SEMINARS ON

MEDIEVAL TOPICS

MICHAELMAS TERM 2020

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

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.



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Updated: 9 Nov. 20

# Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic

### Thirty-First H.M. Chadwick Lecture

### On Wednesday 14 October at 5pm, via Zoom

### **Canon Professor Sarah Foot (University of Oxford)**

### Why were there no martyrs in the early English Church?

### To register to attend email Lisa at lg432@cam.ac.uk by Monday 12 October

### ASNC Research Seminar

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

### Fridays, 5 pm on Zoom via the mailing list.

16 October- James McIntosh (ASNC), *When Words Collide: Towards a New Theory of Intertexual Relationships*

30 October- Calum Platts (ASNC), *The Battle of Tertry 687: an Austrasian turn in English History*

13 November- Ingrid Ivarsen (Emmanuel), title tba

27 November- Sharon Arbuthnot (ASNC), *Late Medieval Irish Medicalese and its European Context*

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### ASNC Graduate Seminar

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

Seminars meet at 5pm on Zoom via mailing list.

19 October- Prof Paul Russell, *Introducing Gerald: on editing the writings of Gerald of Wales*

2 November- Kate Heslop (Berkeley), *Death in place: mediating memory in Ynglingatal*

9 November- Simon Rodway (Aberystwyth), *‘They would rend with the words of their mouths’: the effects of satire in medieval and early modern insular traditions*

23 November- Graduate presentations: Judith Higman, Eleanor Smith, and Brigid Ehrmantraut

30 November- Prof Máire Ní Mhaonaigh, et al., *Introduction to the* Dindschenchas *project*

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.

# 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>

Talks start at 1:15pm, check [website](https://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/events/medieval-archaeology-seminar-group) for Zoom links.

12 October- Sam Leggett (University of Cambridge), ‘Early Medieval Transitions: An isotopic perspective on change and social complexity’

26 October- Prof Helena Hamerow (University of Oxford), ‘Feeding Anglo-Saxon England: The bioarchaeology of an “agricultural revolution”’

16 November- Dr Tom Horne (University of Glasgow), ‘Weighty Matters: Bullion economies in

Scandinavian Scotland’

30 November- Alice Rose (University of Cambridge), ‘Life in Medieval Cambridge: evidence from isotopic analysis’

The African Archaeology Group (AAG)

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

Seminar meets from 5pm to 6pm.

17 November- TBA

1 December- TBA

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# Asian Archaeology Seminar Series

Lent term 2020

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 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/>

25 November (2pm-3:30pm GMT)- Elizabeth Lambourn (De Montfort University) and Vivek Gupta (Cambridge), ‘The medieval Indian Ocean’

Middle East Studies Seminar

Thursdays at 5.15, in Room 8/9, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

 (Sidgwick site)

Centre for Islamic Studies

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

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# Classics

Ancient History Research Seminar

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

Seminars take place on Mondays at 17:15 virtually via Zoom.

12 October- Introductory session: all graduate students

19 October- Robin Osborne, ‘Epigraphy and oracles’

26 October- Rebecca Flemming, ‘The plague oracles of Apollo at Claros’

2 November- Tatiana Bur, ‘Consulting Trophonius’

9 November- Franco Basso, ‘Herodotean Oracles’

16 November- Lea Niccolai, ‘Christians on pagan oracles’

23 November- John Patterson, ‘The fortune of lots: Fortuna Primigenia at Praeneste’

30 November- Renaud Gagné, ‘Plutarch and the oracles’

# Divinity

History of Christianity Research Seminar

[divinity.cam.ac.uk/researchareas/seminars/history-of-christianity](file:///Users/cjg/Dropbox/CAMBRIDGE/Medieval%20Studies%20at%20Cam/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)

21 October (2:15pm via Zoom)- Johanna Dale (UCL), *What can the design of Richard fitz Nigel’s episcopal vestments tell us about the relationship between liturgy and politics in the high Middle Ages?*

# 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).

# 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), who will circulate the Zoom details in advance of each session via the mailing list.

15 October- Prof Amy Remensnyder, ‘The Restless Sea: Storm, Shipwreck, and the Mediterranean, ca. 1000-1700’ [For this session there will be a written paper pre-circulated via the mailing list, and then there will be a discussion over Zoom)

29 October- Prof Jochen Johrendt, ‘Prester John and his Letter between Intellectual Joke and Contemporary Criticism’

12 November- Prof Jehangir Malegam, ‘The Politics of Sound in Medieval European Cities’

26 November- Prof Sarah Davis-Secord, ‘Conversing with the Enemy: Christians and Muslims in Dialogue in early medieval Italy’

Medieval Encounters

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

A series of interdisciplinary medieval seminars meeting in St Catharine’s College, Cambridge.
Drinks and biscuits will be provided; please feel free to bring your own lunch.

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

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) and Joe McCarthy (jam225@cam.ac.uk)

22 October- Giulia Bellato (Cambridge), *The Interaction between bishops and their communities through destruction in early medieval Italy*, and Jake Stattel (Cambridge), *Looking for Dena Lage*

5 November- Brittany Hanlon (Cambridge), *Bringing home the bacon (illegally): the discovery and punishment of thieves in late Anglo-Saxon England*, and Mille Horton-Insch (UCL), *Material exchange between embroideries and wall paintings around the Norman Conquest*

19 November- Calum Platts (Cambridge), *Nothhelm and Bede: constructing the* Historia Ecclesiastica, and Silvio Roggo (Cambridge), *Dispute over (a) hymn(s): Justin II, Tiberios, and their Patriarchs*

3 December- Kate Falardeau (Cambridge), *Gender, space, and communal history in the ninth- and tenth-century additions to the Book of Nunnaminster*, and Rosemary Kelly (University College Cork), *A wrecker of mead-benches: depicting masculinity in the Beowulf manuscript and postmodern influences*

# History

CALM (Central and Late Medieval Seminar)

<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), Teresa Barucci (tb613@cam.ac.uk), Laura Bailey (ljb209@cam.ac.uk), and Angus Russell (ajmr5@cam.ac.uk)

22 October- Aistė Kiltinavičiūtė (University of Cambridge), *Dante’s Purgatory as the Realm of Dreams*

29 October- Grace O’Duffy (University of Cambridge), *Baptising the World Tree and Crucifying Norse Myth: Yggdrasil as the Cross*

5 November- Fiona Knight (University of Cambridge), *‘Be not to hasty on brede for to byte’ — masculinity at the dinner table in late medieval England*

12 November- Sophie Hemmings (University of Cambridge), *Misremembering the mancus in 8th-century Ravenna*

19 November- Suzette van Haaren (University of St Andrews and the University of Groningen), *The mediated manuscript: the Bury Bible (CCCC, ms. 2)*

26 November- Hannah Victoria Johnson (Sobronne Université), *Queering the middle ages: mystical lesbiansisms in the thirteenth century.*

3 December- Ricardo Rodrigues and Teresa Rodrigues (University of Lisbon), *The Anglo-Portuguese Treaty of 1373 and the birth of the alliance between Portugal and England*, and *The Portuguese position before the Great Schism of the West and its participation in the Council of Constance - historical-legal analysis*

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), Savannah Pine (smp76@cam.ac.uk), and Grace Whorrall-Campbell (gew33@cam.ac.uk)

20 October- Nikita Bogachev (Central European University, *Symeon the New Theologian and the Ascension of Flesh*

# History

Legal and Social History Workshop

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

17 November, 5pm- Ben Morris (Cardiff University), *To have the right of the church: a comparison of ecclesiastical authority within the treaties of Byzantium and England, c.900-c.1200*

1 December, 12pm- Ashley Finn (University of Melbourne), *The symbolic nature of Roman violence and iniuria as an affront to honour*

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)

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.

8 October- Mark Bailey (University of East Anglia), ‘The Black Death in England and the origins of the Little Divergence, 1348-1400'

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).

# 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**

**Monday 16th November** (Wk 6) Dr Heather Badamo (University of California Santa Barbara), ‘Beyond Iconoclasm: Sacred Images and Christian-Muslim Exchange in Medieval Egypt’

Eventbrite URL: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cambridge-medieval-art-seminars-beyond-iconoclasm-tickets-126993873093>

**Monday 30th November** (Wk 8) Professor Jeremy Johns (University of Oxford) and Dr Elise Morero (University of Oxford), ‘Industry not Dynasty: A Different Approach to Medieval Islamic Rock Crystal Objects'

Eventbrite URL: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cambridge-medieval-art-seminars-tickets-126997189011>

**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 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.

5 November (Anita McConnell Lecture): Jim Bennet (University of Oxford, emeritus), ‘A material history of 16th-century astronomy?’

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)

16 November- Leonardo Carrio Cataldi (LMU Munich), ‘A magnetic world: understanding the lodestone in the early modern Iberian empires’.

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 in Seminar Room 1**. Tea and biscuits are available from 4.40pm. All welcome!

[Other History of Medicine events](https://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/medicine/events)

## Early Science and Medicine

Organised by Dániel Margócsy.

## Generation to Reproduction

Organized by Nick Hopwood and Lauren Kassel

17 November- Leah DeVun (Rutgers University), ‘Gender and generation in premodern Europe: a discussion of Leah DeVun’s *The Shape of Sex: Nonbinary Gender from Genesis to the Renaissance* (2020) with the author’

Latin Therapy

[hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/language-groups/latin-therapy](http://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.

15 October- Noah Guynn (University of California, Davis), ‘The Real Housewives of Medieval France: Feminism, Domestic Drama, and the History of the Household’

29 October- Giulia Boitani (University of Cambridge), ‘The Origins of Sin: Foucault, History, and Genealogy in the *Prose Tristan*’

12 November- Valentina Mele (University College Cork), ‘Spatial Deixis and Subjectivity in the Medieval Italian Love-Lyric'

26 November- Student Workshop

MMLL Italian Graduate Semina

Alison Cornish (NYU), 'Factionalism and Facts among Dante’s Heretics (Inferno 10)'.

16 November, online, 5.15pm.  Please write to Alessia Carrai (ac2130@cam.ac.uk) or Michele Maiolani (mm2320@cam.ac.uk)

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Hispanic and Lusophone Research Seminar Series

  Speaker: Professor Jesús Rodriguez Velasco, Yale University

  Day: 14 October

  Time: 5pm

  Place: Zoom

  Title: “Science of the Soul, Bodies of Law.”

  Abstract: Examining legislations and legal theorizations from the Middle Ages, this seminar will explore the affinity between the Science of the Soul  (of Aristotelian origin) and the legal disciplines, and examine why and how the  legal disciplines appropriated some of the tenets and concepts of the Science of the Soul.

  Please register please use this link: Zoom link <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3HB6qGAZSCOC-nsUySWznA>

  Or email: dra35@cam.ac.uk

# 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 (for Michaelmas 2020, October 14), 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, 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

<https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/byzantine-seminar>

Seminars take place on Wednesdays on Zoom.

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

14 October, 5pm- Alexander Kulik (Jerusalem), ‘Early Rus’ Jewry: Byzantine Connections’

21 October, 6pm- Alison Vacca (Tennessee, Knoxville), ‘”As We Heard from the Enemy Himself”: Intercultural Transmission in Early Medieval Armenia’

4 November, 10am- Bronwen Neil (Sydney), ‘Visions of Heaven and Hell: Byzantine Apocalyptic in the Seventh Century and Beyond’

18 November, 10am- Ekaterini Mitsiou (Vienna), ‘From Documents to the Digital Turn: Prosopography and Networks of the Lascarid Period’

2 December, 10am- Nadia El Cheikh (Beirut), ‘The Emergence of Islam in its Pre-Islamic and Byzantine Contexts’

**READING GROUPS:**

Byzantine Reading Group: 12-2pm on alternate Wednesdays (week 1) on Zoom (7 October, 21 October, 4 November, 18 November, and 2 December). For more information, please contact Stephanie Forrest

Medieval Arabic Reading Group: 12-2pm on alternate Wednesdays (week 2) on Zoom (14 October, 28 October, 11 November, and 25 November). For more information, please contact Edward Zychowicz-Coghill

Classical Armenian Reading Group: 12-2pm on alternate Tuesdays (week 2) on Zoom (13 October, 27 October, 10 November, and 24 November). For more information, please contact Stephanie Forrest.

# CRASSH

Domestication Practices Across History, Reading Group

<http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/28592>

The Domestication Practices across History reading group was set up in order to investigate the deep history and global spread of what might be termed 'domestication practices': the creation or breeding of new varieties of plants and animals. The goal of this group is to consider how different domestication practices have come about and spread – or failed to spread – across the globe. We will begin with the domestication of crop plants in the Neolithic, before moving chronologically all the way to twentieth-century histories of genetic modification. Throughout our long journey through history we will explore several different bio-techniques or technologies, from acclimatisation to hybridisation, Mendelian theory to mutation breeding.

What role have theories of heredity played in the development and uptake of these practices? How did advocates of these practices succeed or fail in convincing others to adopt them? By considering these and other questions, we shall engage with the use of domestication practices as objects of historical study, including their promise and limitations. Readings will consist of book chapters and articles on the history of plant and animal domestication, breeding, agriculture and biotechnology.

This reading group is convened by [Matt Holmes](http://gloknos.ac.uk/people-partners/the-team/matthew-holmes-1), If you have any queries about the events or reading, please don't hesitate to email him: mrh70@cam.ac.uk

# CLANS

Cambridge Late Antiquity Network Seminar (CLANS)

<http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/programmes/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)

13 October- Tim Whitmarsh (Cambridge), ‘Nonnus and the Transubstantiation of Actaeon’

27 October- Harold Tarrant (Newcastle), ‘C[h]alcidius and Aquila: Platonist Backwaters in the Fourth Century’

10 November- Valentina Grasso (Cambridge), ‘Judeo-Monotheism in South Arabia between fourth and fifth centuries: Identities and Sympathies’

24 November- Lea Niccolai (Cambridge), ‘Wisdom for the many, and wisdom for the few: re-reading Eunapius’ Lives of Philosophers and Sophists’

1 December- Christoph Poetsch (Heidelberg), ‘The Concept of Logos in Late Antiquity: Systematic Considerations’

# 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.

# Lecturers/Visiting Speakers