

OXFORD CENTRE for LATE ANTIQUITY



Listed here are the lectures and seminars  
on Late Antiquity taking place in Oxford  
between 14 January and 8 March 2008.

*The Special Lectures and the Colloquium on Alexandria  
are funded by a generous grant from Lewis Chester,  
who read History at Trinity College in the 1980s  
and who is also helping to support the  
'Eastern Perspectives' and 'Late Roman' seminars.*

The details of all these events are also available  
on the OCLA web-site:

**[www.ocla.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ocla.ox.ac.uk)**

(where any up-datings will be posted)

OXFORD CENTRE for LATE ANTIQUITY



(with the Seminar for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies)

**SPECIAL LECTURE**

**Ralph Mathisen**

(University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

**“How the Barbarians Saved  
Classical Civilization”**



Wednesday 6 February 2008 at 5pm

Ioannou Centre for Classical and  
Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles', Oxford

OXFORD CENTRE for LATE ANTIQUITY



(with the Seminar for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies)

**SPECIAL LECTURE**

**Richard Talbert**

(University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

**“Rome Rules the World:  
Peutinger’s Map Reconsidered”**

**Wednesday 20 February 2008 at 5pm**

**Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine  
Studies, 66 St Giles’, Oxford**



**SPECIAL OCLA LECTURE**

**To be held in the lecture room,  
Institute of Archaeology (36 Beaumont Street, Oxford)**

**Marco Valenti and Vittorio Fronza (University of Siena):  
Tuscan settlements between Late Antiquity  
and the first castles**

**Tuesday 4 March 2008 at 2pm**

*Professors Valenti and Fronza will also be giving a seminar on  
‘Digital technology applied to the study of  
early medieval settlement and landscape in Italy’  
on Monday 3 March at 3pm  
in the Seminar Room of the Institute of Archaeology*

OXFORD CENTRE for LATE ANTIQUITY



**Alexandria in Late Antiquity:  
Education, Art and Scholarship**



Afternoon Colloquium: Saturday 8 March 2008

History Faculty Building (The Old Boys' High School), George Street, Oxford

From 12.45pm: coffee and tea in the Common Room (feel free to bring your own sandwich)

Chaired by Averil Cameron:

2.00 pm **Grzegorz Majcherek**: *The Auditoria and the City: Alexandria in Late*

*Antiquity*

3.00 pm **Judith McKenzie**: *Alexandrian Architecture and Art*

4.00 pm Afternoon tea in the Common Room

Chaired by Alan Walmsley:

4.30 pm **Richard Sorabji**: *The Excavated Philosophy Classrooms of Alexandria and the Teaching There*

Followed by discussion

**Charlotte Roueché**: Closing remarks

5.45 pm Refreshments in the Common Room

Participants are invited to join the speakers for dinner at a nearby restaurant (at their own expense).

The colloquium is free, but because places are limited please email Stephanie Jenkins

<ocla@history.ox.ac.uk> if you wish to attend, and also if you wish to come for dinner.

The colloquium is funded through the generosity of Lewis Chester to the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, and is organized by Judith McKenzie

OXFORD CENTRE for LATE ANTIQUITY



**Villas and Politics at the End of the Western Empire**



**Afternoon Colloquium: Monday 17 March 2008**

Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles', Oxford

- 2.00 pm **Kim Bowes** (Cornell):  
*The Best of Times: Villas and Taxes in Hispania and Aquitaine*  
RESPONSE: **Bryan Ward-Perkins** (Oxford)
- 3.30 pm Tea/coffee break
- 4.00 pm **Michael Kulikowski** (University of Tennessee):  
*The Nature of the Catastrophe: Fourth-century Politics, Fifth-century Collapse*  
RESPONSE: **Peter Heather** (King's College London)
- 5.30 pm Reception

The colloquium is free, but you are asked to email  
Neil McLynn <neil.mclynn@classics.ox.ac.uk> if you wish to attend.  
The colloquium is organized with the support of Paul Pheby

## Late Antiquity: Eastern Perspectives. From the Sasanians to Early Islam

Mondays at 5 p.m. in the Danson Room, Trinity College

*Convenors: Dr Teresa Bernheimer (Oriental Studies & Christ Church) and Dr Adam Silverstein (Oriental Studies & The Queen's College)*

- Week 1      **David Taylor** (Oxford):  
14 January    *Syriac sources for Sasanian history*
- Week 2      **Patricia Crone** (IAS, Princeton):  
21 January    *Babak and the end of Antiquity*
- Week 3      **Rika Gyselen** (CNRS, Paris):  
28 January    *Continuity and change in early Islamic Fars: The evidence from the Arabo-Sasanian copper coinage*
- Week 4      **Luke Treadwell** (Oxford):  
4 February    *From Sogd to Mawara al-nahr: Continuity and change in early Islamic central Asia*
- Week 5      **Kevin van Bladel** (NYU/USC):  
11 February    *Sasanian irredentism and the history of science*
- Week 6      **Geoffrey Khan** (Cambridge):  
18 February    *Newly discovered Arabic documents from early Islamic Khurasan*
- Week 7      **Deborah Tor** (Bar Ilan University):  
25 February    *The long shadow of pre-Islamic Iran*
- Week 8      **Hugh Kennedy** (SOAS):  
3 March        *Continuity, change and the coming of Islam in the Middle East c.500–c. 900 CE: The case of Iran*

Generously supported by the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, the Byzantine Studies Committee, the Sub-faculty of Inner and South Asian Studies, the Shamma Fund, and the Sub-Faculty of Near and Middle Eastern Studies

## Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

Wednesdays at 5 pm

Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, Lecture Room

*Convenors: Dr James Howard-Johnston (History & Corpus), Professor Marc Lauxtermann (Modern Languages & Exeter), and Dr Marlia Mango (History & St John's)*

- Week 1      **Dr Maria Parani** (Cyprus) and  
16 January    **Professor Michael Jeffreys:**  
*Vat. gr. 1851, a child's illustrated guide to marrying a Byzantine emperor: dating and interpretation*
- Week 2      **Dr Notis Toufexis** (Cambridge):  
23 January    *The 'Thematoepistolae' of Theodosios Zygomalas and the transition from Byzantine to Early Modern Greek tradition*
- Week 3      **Dr Christos Simelidis** (Oxford):  
30 January    *Gregory of Nazianzus and early Christian poetry in the classical tradition*
- Week 4      **Professor Ralph Mathisen** (Urbana, Illinois):  
6 February\*    *How the barbarians saved classical civilization*
- Week 5      **Dr Arietta Papaconstantinou** (Oxford):  
13 February    *The 'language of the desert fathers' and the 'language of the hijra'. Linguistic politics in the Apocalypse of Pseudo-Samuel*
- Week 6      **Professor Richard Talbert** (North Carolina):  
20 February\*    *Rome rules the world: Peutinger's map reconsidered*
- Week 7      **Dr Henning Börm** (Kiel):  
27 February    *Why did the Sasanians demand subsidies from the Romans in Late Antiquity?*
- Week 8      **Professor Dimitris Conomos:**  
5 March        *Medieval church music in the Christian East*

\* Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity special lecture

## Late Antique and Byzantine Archaeology and Art

Convenor: *Dr Marlia Mango (History & St John's)*

Wednesdays 12 noon, Weeks 1–7  
Institute of Archaeology, Seminar Room

- Week 1      **Dr Maria Parani** (Nicosia):  
16 January    *Artisanal production in late antique Cyprus*
- Week 2      **Jesse Simon** (Exeter College):  
23 January    *The city of straight lines: the evolution of Roman town planning and its transformation in late antiquity*
- Week 3      **Toby Martin** (St Cross College):  
30 January    *The development of Byzantine urbanism*
- Week 4      **Christian Sahner** (St John's College):  
6 February    *Salvation extra urbem: the stational liturgy of Constantinople*
- Week 5      **Theodore Papaioannou** (University):  
13 February    *Settlement patterns and archaeology in the territory of the Thracian theme, 5th–13th centuries*
- Week 6      **Yaman Dalanay** (Exeter):  
20 February    *Excavations at Mt. Galesion and Anaia in western Asia Minor*
- Week 7      **Priscilla Lange** and **Marlia Mango**:  
27 February    *'This little piggy went to market...'. Pig bones excavated at Andarin in Syria*

## Late Roman Seminar

Thursdays of Weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8 at 5pm in the Danson Room, Trinity College

Convenors: *Neil McLynn (Classics & Corpus)* and *Bryan Ward-Perkins (History & Trinity)*

- Week 2      **Bert Smith** (Oxford University):  
24 January    *Constantine's public image*
- Week 4      **Ralph Mathisen** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign):  
7 February    *Ricimer's Church in Rome; or How an Arian barbarian prospered in a Nicene Roman world*
- Week 6      **Richard Talbert** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill):  
21 February    *Peutinger map problems: Cartography or art?*
- Week 8      **Stefan Rebenich** (University of Bern):  
6 March        *True friends and certain enemies: Christian friendship in Late Antiquity*

## Late Antique Reading Group

This informal reading group, with a membership primarily of graduate students (at both masters and doctoral level), usually meets every fortnight during term to discuss recent works on Late Antiquity. Members of the group agree what they want to discuss, from the whole field of Late Antiquity. Anyone interested in joining the group (from inside or outside Oxford University) should contact Maria Kouroumali <maria.kouroumali@wolfson.ox.ac.uk>

## Medieval Archaeology Seminar

*Convenors: Helena Hamerow (Archaeology & St Cross) and Lesley Abrams (History & Balliol)*

Mondays at 2pm in the Institute of Archaeology Seminar Room  
(36 Beaumont Street)

Week 2      **Professor Martin Biddle** (Oxford):  
21 January    *The Ichen Valley in the early middle ages: PAS revelations*

Week 3      **Dr Martin Henig** (Oxford):  
28 January    *Roman gems in medieval personal seals*

Week 6      **Dr Betty Coatsworth** (Manchester Metropolitan University):  
18 February   *Figural sculpture in the West Riding of Yorkshire*

Week 8      **Dr Rik Hoggett** (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment  
3 March      Record):  
*Changing beliefs: The archaeology of the East Anglian  
conversion*

**Additional seminar:** Week 8, 3 March at 3pm. **Professors Marco Valenti and Vittorio Fronza** (University of Siena): 'Computer-generated reconstruction of timber buildings in Tuscany, circa AD 500–900'

## Methods and Media of Patristic/Late Antique Communication

Wednesdays at 5pm  
Christ Church, Lecture Room 2 (Tom Quad, Staircase 8)

*Convenors: Mark Edwards (Theology & Christ Church) and Stan Rosenberg (Theology & Wycliffe Hall)*

Week 1      **Mark Edwards** (Oxford University):  
16 January    *The varieties of Logos*

Week 2      **Stan Rosenberg** (Oxford University):  
23 January    *Beside books: Approaching Augustine's sermons in the oral  
and textual cultures of Late Antiquity*

Week 3      **Teresa Morgan** (Oxford University):  
30 January    *From stories to propositions: Changing ways of  
communicating faith*

Week 4      Open  
6 February    (NB Lecture by Ralph Mathisen: see page 2)

Week 5      **David Gwynn** (Royal Holloway):  
13 February   *Preaching by correspondence: The Festal Letters of  
Athanasius of Alexandria*

Week 6      **Yannis Papadogiannakis** (Oxford University):  
20 February   *The dialexeis of Theodoret of Cyrillus: Some literary  
considerations*

Week 7      **Markus Bockmuehl** (Oxford University):  
27 February   *Peter, Paul and Simon: Peeling an old chestnut in the  
Pseudo-Clementines*

Week 8      **Jonathan Armstrong** (Oxford University):  
5 March       *The Genesis of the NT Commentary and the creation of the  
NT canon*