SEMINARS ON

MEDIEVAL TOPICS

LENT TERM 2021

This list can also be found at: www.medievalstudies.group.cam.ac.uk/

If you know of a seminar, lecture, event, or workshop which may be of interest to other medievalists and which we might add to this booklet, please contact:

[medievalstudies@english.cam.ac.uk](mailto:medievalstudies@english.cam.ac.uk)

Many seminars have gone into abeyance this year, given the pandemic. We leave links and information pertaining to previous years, in the hopes that in future the seminars will return. If there is no listing of event, that is because we are not aware of anything scheduled this term. Hang in there, medievalists, and stay safe!



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Updated: 4 Feb. 21

# Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic

### ASNC Research Seminar

<https://www.asnc.cam.ac.uk/events/index.htm>

Seminars meet at 5pm on Zoom via the mailing list.

5 February- Colleen Curran (Oxford), ‘Writing regional identities: cross-cultural scribal exchanges between Britain and Brittany.’

19 February- Diana Luft, ‘Whatever happened to the Physicians of Myddfai?’

5 March- Brynja Thorgeirsdottir, title tba

12 March- Alex Rider, ‘The Exeter Book, The Phoenix, and the Interlingual Mode.’

### ASNC Graduate Seminar

<https://www.asnc.cam.ac.uk/events/index.htm>

Seminars meet at 5pm on Zoom via the mailing list.

1 February- Elizabeth Boyle (Maynooth), ‘Poetry, Idolatry and Learned Discourse in Medieval Ireland: Rethinking Amairgen son of Eccet Salach.’

15 February- Emily Thornbury (Yale), ‘Experimenting with Latin Verse in Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 307.’

1 March- Graduate presentations from Joseph McCarthy, Roan Runge, and Sophie Hemmings. **Please note that attendance is restricted to Department members only**

8 March- Janet Kay (Princeton), ‘“Blood will out?” Stable isotopes, ancient DNA, and the Adventus Saxonum.’

Reading Groups

Medieval Irish- Mondays at 1pm virtually. Contact David McCay (dwem3) for more information.

Old Norse- Wednesdays at 1pm, starting on 14 October, virtually. Contact Lee Colwill (ec504) for more information.

Medieval Welsh- Thursdays at 1pm, starting on 15 October, virtually. Contact Brigid Ehrmantraut (dke22) for more information.

Thirty-second Annual Chadwick Lecture, 2021

This year's thirty-second annual lecture will take place via Zoom on 18 March 2021. It will be given by Professor Ralph Mathisen (Illinois) and entitled *Barbarians, Hacksilver, and Hoards: The New Monetary Economy on Rome's Northern Frontier*. [Register here to attend](https://cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAucuCoqDMsGd0H6I4eqCmXlw0lQxC_Bexq).

# Archaeology

Medieval Archaeology Group

[www.mcdonald.cam.ac.uk/events/mag](http://www.mcdonald.cam.ac.uk/events/mag)

<https://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/events/medieval-archaeology-seminar-group>

Seminar meets from 1:15pm to 2pm on Zoom.

1 February- Dr Adrián Maldonado (National Museum of Scotland), ‘Fragments of the Sacred: The Material Culture of the Early Medieval’

15 March- Prof Alison Gascoigne (University of Southhampton), ‘Ceramics and the City: Industry, Society and Space in Fustat, Egypt’

The African Archaeology Group (AAG)

<https://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/events/african-archaeology-group>

Seminar meets from 4pm to 5pm on Zoom.

2 February- Prof David Wright, ‘Landscapes in Flux: The Changing Influence of Humans on the Ecologies of Malawi, 100,000 Years Ago to Today’

23 February- Dr Abigail Moffet, ‘Frontiers and Entanglements: New Perspectives on Connections between Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean World (600-1600 CE)’

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Asian Archaeology Seminar Series

For more information contact Dylan Gaffney (dacg2@cam.ac.uk) or follow us on Facebook at: facebook.com/CamAsianArch/

# Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

LAMMEC

(Late Antique and Medieval Middle East at Cambridge) Work-in-Progress meetings

We’ll meet  **virtually** to discuss precirculated texts of work in progress. We have papers allocated for all of these sessions, but because of the nature of the workshop, you’ll need to have read a copy of the work. If you’d like to join us, please contact Dr Andrew Marsham, [adm56@cam.ac.uk](mailto:adm56@cam.ac.uk) in advance of the meeting for a copy of the paper.

Centre of South Asian Studies Seminar

<https://www.s-asian.cam.ac.uk/whats-on-2/>

Middle East Studies Seminar

<https://www.ames.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/mes-public-talks-seminar-series-lent-2021>

Seminar meets on Thursdays at 5.15pm on Zoom.

21 January- Ursula Sims-Williams (British Library), ‘Collections within Collections: A Study of Tipu Sultan’s Library’

4 February- Dr Sussan Babaie (Courtauld Institute of Art), title tba

18 February- Prof Amira Bennison (University of Cambridge), ‘”The King is Dead. Long Live the King!” Stories of Succession and Accession in the Medieval Islamic West’

4 March- Prof Richard van Leeuwen (University of Amsterdam), ‘The Thousand and One Nights and World Literature in the Twentieth Century’

East Asia Seminar Series

<https://www.ames.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/east-asia-seminar-series-lent-2021>

Seminar meets at 6pm on Zoom.

15 March- Prof Thomas Conlan (Princeton University), ‘East Asian Traders and Multiethnic Kings: Uncovering a Lost History of Japan (1350-1569)

# Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Dunhuang & Silk Road Seminar Series

<https://www.ames.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/dunhuang-silk-road-seminar-series-lent-2021>

Seminar meets at 5pm on Zoom.

21 January- Prof Aleksandr Naymark (Hofstra University, New York), ‘Contours of Early Sogdian History as Revealed by Recent Numismatic and Archaeological Research (4th century BCE- 6th century CE)

28 January- speaker and title tbc

4 February- Dr Paul Anderson (University of Cambridge), ‘Beyond the Silk Road: Yiwu and Commercial Connectivities across Eurasia’

11 February- speaker and title tbc

18 February- Dr Simone-Christiane Raschmann (Göttingen Academy of Sciences), ‘Remnants of Old Uyghur Literature in the Berlin Turfan Collection’

25 February- speaker and title tbc

4 March- Tomas Larsen Høsaeter (University of Bergen), title tbc

11 March- Flavia Fang (University of Cambridge), title tbc

Centre for Islamic Studies

<http://www.cis.cam.ac.uk/activities/forthcoming/>

# Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Cambridge Semitic Philology Seminars

The seminars will continue on Mondays 5-6pm. Each Friday you will receive a Zoom link for the seminar on the following Monday. I think contact Johan Lundberg [jmvl2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jmvl2@cam.ac.uk) if you are interested in participating.

1 Feb Yossef Rapaport, Queen Mary University

Qāf al-ʿarab: voiced vocalisation of q\* and tribal identity in the medieval Middle East, 1100 - 1500

8 Feb Estara Arrant, University of Cambridge

Fusions of Vocalisation and Codicology: A Window into the Common Bible World of the Cairo Genizah

15 Feb Ambjörn Sjörs, Sweden-America Foundation Postdoc Fellow

Functions of the L-Stem (Third Stem) in Quranic Arabic

22 Feb Ivri Bunis, University of Cambridge

Remarks on the Language of the Jewish Tombstones from Zoar and other Jewish Funerary Inscriptions from Late Antiquity

1 Mar Alba Fedeli, University of Hamburg

Vowels, readings, redundancy, and dots in early Qur'anic manuscripts

8 Mar Wiktor Gebski, University of Cambridge

Remarks on subordination in the Arabic dialect of the Jews of Gabes

22 Mar Alessia Prioletta, CNRS

Script and linguistic variation in the Thamudic inscriptions from the region of Hima (Saudi Arabia)

Johan Lundberg and Geoffrey Khan

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# Classics

Ancient History Research Seminar

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/seminars/c>

Seminar meets at 5.15pm on Zoom. Organized by Dr Rebecca Flemming and Prof Robin Osborne.

25 January- Seraina Ruprecht, ‘Epistolography and Friendship in Late Antiquity’

1 February- Sophia Wardle, ‘*Caveat emptor*: Roman fakes and fictitious finds in nineteenth-century London’

8 February- Zack Case ‘Aristophanes the feminist?’

15 February- Jannis Koltermann, ‘Beyond Gossip: Suetonius and the Politics of Private Life’

22 February- Elisabeth Slingsby, ‘The Enemy Within: Representations of the Sullan Civil Wars’

1 March- Daniel Hanigan, ‘Invisible Straits: Dionysius of Byzantium and the Mnemotechnics of Voyaging’

8 March- Peter Candy, ‘The Origins of the Structure of Roman Maritime Finance’

Classical Art & Archaeology Seminars

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/seminars/d>

Please find attached the seminars for Classical Art & Archaeology Seminars for the D Caucus for Lent term 2021. All start at 4.30 pm and they will be online (via zoom). Everyone welcome!

Join Zoom Meeting. <https://cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/94765092675>

**26 January** – Corisande Fenwick (London) *Living and Dying in Christian North Africa: the funerary landscape at Bulla Regia, Tunisia* (CANCELLED DUE TO SPEAKER ILLNESS – TO BE RESCHEDULED)

**2 February** – Sylvian Fachard (Lausanne/Athens) *The Borders of Attica: A Landscape Approach*

**9 February** – **NO SEMINAR**

**16 February** – Jan Sienkiewicz (Cambridge) *When Kylix Met Brazier... Local (re)production of chamber tomb burial and the dynamics of 'Mycenaeanisation' in the south-east Aegean*

**23 February** – Penelope Davies (Texas) *Title to be confirmed*

**2 March** – Nathan Arrington (Princeton) *After Nestor's Cup: Vase-Painting, Subjectivity, and the Symposium in the 7th Century*

**9 March** – Verity Platt (Cornell) *Ancient Relief: Terminology, Medium, Ontology*

**16 March** – Marcos Martinón-Torres (Cambridge) *Collective action: the making and breaking of gold objects in Early Bronze Age Crete*

# Divinity

History of Christianity Research Seminar

[divinity.cam.ac.uk/researchareas/seminars/history-of-christianity](https://www.divinity.cam.ac.uk/researchareas/seminars/history-of-christianity)

If you would like to receive the Zoom invitation, please email Richard Rex (rawr1@cam.ac.uk)

# English

Medieval Latin Facsimile Reading Group

Strengthen your Latin comprehension and palaeographical skills together through reading from reproductions of manuscripts as a group. We will focus on learning to read and translate directly from medieval handwriting, focusing on periods of participants’ interests.

All welcome; to be added to the group list and receive materials in advance, contact Dr Francesco Marzella ([fm333@cam.ac.uk](mailto:fm333@cam.ac.uk)).

Medieval Postgraduate Seminar

<https://www.english.cam.ac.uk/seminars/med.htm>

Seminar meets at 5:30, except where otherwise noted, on Zoom. Email [pk453@cam.ac.uk](mailto:pk453@cam.ac.uk) for more information.

27 January- Jessica Rosenfeld (Washington University in St. Louis), ‘Just Feeling: Natural Law and the Nature of Emotions in the Roman de la Rose, Gower, and Langland’

10 February- Elizaveta Strakhov (Marquette University), ‘The Task of the Translator: Lydgate and the Work of Reparative Translation’

24 February- Christopher Baswell (Barnard College), title tba

10 March, **1-2:15pm**- Alex da Costa (University of Cambridge), ‘Selling Fictions 1476-1550'

Centre for Material Texts- Seminar Series

<https://www.english.cam.ac.uk/cmt/?cat=6>

# History

Medieval History Faculty Seminar

[www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medieval-history](https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medieval-history)

Contact:

Prof Teresa Webber ([mtjw2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mtjw2@cam.ac.uk)), who will circulate the Zoom details in advance of each session via the mailing list.

28 January 2021 Prof. Björn Weiler, Aberystwyth University

‘Historical culture in England around the year 1200: the case of Ralph de Diceto and the *Abbreviationes Chronicorum*'

11 February 2021 Dr Rebecca Darley, Birkbeck, University of London

’Political structures and economic exchange in the Western Indian Ocean c. 200-800 CE’

25 February 2021 Dr Edward Roberts, University of Kent

‘Merovingian History and Carolingian Hagiography: The *Life of Rigobert of Rheims* Reconsidered’

Medieval Encounters

https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medieval-encounters

A series of interdisciplinary medieval seminars meeting in St Catharine’s College, Cambridge.

**3 February,** Wednesday, 1-2pm

**József Laszlovszky** (Central European University)

The Mongol Invasion of Central Europe in 1241-42: New Archaeological Finds and their Historical Interpretation

**3 March,** Wednesday, 1-2pm

**Laure Miolo** (Cambridge)

An astronomer at work: Lewis of Caerleon (d. c. 1495) and his personal notebook

Contact: Prof. Nora Berend, nb231@cam.ac.uk

# History

GEMS (Graduate Early Medieval Seminar)

[www.hist.cam.ac.uk/graduate-students/training/workshops/early-medieval](http://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/graduate-students/training/workshops/early-medieval)

 <https://www.facebook.com/Graduate-Early-Medieval-Seminar-GEMS-100671381333363/>

GEMS meets at 4pm on Zoom. Convenors: Matthew Hassall ([mh787@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mh787@cam.ac.uk)) and Joe McCarthy ([jam225@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jam225@cam.ac.uk))

4 February, 5pm- Medieval games night! Ease into another virtual term and lockdown with a relaxed, medieval-themed game of Scattergories!

18 February- Lara Estupinan-Caceres (Cambridge), ‘Thistle, Mistletoe, Casket: Plants of Death, Rebirth and Magic in Scandinavian Runic Inscriptions,’ and Larissa de Freitas Lyth (Universidade Federal do Paraná), ‘The Regulation of Sin of *Fornicatio* in Burchard of Worms’ *Corrector sive medicus*.’

4 March- Julian Wood (Oxford), ‘Without Theophany in Monochrome? Investigating “Theology in Colour” in Eighth-Century Palestine,’ and Brigid Ehrmantraut (Cambridge), ‘”Till the Brink of Doom and the End of the World”: History and Eschatology in the Irish Version of Lucan’s *Pharsalia*.’

18 March- Victoria Koivisto-Kokko ([oldenglish.info](https://oldenglish.info/)), ‘Old English Online: Designing and Creating Digital Resources for Medieval Language Learning.’

CALM (Central and Late Medieval History Workshop)

<https://www.vle.cam.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=205351#section-1>

<https://www.facebook.com/Central-and-Late-Middle-Ages-Graduate-Workshop-115895836469408/?modal=admin_todo_tour>

CALM meets at 10am on Zoom. Zoom details will be provided via the [emailing list](https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/history-calm-workshop) before each session. You can also contact the convenors for the information. Convenors: Savannah Pine ([smp76@cam.ac.uk](mailto:smp76@cam.ac.uk)), Teresa Barucci ([tb613@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tb613@cam.ac.uk)), Laura Bailey ([ljb209@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ljb209@cam.ac.uk)), and Angus Russell ([ajmr5@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ajmr5@cam.ac.uk))

4 February- Christopher Parry (University of Cambridge), ‘Female Slave Owners in the Anglo-Norman Realm, c.1000-c.1100’

18 February- Valentina A. Grasso (University of Cambridge), ‘Wine, Women and Music: Depictions of Life at Court in Medieval Times’

4 March- Rhiannon Cox (University of Bristol), ‘Women and the Petitionary Process in England in the Early Fourteenth Century’

18 March- Hannah Kahn (University of Cambridge), ‘The Coventry Guildhall Tapestry: Urban Elites, Dynastic Narrative, and the Cult of Henry VI

# History

Gender & Sexuality History Workshop

<https://www.vle.cam.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=205351#section-3>

The Gender & Sexuality History workshop meets on Tuesdays between 5pm and 7pm. This term, the workshop will be taking place via Zoom. Instructions on joining will be circulated via the [mailing list](https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/history-gender-workshop). Convenors: Róisín Donohoe ([rd576@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rd576@cam.ac.uk)), Savannah Pine ([smp76@cam.ac.uk](mailto:smp76@cam.ac.uk)), and Grace Whorrall-Campbell ([gew33@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gew33@cam.ac.uk))

16 February, 5pm on Zoom- Hannah Victoria Johnson (Sorbonne University), ‘*Minne*, God’s trans identity? Considering the “female personification” of God in Hadewijch van Antwerpen’s *Strophische Gedichte*.’

Legal and Social History Workshop

The Legal and Social History workshops meets over Zoom this term. Convenors: Ian King ([ik361@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ik361@cam.ac.uk)), Stephanie Brown ([seb208@cam.ac.uk](mailto:seb208@cam.ac.uk)), Christopher Whittell ([cmdspw2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cmdspw2@cam.ac.uk)), and Emily Rhodes ([elr41@cam.ac.uk](mailto:elr41@cam.ac.uk))

16 March, 5pm on Zoom- Kathrin Strauss (University of Cambridge), ‘From Personal to Institutional Ownership of and Authority Conveyed by Ceremonial Maces in England, 1272-1649.

Medieval Economic and Social History

[www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medieval-economic-social](https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medieval-economic-social)

Convener:  
Chris Briggs ([cdb23@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cdb23@cam.ac.uk)) Seminar meets at 5pm on Zoom via the mailing list.

27 January - Joe Chick (Warwick)  
 ‘Monks, merchants, and matrices: social networks and urban politics in Reading, 1350-1600.’

4 February (joint seminar with the Early Modern Economic and Social History Seminar) - Paul Warde (Cambridge)  
‘The Prudent Peasant revisited: plot-scattering, risk, and the hidden world of the open fields.’

10 March- Louisa Foroughi (Lafayette College)  
 ‘Identity, hierarchy, and the peasantry: yeoman status in late medieval England.’

Core Seminar in Economic and Social History

Seminars take place on Thursdays at 5pm on Zoom. Sign up to the emailing list at <https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/ucam-ecosochist> for details.

Palaeography Workshop

Prof Teresa Webber hosts a palaeography workshop where graduate students are encouraged to bring facsimiles of material which is giving them trouble in order to receive help from Prof Webber and other graduate students. The workshop also aids graduate students in practicing their palaeographical skills. For more information, email Prof Webber ([mtjw2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mtjw2@cam.ac.uk)).

# History of Art

The Medieval Art Seminar Series

https://www.hoart.cam.ac.uk/seminars/medievalartseminars

The University of Cambridge Senior Seminar in Medieval Art meets every other week during full term, attracting an impressive range of speakers from home and abroad.

**All seminars will take place online. Further details, including registration, to follow. Seminars takes places at 5pm**

**Lent**

**Monday 1st February** (Wk 2) Dr Pamela Patton (Index of Medieval Art, Princeton University) ‘What Did Medieval Slavery Look Like? Colour, Race, and Unfreedom in Late Medieval Iberia’

**Monday 1st March** (Wk 6)- Dr Maria Lidova (Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence): ‘Christ, Fire, Gospels: Images of Theophany in the Chapel of Galla Placidia in Ravenna’

**Please register to attend the seminars using Eventbrite. Tickets are free of charge.**

**Organisers:** Dr Laura Slater and Dr Donal Cooper. Please email Dr Laura Slater at [lss33@cam.ac.uk](mailto:lss33@cam.ac.uk) with any queries.

# History and Philosophy of Science

Departmental Seminars in History and Philosophy of Science

Seminars are held on **Thursdays from 3.30 to 5pm in Seminar Room 2, Department of History and Philosophy of Science.**

Organised by Agnes Bolinska and Helen Anne Curry

Seminars in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science are open to all members of the University (including academic staff, postdocs, graduate and undergraduate students, and affiliates). Unless otherwise specified, they are not open to members of the public.

Cabinet of Natural History

<https://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/cabinet>

Seminars are held on Mondays at 1pm on Zoom. Organized by L. Joanne Green (ljg54)

History of Science and Medicine.

<https://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/medicine>

Seminars, funded by Wellcome, are on **Tuesdays from 5.00 to 6.30pm on Zoom**. All welcome!

Early Science and Medicine Seminar (organized by Lauren Kassell)

19 January- work-in-progress

9 February- work-in-progress

23 February- Jack Hartnell (University of East Anglia), ‘Wound Man: three early modern afterlives of a medieval surgical image’

9 March (joint meeting with Generation to Reproduction)- Anna Bonnell Freidin (University of Michigan), ‘Birth, fate, and Roman futures’

## Generation to Reproduction

## (organized by Salim Al-Gailani and Lauren Kassell)

2 February- Mackenzie Cooley (Hamilton College), ‘Renaissance eugenics’

2 March- Elizabeth O’Brien (Johns Hopkins University), ‘As small as a grain of barley: the Bourbon state and the caesarean operation in New Spain, 1771-1810s'

9 March (joint meeting with Early Science and Medicine)- Anna Bonnell Freidin (University of Michigan), ‘Birth, fate, and Roman futures’

# History and Philosophy of Science

Latin Therapy

<https://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/language-groups/latin-therapy>

Latin Therapy is an informal reading group. All levels of Latin are very welcome. We meet to translate and discuss a text from the history of science, technology or medicine. This is an opportunity to brush up your Latin by regular practice, and if a primary source is giving you grief, we’d love to help you make sense of it over tea and biscuits!

To be added to the mailing list, or to suggest a text, please contact Arthur Harris.

We meet weekly, Fridays from 3-4:30pm on Zoom. The first meeting will be Friday October 9.

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# Medieval and Modern Languages and Linguistics

Medieval Graduate Seminar

https://www.english.cam.ac.uk/seminars/med.htm

Medieval Literature and Culture Seminar

<https://www.cammedsem.co.uk/>

Seminars take place on Thursdays at 5pm on Zoom. Details will be sent securely in advance.

18 February- Geneviève Young (University of Cambridge), ‘The Text as a Contested Territory in *The Song of the Albigensian Crusade*.’

4 March- Student Workshop

18 March- Rebecca Courtier, ‘Radical Poiesis, Revolutionary Love: Cultural Reversals in Medeival French Literature.’

MMLL Italian Graduate Seminar

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Hispanic and Lusophone Research Seminar Series

# Philosophy

Medieval Philosophy Reading Group

https://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/seminars-phil/medieval-phil

The Medieval Philosophy Reading Group consists of interested undergraduates, graduates and professional scholars who meet once a week in term to read and discuss a medieval philosophical text (in translation). No previous knowledge of medieval philosophy is assumed, and everyone is welcome.

**Meetings**

The meetings begin on the first Wednesday of term on which lectures are given, and they take place from 1.15 - 2.15 pm. This term the group will meet by Zoom. Would anyone interested please contact John Marenbon at [jm258@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jm258@cam.ac.uk), who will send the necessary material and links.

Arabic Philosophy Reading Group

The Arabic Philosophy Reading Group plans to meet on Fridays3–4:30pm in Room 6, Faculty of Divinity.

# CRASSH

Byzantine Worlds Seminar

̌ http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/programmes/byzantine-worlds

Seminars take place on Wednesdays on Zoom.

(online sessions, register [here](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/programmes/byzantine-worlds))

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| [**A Christian Insurgency in Islamic Syria:The Jarajima (Mardaites)**](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/29522) *03 February 2021, 5 pm GMT*  Christian Sahner (Oxford) |
| [**Reconsidering the Narrative of Identity in Byzantine Anatolia**](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/29523) *17 February 2021, 5pm GMT*  Marica Cassis (Calgary)- Byzantine Worlds Network |
| [**‘The “Khārijite” Uprising of Muṭarrif b. al-Mughīra - Patterns of Rebellion in the Marwānid Period**](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/29524) *03 March 2021, 5pm GMT*  Hannah Hagemann (Hamburg) |
| [**Power and Patronage in the Charters of the Rus-born Duchess Gremislava of Kraków and Sandomierz**](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/29525) *17 March 2021, 5 pm GMT*  Talia Zajac (Manchester) |

**READING GROUPS:** (<http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/programmes/byzantine-worlds>)

Byzantine Reading Group: 10am on Zoom on alternate Wednesdays (20 January, 3 February, 17 February, and 3 March). For more information, please contact Stephanie Forrest ([sjf85@cam.ac.uk](mailto:sjf85@cam.ac.uk)).

Medieval Arabic Reading Group: 12pm on Zoom on alternate Wednesdays (27 January, 10 February, 24 February, and 10 March). For more information, please contact Edward Zychowicz-Coghill ([ez258@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ez258@cam.ac.uk))

Classical Armenian Reading Group: 10am on Zoom on alternate Tuesdays (26 January, 9 February, 23 February, and 9 March). For more information, please contact Stephanie Forrest ([sjf85@cam.ac.uk](mailto:sjf85@cam.ac.uk)).

Old Church Slavonic Reading Group: 5pm on Zoom on alternate Mondays (1 February, 15 February, 1 March, and 15 March). For more information, please contact Angus Russell ([ajmr5@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ajmr5@cam.ac.uk))

# CLANS

Cambridge Late Antiquity Network Seminar (CLANS)

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/seminars/clans-cambridge-late-antique-network-seminar>

CLANS meets on Tuesdays at 5:15pm over Zoom. Links will be circulated by email in advance of the individual papers. Convenors: Daniel Hanigan (drh56) and Rares Marinescu (rim32)

**26 January 2021 (5:15 PM GMT, Zoom)**

**Nicola Ernst (Exeter): *The Athanasian Emperors: Constructing Constantinian Orthodoxy and Heresy in the 340s***  
  
The 340s were a turbulent decade for the emperors of Rome as well as the Christian church. The division of the empire between the last two sons of Constantine – Constantius II (r. 337-361) and Constans (r. 337-350) – also nominally extended to the ecclesiastical situation, if we are to believe the claims of the ‘Nicene’ bishop Athanasius of Alexandria. The failed Council of Serdica in 343 was testament to this, and our understanding of the period as one of filial and religious tensions has been heavily influenced by the Athanasian construction of the events of the 340s. Indeed, the assertion by fifth-century ecclesiastical historians that Constans was willing to resort to civil war in order to restore Athanasius to his episcopate in Constantius’ territory, is generally accepted by modern scholarship. The letter that contained this alleged declaration is found in Socrates’ *Ecclesiastical History* (II.22) – which draws heavily upon Athanasius’ own narrative of events within his own works – and suggests that Constans was willing to march against his elder brother, if Constantius did not reinstate the exiled orthodox bishops to their Eastern episcopates. I intend to re-evaluate this letter and the way this alleged declaration of civil war was used by Athanasius and his literary successors by contextualising it within the wider ecclesiastical and political discourses of the 340s. This Athanasian construction of the emperors needs to be more carefully considered as this has remained the predominant understanding of both emperors, from the other Nicene ecclesiastical writers, as well as modern scholars. As such, this paper will explore how this construction of Constans and Constantius led to the creation of the typical representations of these emperors as Orthodox Champion and Arian Heretic, respectively. Indeed, I will argue that we should construct a history of the 340s by also considering the non-Nicene discourses, as well as the political and administrative evidence for this period, in order to better understand this complicated period and to move away from the pervasive Athanasian narrative.

 9 February- Maire Ni Mhaonaigh (University of Cambridge), ‘Entangled Vernaculars: The Development of Vernacular Writing in Britain and Ireland in the Ninth Century’

23 February- John Marenbon (University of Cambridge), ‘The Continuity of Latin Philosophy from the 4th to the 10th Century’

9 March- Byron Waldron (University of Sydney), ‘Beneath Jupiter’s Statue: Lactantius, Invective History, and the Subversion of Topoi’

**Zoom Link:** <https://cam-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/91935932463?pwd=MXpmd1pSaTZoL3A0VHlMSWJTVFJIQT09>

# Medieval Questions, Silk Roads

Medieval Questions

Medieval Questions is a lunchtime research seminar which seeks to bring together researchers of all stages of career and from all disciplines. Invited speakers present problem-based papers, focusing our collective attention on knotty questions of interpretation and analysis.

Silk Roads

<https://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/research/silk-roads-programme/silk-roads-programme-events>

Lent Term Events, All online, Friday at 2pm.

Zoom Links to come (on web page above)

12 February        India and the Silk Roads: The History of a Trading World, Jagjeet Lally (UCL).

26 February        Revisiting Central Asia 30 years on: life after the end of the Soviet Union, Nargis Kassenova (Harvard); Temur Umarov (Carnegie Moscow Center); Bruce Pannier (Radio Free Europe).

5 March               Magic, Religion and Identity in Northern Eurasia, Caroline Humphrey (Cambridge) and Chris Gosden (Oxford).

12 March             Re-evaluating irrigation systems, settlement and climate in Central Asia’, Willem Toonen (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam) and Mark Macklin (Lincoln).

19 March             Rethinking the origins of the Silk Roads, Nicola di Cosmo (Princeton).

# Lecturers/Visiting Speakers