited



## O'DONNELL LECTURE

### The Morrigan Revisited

Professor Ronald Hutton (University of Bristol)

2 May 2025 | 5pm, Lecture Theatre 2, English Faculty

The Morrigan is the best-known goddess figure in medieval Irish literature next to Brigid, and in many ways epitomizes the dark aspects of Celtic female divinity, representing sorcery, sexuality, shapeshifting and war. At the same time there has been no consensus among recent academic experts concerning her essential character. This lecture seeks to fulfil the O'Donnell remit by using both a fresh analysis of the medieval texts and a comparison of other mythologies to suggest such a character for her, to explain her relationship with other Irish war goddesses and spirits and to account for her uniquely high profile, in comparison with those other beings, in modern Western culture.

Image credit: 'Cú Chulainn riding his chariot into battle with the Morrigan flying overhead' by Joseph Christian Leyendecker (1874-1951) from T. W. Rolleston, Myths and Legends of the Celtic Race (1911).



FACULTY OF  
ENGLISH



# Digital Byzantine Studies: Current Methods and Future Applications

Friday 16 May, 9:30am - 7:30pm

Maison Française d'Oxford

Convenors: **Claudia Sode** (Universität zu Köln), **Alessio Sopracasa** (Sorbonne Université), **Olivier Delouis** (CNRS-Collège de France/MFO)

In recent years, related fields such as Classical and Medieval Studies have made significant progress in developing auxiliary disciplines—papyrology, epigraphy, numismatics, and linguistics—through the use of digital tools. Byzantine Studies, however, still lag behind in this area. Institutions like Sorbonne University, the University of Cologne, and the CNRS Orient & Méditerranée (Paris) have recently come together to apply digital methods to Byzantine sources, including seals, manuscripts, and coins. Nevertheless, more work is needed to establish standardized, reliable methodologies and sustainable data practices, particularly through engagement with broader digital initiatives in Classics and Medieval Studies. This workshop will explore XML encoding and AI applications in areas such as digital palaeography, sigillography, and epigraphy (using TEI and EpiDoc for post-classical Greek); prosopography (via the PROSOPON consortium); numismatics (AI-assisted EpiDoc for coin inscriptions); and papyrology and manuscript studies (ontology-based metadata description).

*This workshop is made possible through the support of the DigiByzSeal project, funded by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the University of Cologne, Sorbonne University (Initiative Circulation médiévales - MeCir), the CNRS (UMR 8167 Orient & Méditerranée, Paris), the VolkswagenStiftung-funded initiative “Creating a Sustainable Digital Infrastructure for Research-Based Teaching in Byzantine Studies” based at the University of Cologne, and the Maison française d'Oxford.*

## Chant Workshops and a Service in Iffley Church

**Saturday 17th May 2025 11.00 - 19.00** in celebration of St Dunstan.

This is a special day of chant in Iffley's beautiful 12th-century church on Saturday 17th May 2025 11.00 - 19.00 in celebration of St Dunstan.

Come and learn! Come and sing! See and hear Iffley's church bells and handbells.

Discover the peculiarities and interest of the office of music for St Dunstan's feast-day with Dr Matthew Ward, Henry Darlison and the Schola Gregoriana of Cambridge. Learn how to sing medieval music notated in a 13th century manuscript, supposedly composed by St Dunstan, patron saint of bellringers.

The day is divided into three parts:

11.00-12.30 Introduction to singing chant

1.45-4.15 Talks and Workshop

4.15-5.30 Tea, tours of the church and Iffley's bell tower

6.00-7.00 Service in church with you as the choir

Refreshments throughout!

Whole day £15 (students £7.50). Service FREE

See <https://livingstonesiffley.org.uk/events>

To book a place on this course, please copy this link and email [info@scholagregoriana.org](mailto:info@scholagregoriana.org)







# Christianity Before Conversion: The Archaeology of Liturgy



Dr Helen Gittos

*Colyer-Fergusson Fellow and Tutor in Early  
Medieval History, Balliol College, Oxford*

Friday 2 May 2025, 5 p.m.  
Collier Room, Regent's Park College, Oxford

Zoom: [https://trin-cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/  
j/4271176726?omn=99430756474](https://trin-cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/4271176726?omn=99430756474)





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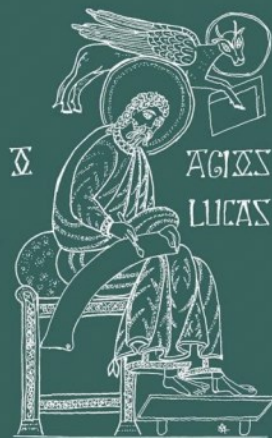


THE OXFORD CENTRE FOR LATE ANTIQUITY  
INVITES YOU TO A CELEBRATION OF:

*Bede: Commentary  
on the Gospel of Luke*

Translated with introduction and notes  
by Calvin B. Kendall and Faith Wallis

TFH



**CALVIN KENDALL & FAITH WALLIS**

**BEDE: COMMENTARY ON THE GOSPEL OF LUKE**

Please join the authors (online), Sarah Foot, and Rosalind Love  
for discussion

Dorfman Centre, St Peter's College, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 5pm

A drinks reception will follow



# Seminars

## Medieval History Seminar

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

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

Week 1 28 April	Graeme Ward (Tübingen) 'Biography, Textual Authority, and the Transformation of the Carolingian World'
Week 2 5 May	Amanda Power (St Catherine's College Oxford) 'Salvation, alienation and sacrifice zones from medieval to modern thought'
Week 3 12 May	Stephen Mossman (Manchester) 'Lessons for Late Medieval Literary History from Strasbourg'
Week 4 19 May	Julia Smith (All Souls) and Ana Dias (Brasenose) 'Surviving in the archives: how to make sense of early medieval relic labels'
Week 5 26 May	Teresa Witcombe (St John's College Oxford) 'People as property? Captives and slaves in medieval Iberia'
Week 6 2 June	Megan Welton (UCD) ' <i>Diu nocteque</i> : Investigating Liturgical Programs of Prayer for Tenth-Century Ruling Women'
Week 7 9 June	Andrew Dunning (Bodleian Library Oxford) 'The Cult of Saint Frideswide in Medieval Oxford'
Week 8 16 June	Stuart Airlie (Glasgow) 'Returns of the Repressed: Aby Warburg's cultural history of Percy Ernst Schramm'



# 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: 29 April

MCC Social

Everyone welcome to meet old friends and make new ones

## Week 2: 6 May

Shaw Worth (Magdalen) - '*Bien est avoiré sur vous le langage*': *practising allegory* between text and image in three manuscripts of Alain Chartier's *Livre d'Espérance*, 1450-1470

Sophie Boehler (St Hugh's): *Seeress to Abbess: women's evolving dreams, visions and prophecies during the Icelandic conversion period*

## Week 3: 13 May

Umberto Bongianino (AMES): '*Nuggets of Ancient Wisdom*': *an early Andalusí fragment of the Almagest and its context*

## Week 4: 20 May

Kevin Carlson (St Peter's): *Reorienting Towards Life: a queer, medieval phenomenology of death in an anonymous 12thc Latin poem*

Leslie Pencheng (St Catz): *Transforming the Ineffable: metaphors in Julian of Norwich and the Cloud of Unknowing*

## Week 5: 27 May

Rachel Cresswell (Blackfriars)

Title tbc

## Week 6: 3 June

Cosima Gilhammer (Christ Church): *Liturgy and Translation in Medieval England*

## Week 7: 10 June

Francesca Peacock (Lincoln): '*Thu and thi wyff arn barrany and bare!*': *the experience of infertility and the cult of St Anne in medieval East Anglia, c. 1100 - 1500*

Isabelle Amy Job (St Anne's): *Blanche of Castile and Le Miroir de l'Ame*

Molly Bray (Lincoln): *Conspicuous Materiality, Collective Devotion: making and exchanging textiles in the Lüneburg Heath c. 1500*

## Week 8: 17 June

Cassidy Serhienko (Pembroke): '*That Fayre Lady*': *women and the code of chivalry in late Arthurian romance*

Senia Magzumov (Worcester): *Imagining the Rus' Pagan Past in the Radziwill Chronicle: a comparative study with the Litsevoi Letopisnyi Svod*

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





# Medieval Visual Culture Events

Questions? Contact Prof. Nancy Thebaut [nancy.thebaut@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nancy.thebaut@history.ox.ac.uk)

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**Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**  
5-6:30 pm, Lecture Theatre, History Faculty

## **Frustration and Failure: Medieval Images of Christ's Transfiguration (12-13th c.)**

**Vincent Debiais**  
Professor, Ecole des Hautes études  
en sciences sociales & CNRS

*Medieval Visual Culture Seminar*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**  
5-6 pm, Lincoln College, Oakeshott Room

## **Vera mensura. Dimensional realism in medieval manuscripts**

**Aden Kumler**  
Professor, Universität Basel

*June & Simon Li*  
*Lecture in the History of Art*





## Medieval English Research Seminar

Series organisers: Professor Fiona Stafford (University of Oxford), Professor Rachel Burns (University of Oxford)

Timing: Tuesdays 12.15pm, Weeks 1-6

Organising department: Faculty of English Language and Literature

29 April 2025 - Salvation and the Land in the Old English  
Helen Appleton (Oxford)

6 May 2025 - Nothing Matters: The Contemplative Poetics of Nought in Julian of Norwich and Beyond  
Raphaella Rohrhofer (University of Oxford)

13 May 2025 - Greek Mystical Theology in Old English Texts  
Eleni Ponirakis (University of Nottingham)

20 May 2025 - "Everything is broken": Mid Fourteenth-Century Alliterative Verse.  
Eric Weiskott (Boston College)

27 May 2025 - Feeling Aliene, Now and Then: Work, Contemplation, and Alienation between Medieval Devotion and Modern Academia / The Speaking Dead: Conversing with the Living from Beyond the Grave in Early English Literature  
Rowan Wilson (University of Oxford), Anine Eglund (University of Oxford)

3 June 2025 - Messy Chaucer  
Rita Copeland (Pennsylvania)

## Medieval Society and Landscape Seminar Series

Department for Continuing Education, **Rewley House**, 1 Wellington Square, OX1 2JA at 5 pm

Book [here](#).

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April

Chris Dyer (University of Leicester)

Winchcombe Abbey and 2,000 Peasants: Documenting a Crisis, 1340-1381

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Tom Johnson (Oriental College)

Building a Church out of Herring: Doles, Shares, and Maritime Community in a Fifteenth-Century Fishing Village

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May

Chris Briggs (Cambridge)

The Popular Classes and Royal Justice in Medieval England: Evidence from the Derbyshire Eyre of 1330-31

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Simon Townley (Victoria County History of Oxfordshire)

Everything Everywhere All at Once: Exploring Medieval Place and Society through Local History



## Medieval French Research Seminar

The seminars will take place in person at the Maison française d'Oxford ([www.mfo.ac.uk](http://www.mfo.ac.uk)). Drinks will be served from 5pm; the presentations will start at 5:15pm. For more information and to be added on the seminar's mailing list, contact [sophie.marnette@balliol.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.marnette@balliol.ox.ac.uk)

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

### Tuesday Week 1, 29 April 2025

'Categories of Knowledge: from Rhetoric to Theology through Brunetto Latini's *Tresor*'

Tina Montenegro (Boston College)

### Tuesday Week 3, 13 May 2025

'Imagining Sexual Politics in Late Medieval France: Aristotle, Giles of Rome, Jean de Meun, Christine de Pizan'

Phil Knox (Cambridge)

### Tuesday Week 5, 27 May 2025

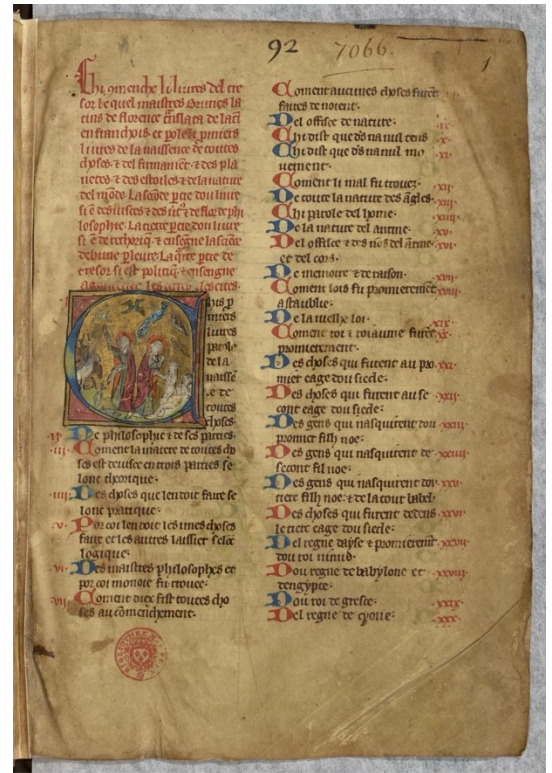
'The Anglo-Norman Bible (c.1350): rethinking a context'

Catherine Léglu (University of Luxembourg)

### Tuesday Week 7, 10 June 2025

'L'amour rêvé: des métalepses dans le *Songe Vert* ?'

Bastien Racca (Université de Fribourg, Switzerland)



Source: gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France, Département des Manuscrits, Français 566

Brunetto Latini, Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, français, 191

## Medieval German Graduate Seminar: Alexanderroman



*The ascension of Alexander in a griffin-drawn basket, with the help of a rabbit-on-a-stick steering device, Freiburg Münster*

The Medieval German Graduate Seminar meets Wednesdays 11.15am-12.45pm in Oriel College, Annette Volging's office. The first week will be a shortish planning meeting. The topic for this term are 'Alexanderroman'. If you are interested to be added to the teams group for updates, please [contact Henrike Lähnemann](#).



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

**(W1)** 30 April - Bryan Ward-Perkins (Trinity), 'Selecting, Arranging, Dressing and Aging the Saints in Ravenna's S. Apollinare Nuovo'

**(W2)** 7 May - Mark Janse (University of Ghent), 'Tepekozis: A Medieval Cyclops Story in Pharasiot (Asia Minor Greek)'

**(W3)** 14 May - Lorenzo Saccon (Wolfson), 'Pro Meliori et pro Utilitate Terre: Venetian Crete and the Exploitation of the post-Byzantine Aegean'

**(W4)** 21 May - Alicia Simpson (American College of Greece), 'Rhetoric and Reality in the Imperial Orations of Niketas Choniates'

**(W5)** 28 May - Rustam Shukurov (IMAFO, Vienna), 'The Empire of Trebizond: The State of Research and Possible Future Directions'

**(W6)** 4 June - Giuseppe Mendicino (University of Milan), 'John Tzetzes and the Heritage of Hephaestion: Transmission, Critique, and Innovation in Byzantine Treatises on Metrics'

**(W7)** 11 June - John-Francis Martin (Oriental), "'The Last Byzantine Controversy'" – Politics, Rhetoric, and Religion from the Council of Ferrara-Florence to the Fall of Constantinople'

**(W8)** 18 June - **Special OCBR lecture** - Marc Lauxtermann (Exeter), 'The Emergence of Fiction: Byzantium and the East'

## 15 May Environmental Humanities

**"Geotrauma, Emergency, and Sacrifice Zones: Medieval Historians in the Anthropocene"**

Thursday 15 May, 12:00 - 1:30pm. Colin Matthew Room, Humanities Division, Woodstock Rd.

A roundtable with Ling Zhang (Cambridge), John Sabapathy (UCL), and Amanda Power (Oxford)

## The Latin Hymn as Scriptural Exegesis - from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages

25-26 September 2025

Faculty of Classics, 66 St Giles'

Details to follow; more information from Tristan Franklino and Cosima Clara Gillhammer.

## Latin Responses to Horatian Lyric since 1150

16-17 April 2026

Faculty of Classics, 66 St Giles'

Details to follow; more information from Tristan Franklino.

This is the inaugural meeting of a new network that Tristan Franklino and Stephen Harrison, along with colleagues in Bonn, have set up across about twenty European institutions - *Canons of Latinity: 1150 to the present*.



# Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar Trinity Term 2025



The Medieval Women's Writing Research Group meets to discuss one last term everything to do with women's writing in the medieval period. We hold a variety of events throughout the term, ranging from research seminar sessions and reading group session to workshops. All welcome!

Stay up to date with events by joining our mailing list or following us on X @MedievalWomenOx.

Convenors: Katherine Smith, Marlene Schilling and Santhia Velasco Kittlaus.

## Week 1, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar: Saudamini Siegrist (NYU graduate) - Julian of Norwich and Modern Philosophy (preliminary title) - 5pm, in person & online: Lower Lecture Room, Lincoln College Oxford & online registration details via our website

## Week 3, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Medieval Women's Writing Research Workshop: Irene Van Eldere (University of Leiden) - Middle Dutch Books of Hours (provisional topic) - 5pm, Lower Lecture Room, Lincoln College Oxford

## Week 4, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar: Ved Prahba Shama (Independent Researcher) - Moving Beyond Knowledge in a Gendered Space - 2pm, online, registration details via our website

## Week 5, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May

Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar: Victoria Sands (University of Oxford) - The Dormer-Newdigate Family, London Charterhouse and English Reformation - 5pm, Lower Lecture Room, Lincoln College Oxford

## Week 7, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar: Kat Smith (University of Oxford) - The Virgin Mary in Medieval and Early Modern Women's Writing - 5pm, Lower Lecture Room, Lincoln College Oxford

## Week 8, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Medieval Women's Writing Reading Group's final session - Letters of Friendship and Gratitude - 5pm, Lower Lecture Room, Lincoln College Oxford

## Time and Date tbc

Medieval Women's Writing Research Workshop: Santhia Velasco Kittlaus & Marlene Schilling (University of Oxford) - Working with modern theory on Medieval Women's Writing (provisional topic), in person, venue tbc





## Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies Seminar Series

Oxford Centre of Islamic Studies, Marston Road, on Wednesdays at 5.00pm.  
For more details, please visit <https://www.oxcis.ac.uk/>



### 30 April

Professor Sevket Pamuk (Bogaziçi University)  
Political Economy and Economic Institutions of the Ottoman Empire in  
Comparative Perspective

### 7 May

Professor Christophe Jaffrelot (Kings College London)  
Beyond Castes and Regions: The Socio-Economic Decline of Muslims in Contemporary India

### 14 May

Mr Ali Allawi (Former Minister of Finance, Defense, and Trade of Iraq)  
Rich World, Poor World: The Struggle to Escape Poverty in Muslim Societies

### 21 May

Dr Michael Callen (London School of Economics)  
Building State Capacity in Fragile States

### 28 May

Professor Blain Auer (University of Lausanne)  
The Origins of Perso-Islamic Courts and Empires in India

### 4<sup>th</sup> June

Professor Anoush Ehteshami (Durham University)  
Iran's Crisis of Governance

### 11<sup>th</sup> June

Dr Sophia Vasalou (University of Birmingham)  
Al-Ghazālī and the Ideal of Godlikeness

### 18<sup>th</sup> June

Dr Glaire Anderson (University of Edinburgh)  
A Bridge to the Sky: Science and Arts in the Age of Ibn Firnas (d. 887)



## Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures (CMTC)



### **14 May (Wednesday, Week 3) 5.30pm: WMTTC Termly Lecture**

Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Tamara Atkin (English Faculty & The Queen's College): On Fragments

### **27 May (Tuesday, Week 5) 5.15pm: Work-in-Progress Colloquium**

Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Laure Miolo (Lincoln College)

Predicting and observing eclipses in fourteenth-century Paris: what the manuscripts tell us

Shazia Jagot (University of York)

Astrolabe as archive and an archive of astrolabes: Chaucer's astrolabe and its Islamic affordances

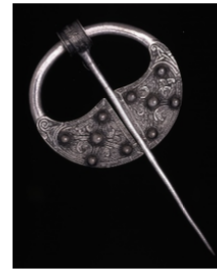
### **4 June (Wednesday, Week 6) 4.30-6pm: CMTC Social 'Tea'. Everyone Welcome!**

Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Convenors: Dirk Meyer, Matthew Shaw, Angus Bowie, Ramani Chandramohan (Queen's)

## **Oxford Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland**

OXFORD CENTRE FOR EARLY MEDIEVAL  
BRITAIN AND IRELAND



### **Week 2: Sacralizing the Everyday**

*Tuesday 6th May, 5-6*

*Gillis Lecture Theatre, Balliol College*

*Presenters: Harriet Carter, Jenny Coulton, Charlotte Wood*

Short presentations exploring ongoing research centred around a shared theme – 'sacrilizing the everyday' – followed by questions and a group discussion.

### **Week 4: Book Launch**

**C. Kendall and F. Wallis' 'Bede: Commentary on the Gospel of Luke'**

*Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 5pm*

*Dorfman Centre, St Peter's College*

Please join the authors, Sarah Foot, and Rosalind Love for a discussion. Drinks reception to follow.

### **Week 6: Early Medieval Women: A Co-curated Exhibition**

*Date and Location TBD*

In response to the recent British Library 'Medieval Women' exhibit, a chance for all participants to nominate a historical item to include in a digital exhibition focused on *early* medieval women in Britain and Ireland.



# The 'science of the stars' in context: an introduction to medieval astronomical and astrological manuscripts and texts.

Venue and time: Weston Library, Horton room, 2-4pm.

Organisers: Laure Miolo & Alexandre Tur (Bibliothèque nationale de France)

The aim of this seminar is twofold: firstly, to facilitate the integration of the study of medieval astronomy and astrology together and, secondly, to introduce participants to manuscripts that may initially appear technical and to explain the underlying scientific concepts.

In six sessions we aim to provide a foundational seminar in the study of medieval astronomical and astrological sciences, with particular emphasis on the basic principles of Ptolemaic astronomy and astrology.

The seminar will provide a valuable opportunity to approach the discussed concepts from the point of view of the medieval manuscripts themselves, and not merely as theoretical constructs. Each session will include a study of the astronomical and astrological manuscripts on display. This will underline the importance of palaeography, philology and codicology in the construction of historical knowledge, especially in the history of medieval science. These sessions will enable participants to identify and analyse astronomical and astrological material found in manuscripts.

Open to all, registration required. To register e-mail: [laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk)

**30 April** (2-4pm) - Session 1: Introduction to the relationship between astronomy and astrology from Late Antiquity to the Renaissance.

**7 May** (2-4pm) - Session 2: The daily rotation of the celestial sphere (primum mobile) [1/2]

**14 May** (2-4pm) - Session 3: The daily rotation: understanding the stereographic projection of the celestial sphere [2/2]

**21 May** (2-4pm) - Session 4: Planetary motions and horoscope

**28 May** (2-4pm) - Session 5: Conjunctions and eclipses

**11 June** (2-4pm) - Session 6: Horoscope : dating and interpretating medieval horoscopes



St John's College MS 164, fol. 2r



{BnF

This seminar is generously funded by the Sanderson Fund, Oxford Faculty of History, and the Bibliothèque nationale de France, and hosted by the Bodleian Libraries.





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

Thursdays, 17.15-18.45 (KRC Lecture Room, 3 St John Street)

All Oxford students, staff, and the general public are welcome to attend.

## **Week 2 (8th May)**

*Lajvardina: A Re-evaluation of Distinctive Ilkhanid and Golden Horde Overglaze Painted Wares*

Richard Piran McClary (University of York)

## **Week 4 (22nd May)**

*Zoomorphic incense burners of medieval Khurasan*

Elizabeth Kelly (Independent researcher, London)

## **Week 6 (5th June)**

*The mosque as instrument: new approaches in the history of Islamicate astronomy*

Yusuf Tayara (Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies)



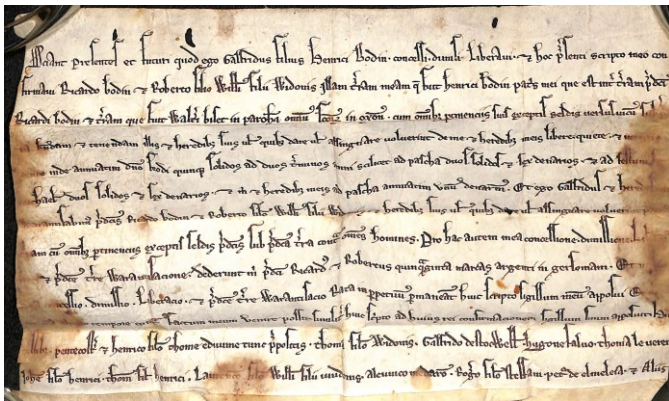
# Reading Groups and Societies

## French Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group

This group is open to anyone with an interest in Old French, Middle French and Anglo-Norman manuscripts. We study and read manuscripts from the 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

## Exploring Medieval Oxford through Lincoln & Magdalen Archives



Lincoln

**Weeks 1-4 Fridays 2-3pm, Seminar Room 1, EPA Centre, Museum Road, OX1 3PX**

Following the focus on medieval documents from Lincoln College last year, the seminar will now also include documents from Magdalen College in collaboration with Richard Allen (Magdalen College's archivist). Both Colleges holds an outstanding collection of archives predating the Colleges' respective foundations. A part of those documents relates to several parishes of Oxford, such as All Saint's, St Michael's at the Northgate and others.

This weekly one-hour seminar aims to investigate these unpublished documents, mostly deeds, dating back to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, that bear witness to everyday life in Oxford at the time. Anyone interested in analysing primary sources and conducting a comprehensive examination of the documents are welcome to attend. Working in pairs on a self-selected source, the research will entail the examination of the record's external characteristics (such as writing surface, layout, marks of use) as well as transcription, translation, and identification of locations and individuals mentioned in the records to establish a context. Special importance will be given to the seals attached to these documents.

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

Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo via email:

[laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk)

**Save the date for the one-day symposium and exhibition at Lincoln College on Friday 30 May 2025!  
Programme TBA.**



Oxford, St John's College MS 164, fol. 1r



## Latin Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group (advanced beginner, intermediate and advanced levels)

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 range of medieval manuscripts and documents from the 9th to the 15th centuries. The session includes analysis of different scripts, abbreviations and codicological features. Practice is the key to developing palaeographical skills and becoming more comfortable with different scripts, including the more cursive and abbreviated ones. The aim of this group is to teach the basic elements of each script and abbreviation in order to help in the direct reading and analysis of the manuscripts.

Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo via email: [laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk)

## Oxford Environmental History Working Group (EHWG)

Thursday 12:30-2:00pm, Colin Matthew Room, History Faculty (NB. Week 7 online)

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](mailto:environmentalhistoryworkinggroup-owner@maillist.ox.ac.uk). Alternatively, you can find our schedule on OxTalks and the Faculty's Environmental History website.

### Week One - Thursday May 1

Thomas Laskowski (MPhil Islamic Studies and History)

“Writing the Environmental History of the Medieval Islamic East”

### Week Three- Thursday May 15

Katerina Szylo (DPhil History)

“The Depths of Dissent: Labor, Environmental, and Political Dynamics in the Donbas Miners’ Strikes”

### Week 5 - Thursday May 29

Lucia Nixon (Classical Archaeology, Senior Tutor, St Hilda's, Co-Director, Sphakia Survey)

“Toward an Archaeology of Sustainability: Resource Packages and Landscape Management in Sphakia, Southwest Crete”

### Week 7 - Thursday June 12 **ONLINE**

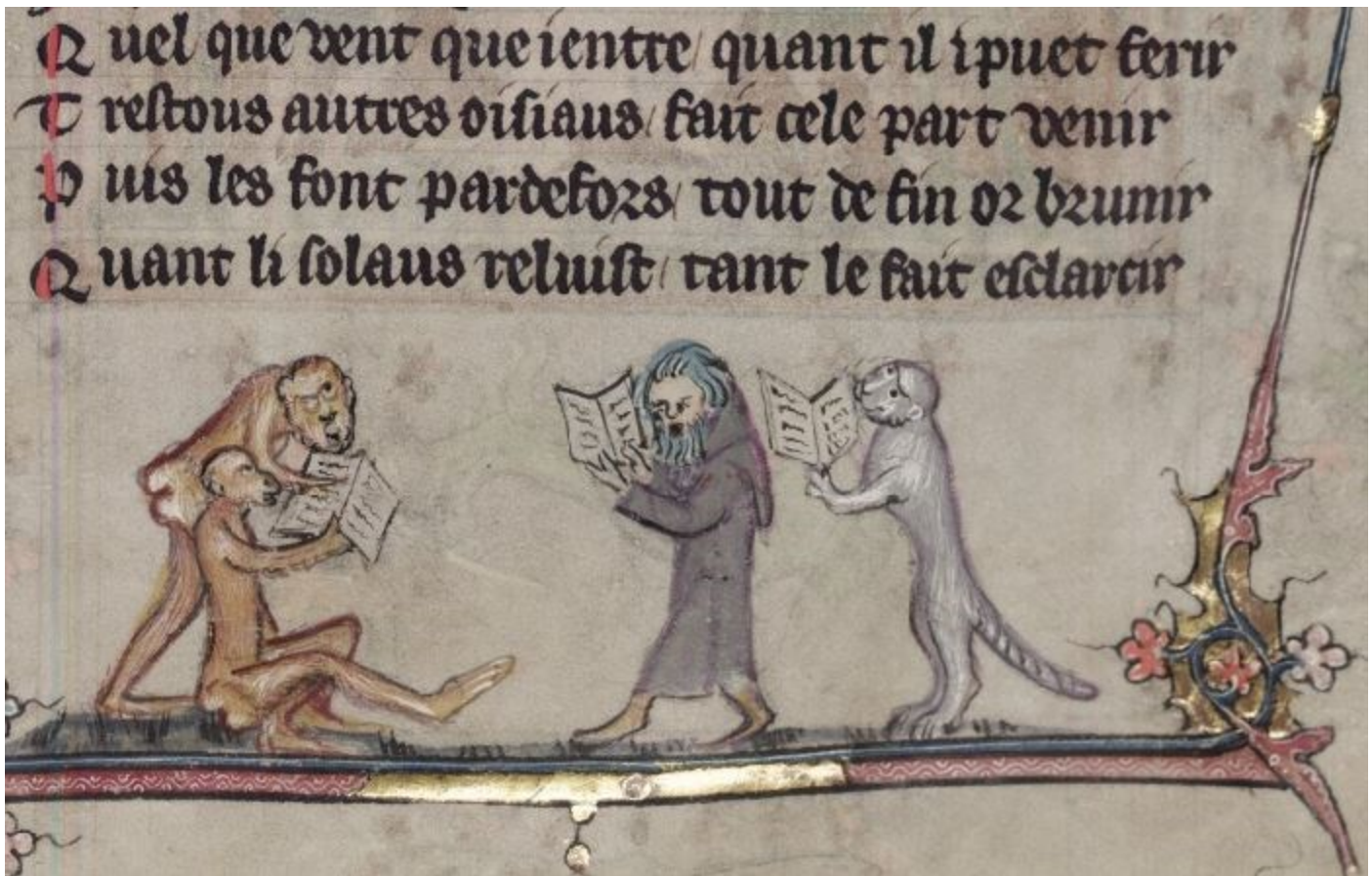
Bill Smith (DPhil History)

“Chains of Control and Reins of Resistance: Nonhuman Animals and the Plantationocene in the American South”





## Medieval Manuscripts Support Group



Bodleian Library, MS. Bodl. 264, f. 96r

We are pleased to trial a new format, once or twice a term, in which readers of medieval manuscripts can pose questions to a mixed group of fellow readers and Bodleian curators in a friendly environment. Come with your own questions, or to see what questions other readers have! <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/2024/07/15/medieval-mss-support-group/>

The sort of questions you might bring are:

- What is the place and date of origin of this MS?
- What is the place and date of origin of this binding?
- What does the decoration of this MS suggest?
- What does this semi-legible inscription say?
- Whose bookplate is this, or how could I find out?

Meetings will typically be held in the Horton Room (just across the corridor from the manuscripts reading room on the 1st floor). If you wish to pose a question, please order the relevant manuscript to the issue desk, and email the details to [Matthew Holford](#), Tolkien Curator of Medieval Manuscripts, the day before, so that he can arrange for it to be transferred across to the Horton Room for the session. Alternatively, provide a good quality digital image that we can display on a large monitor.

In the expectation that many readers will be at the Weston Library on Fridays for the [weekly Coffee Morning](#) in the Visiting Scholars' Centre, the next such sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

Friday, 4 April (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

Friday, 2 May (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

Friday, 16 May (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

Friday, 30 May (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

Friday, 13 June (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

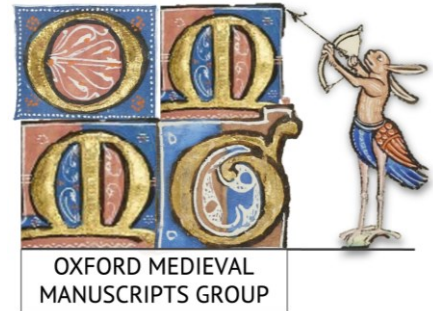
Friday, 1 August (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm

Friday, 5 September (Horton Room) 11.30-12:30pm



# Oxford Medieval Manuscript Group

For all enquiries, please write to: [oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com)  
Organisers: Irina Boeru, Fergus Bovill, Ana Dias, Charly Driscoll, Antonia Delle Fratte, Elena Lichmanova, Mathilde Mioche, Celeste Pan, Klara Zhao



## Week 1, 2 May

### Merton College Library Visit

*Previous experience of handling medieval manuscripts is desirable*  
*Limited places, write to the email above by 30/04/2025*

## Week 3, 16 May, 14:00

Sara Charles, School of Advanced Studies, University of London

### *Gold in Medieval Illumination: Practiced-based Workshop*

*All materials are provided. £10 fee. In association with Oxford Medieval Studies, sponsored by The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH) and the Faculty of History*  
*Limited places, write to the email above by 10/05/2025*

## Week 4, 23 May ONLINE

### Reading Group: Connoisseurship

Sonja Drimmer, *Connoisseurship, Art History, and the Paleographical Impasse in Middle English Studies* (2022)

Jonathan Alexander, *Art History, Literary History, and the Study of Medieval Manuscripts* (1997)

Sydney Cockerell, *The Gorleston Psalter* (1907)

*Write to the email above to join*

## Week 5, 30 May, Merton College, Hawkins Room

### Work-in-Progress Session

Irene Van Eldere | Leiden University

*Designing Devotion: Characteristics of Early Middle Dutch Books of Hours*

Elvira Miceli | Wolfson College, Oxford

*Kingship and the Question of Iconography in the Liber ad honorem Augusti: Bern, Burgerbibliothek, Cod. 120 II*

## Week 6, 6 June, 15:00, Venue TBC

### *Connoisseurship and Medieval Manuscripts: A Roundtable*

Michael Michael (University of Glasgow) | Emily Guerry (St Peter's College, Oxford) | Peter Kidd (Independent Researcher)



## Middle English Reading Group (MERG)

### Middle English Reading Group (MERG).

Thursdays / 2-3pm / Weeks 1-6, Lincoln College

Weeks 1-3: Beckington Room

Weeks 4-6: Smoking Room

Join us to read the 'double sorwe' of *Troilus and Criseyde* in a weekly reading group. We will be reading from the end of Book IV.

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email [rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

## Germanic Reading Group

The Germanic Reading Group takes a break this term and will be back in Michaelmas. Please contact **Howard Jones** [Howard.Jones@sbs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Howard.Jones@sbs.ox.ac.uk) to be added to the email list when it resumes.

## Anglo-Norman Reading Group

"The Oxford Anglo-Norman Reading Group will meet on Fridays of odd weeks (2nd, 16th, and 30th May, 13th June) at 5.00. We finish at 6.30. All are welcome, at whatever level (or none!) of French. We read a text together, helping one another as necessary, translating and discussing. Meetings are hybrid: on Zoom, or in person at The Farmington Institute in Harris Manchester College (top floor), thanks to our host Professor Lesley Smith. Wine and soft drinks are available, thanks to TORCH, to help our studies along.

>

This term we shall be reading extracts from the Life of St Katherine, by the nun Clemence of Barking Abbey. Texts will be provided in advance of each meeting (please bring your own copy, on paper or on screen, as we cannot provide photocopies). It is with regret that I announce this is my last term convening the group. If anybody would like to take over, I will give them every support.

> Please contact me for questions or further details: Jane Bliss ([jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org](mailto:jane.bliss@lmh.oxon.org)); or Lesley Smith at Farmington ([lesley.smith@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lesley.smith@history.ox.ac.uk))"

## The Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group

The Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group will continue 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, please contact [michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk).



Previous attachment

# Middle English Reading Group

TRINITY TERM 2025:  
TROIILUS AND CRISEYDE

Thursdays / 2-3pm / Weeks 1-6

Lincoln College  
Weeks 1-3: Beckington Room  
Weeks 4-6: Smoking Room

Join us to read the 'double sorwe' of *Troilus and Criseyde* in a weekly reading group. We will be reading from the end of Book IV.

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email [rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

Image: Bodleian, MS Arch. Seld. B. 24, fol. 1r: the opening of Chaucer's *Troilus and Criseyde*.





# Opportunities

## Social Media Officer for OMS wanted!



The OMS Social Media Linktree: <https://beacons.ai/oxfordmedievalstudies>

After three years of terrific achievements in expanding the Social Media presence for Oxford Medieval Studies (check out the promotional video for OMS on our youtube channel, the TikTok and the LinkedIn profile), Ashley Castelino is leaving Oxford to take up a position at Notre Dame. We are looking for a current graduate student as successor from mid-May, ideally obviously somebody who will be in Oxford at least for one further academic year. Please do send in your application to Lesley Smith and Henrike Lähnemann by under [medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk) by **Friday, 9 May 2025, 12noon**, with your CV and your ideas how to built on the social media presence in the future.

## OMS Small Grants Now Open!

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.



## Old Frisian Summer School

The Oxford/Groningen 2025 Old Frisian Summer School (OFSS25) will take place in Groningen (Netherlands), 7th-11th July. This will be a fun way to learn Old Frisian in a week, to view original Old Frisian manuscripts and to see the world heritage landscape of old Frisian ‘terps’ or dwelling mounds.

Theme of the OFSS25 : Old Frisian : A Gem within the Old Germanic Languages.

The OFSS25 should be of special interest to students (UG and PG) and Early Career Researchers of Old English, Old Norse, Old High German or Gothic who are interested in learning Old Frisian. You will be taught grammar and practice translation in hands-on workshops. Invited speakers will give lectures by on the Old Frisian text corpus and history to provide historical and cultural context. Library visits to view the manuscripts are on the programme and a tour around the ‘terps’ will be organised on 12th July.

Further info: <https://www.rug.nl/education/summer-winter-schools/old-frisian/>

Apply before:

- 1 May 2025 for in-person participation
- 1 June 2025 for online attendance

Selection will take place on a rolling basis.

For further information email Johanneke Sytsema on [oldfrisian@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk](mailto:oldfrisian@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk)

## 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.

## CfP: Music and Reformation: A Symposium at Lambeth Palace Library, 16 September 2025

To accompany our upcoming exhibition Sing Joyfully: Exploring Music in Lambeth Palace Library, Lambeth Palace Library will be hosting a symposium on the subject of Music and Reformation. The symposium forms part of Lambeth Palace Library's celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Arundel Choirbook (Lambeth Palace Library MS 1), a volume which has been held by the Library since the 17th century. Among other themes, we will foster discussion around music fragments recently discovered and identified in library collections. The symposium will be a space for researchers, music practitioners and library and archive professionals to share knowledge and experience across professional fields. We welcome proposals from people at all career stages, and from professional and amateur practice.

Themes might include:

- Change and continuity in 16th century music in the British Isles
- Music and the Book of Common Prayer
- Chant in services, pre- and post-reformation
- Setting the psalms in the Church of England
- Polyphony in English church music, pre- and post-reformation
- Fragments of music in printed books
- Reformation-era music in the British Isles beyond the Church of England

The day will include a variety of session formats. We invite you to specify the length of proposed talks (10, 20 or 30 minutes, or panel discussions). Applicants can propose an individual presentation or suggest



a themed session or roundtable. We also welcome proposals for presentations in formats other than conventional papers, if relevant. Applicants are requested to submit an abstract of 300 words to [LPLStaff@churchofengland.org](mailto:LPLStaff@churchofengland.org) with the subject line: 'Music and Reformation proposal'. Questions about the symposium can be addressed in the same way. Speakers are asked to attend in person. Sessions will be streamed online for those unable to attend in person. There will be time in the course of the day to visit the free exhibition *Sing Joyfully: Exploring Music* in Lambeth Palace Library.

We are committed to ensuring that our symposium is accessible to all participants. If you have any specific accessibility needs or require accommodations, please contact us at [LPLStaff@churchofengland.org](mailto:LPLStaff@churchofengland.org). We will make every effort to provide the necessary support to ensure your full participation in the event. Proposals by: 9 May 2025 Acceptances by: 13 June 2025 Symposium: 16 September, Lambeth Palace Library, 10:00-16:30 Venue: Lambeth Palace Library, 15 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7JT Refreshments: lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Full fee: £20 Student/Unwaged: £10 We have a small number of bursaries available for travel within the UK and registration fee. Please contact us if you would like to request a bursary. A

The symposium is generously supported by the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library.

## CfP: Staging Silence from Antiquity to the Renaissance

International conference, St John's College, Cambridge, 3-4 July 2025

This two-day, in-person conference will explore developing traditions of silence from antiquity to the Renaissance, chiefly in dramatic texts. Papers will address Classics, classical reception, comparative literature, and medieval and early modern English literature. Conference programme available at <https://stagingsilence.wordpress.com/>

Registration (open until **Friday 6 June**) is essential. There is no registration fee. To register your attendance, please go to: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTtguNhZJSkaB7mh1jONVmno3a\\_oX\\_mQj9B9BSp9zm3UVRcg/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTtguNhZJSkaB7mh1jONVmno3a_oX_mQj9B9BSp9zm3UVRcg/viewform?usp=header)

A limited amount of financial support is available for **untenued conference speakers** to help facilitate attendance at this event. For further details and to apply, please contact John Colley at [stagingsilence@gmail.com](mailto:stagingsilence@gmail.com). The application window for bursaries opens in March; the closing deadline is Friday 30 May 2025.

For further information, contact John Colley at [stagingsilence@gmail.com](mailto:stagingsilence@gmail.com).

## Medieval Manuscripts Summer Intern, Oxford

### Medieval Manuscripts Summer Intern, Oxford (SIP) - Bodleian Library, Special Collections, Medieval Manuscripts

Discover the world of medieval manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, bringing special collections to new audiences and conducting a research project tailored to your interests.

Available for current Oxford graduate students only; apply by 12 May 2025 for a six-week internship! More info here: <https://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/summer-internships-sector-list#collapse4198516>





# 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](mailto: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](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! 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.



**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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