

Listed here are the lectures and seminars on Late Antiquity taking place in Oxford between October and December 2012

The activities of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity are made possible by the generous support of John Beale, Peter Bell, Paul Pheby, and an anonymous donor through Trinity College

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

www.ocla.ox.ac.uk

Information correct as at 12 November 2012

Changes inevitably take place as term progresses, and there is a link to an updated version of this booklet here:

http://www.ocla.ox.ac.uk/home_eve.shtml



SPECIAL LECTURE
with the Late Roman Seminar

Ray Van Dam (University of Michigan):

‘Big Cities, Migration, and Food in Late Antiquity’



Third-century marble relief depicting the conveyance of wine in a large skin container (British Museum)

Thursday 1 November 2012, at 4pm
Ertegun House, 37a St Giles’

NOTE CHANGE OF TIME AND VENUE

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SPECIAL LECTURE

(with the Late Antique and Byzantine Studies Seminar)

Raffaella Cribiore (New York University):

‘Polytheism, Monotheism, and the Grey Areas in Between: Libanius in Antioch’



Oceanus and Thetis on a mosaic from Daphne, near Antioch

Wednesday 28 November 2012, at 5pm

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

On Thursday 29 November at 5pm Prof. Cribiore is also delivering a seminar paper, on ‘Libanius, his Audience, and the Role of Invective’, at the Late Roman Seminar in Corpus.

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Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

WEDNESDAYS at 5 pm

in the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66, St Giles’

10 October (Week 1)

Foteini Spingou (Keble):

Marcianus Gr. 524: A thirteenth-century manuscript in context

17 October (Week 2)

Marek Jankowiak (Wolfson):

The Notitia episcopatum 1 and the impact of the Arab invasions on Asia Minor in the seventh century

24 October (Week 3)

Harry Munt (Wolfson):

Historiography and the Inheritance of Prophetic Authority: The Emergence of Islamic Local History-Writing

31 October (Week 4): **OCBR SPECIAL LECTURE**

Vasiliki Tsamakda (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz):

Organizing Artistic Production in the Fourteenth Century. Late Byzantine Painters’ Workshops on Crete

7 November (Week 5)

Alessandra Bucossi (KCL):

De Graecis qui contra Latinos scripserunt

14 November (Week 6)

Eleni Dimitriadou (Courtauld):

The art of imperial ceremonies writ large: the mosaics of Hagia Sophia at Constantinople

21 November (Week 7)

Dimitris Krallis (Simon Fraser University; OCBR Visiting Fellow):

Texts and Contexts for (re)imagining a Byzantine polity/politics

28 November (Week 8): **OCLA SPECIAL LECTURE**

Raffaella Cribiore (NYU):

Polytheism, Monotheism, and the Grey Areas in Between: Libanius in Antioch

Conveners: Mark Lauxtermann and Mark Whittow

Late Antique and Byzantine Archaeology and Art Seminar

THURSDAYS of Week 2–8, 11am–12:30pm
St John's College, New Seminar Room

18 October (Week 2)

Emanuele Intagliata (Edinburgh):

Rethinking the archaeological evidence in Palmyra: a new urban approach in late antiquity and the Umayyad period

25 October (Week 3)

Dr Georgi Parpulov (History):

Wood-carved images and verses from fourteenth-century Byzantium

1 November (Week 4)

Dr Marlia Mango (St. John's):

Quantification of church silver: from cathedrals to village churches, from Constantine to the Latin conquest

8 November (Week 5)

Dr Anne McCabe (CSAD/ASCSA):

Middle Byzantine houses and the Painted Stoa: recent excavations in the Athenian Agora

15 November (Week 6)

Dr Antony Eastmond (Courtauld Institute):

Words as images, a report on the Dumbarton Oaks 'Sign as Design' conference

22 November (Week 7)

Alkiviadis Ginalis (Merton):

The coastal and underwater archaeological survey project at Skiathos – results of the season 2012

29 November (Week 8)

Dr Joanna Rapti (King's College London):

Settlement, economy and identity in Armenian Cilicia: evidence from manuscripts

Conveners: Dr Marlia Mango (St John's) and Dr Philipp Niewöhner (Brasenose)

Late Roman Seminar

THURSDAYS at 5pm

Seminar Room, Corpus Christi College (except for Week 4)

11 October (Week 1)

Neil McLynn (Oxford University)

The Senator 'Converted from the Christian Religion to Servitude to the Idols': Cultural Politics in Christian Rome

18 October (Week 2)

Victoria Leonard (University of Cardiff):

The Predicament of Genre: Categorisation and Conformity in Orosius's Historiae

25 October (Week 3)

Simon Swain (University of Warwick):

Themistius and Julian

1 November (Week 4)

OXFORD CENTRE FOR LATE ANTIQUITY SPECIAL LECTURE:

Ray Van Dam (University of Michigan):

Big Cities, Migration, and Food in Late Antiquity

Ertegun House, 37a St Giles' at 4pm

NOTE CHANGE OF TIME AND VENUE

8 November Week 5)

Rebecca Usherwood (University of Nottingham):

Merited Oblivion? Constantine and the Memory of Licinius

15 November (Week 6)

Doug Lee (University of Nottingham):

Heroic emulation and warfare in late antiquity

22 November (Week 7)

Jo Quinn (Oxford University)

Augustine's Punic Canaanites

29 November (Week 8)

Raffaella Cribiore (New York University):

Libanius, his Audience, and the Role of Invective

Conveners: Neil McLynn and Bryan Ward-Perkins

Jewish History and Literature in the Graeco-Roman Period: Maccabees, Hasmonaeans, and their legacy

TUESDAYS, from 2.30 to 4 p.m. in the Oriental Institute

The Seminar on Jewish History and Literature in the Graeco-Roman Period is this term focused on 'Maccabees, Hasmonaeans and their Legacy', and so generally within the period before Late Antiquity. However, two talks have a strong late-antique element:

30 October (Week 4)

Dr Sebastian Brock (Oriental Institute):

The mother of the Maccabees and her seven sons in the Syriac tradition

13 November (Week 6)

Professor Tessa Rajak (Oriental Institute and Somerville):

The Maccabean martyrs between Judaism and Christianity

Convener: Martin Goodman.

Lectures:

The Late Antique Crucible of the Abrahamic Religions

Professor Guy Stroumsa will deliver these lectures on the following

WEDNESDAYS at 5pm

Weeks 1, 2, 3, and 4

Weeks 7 and 8

Seminar Room of the Faculty of Theology and Religion

Talk by Richard Sorabji on 'Moral conscience through the ages in relation to law, justice and society'

Monday 5 November at 5.30 pm

Haldane Room, Wolfson College

This talk will discuss the influence of 800 years of Antiquity.

Medieval Archaeology Seminar

MONDAYS of Weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8 at 3pm in the Institute of Archaeology Lecture Room

15 October (Week 2)

Chris Scull:

Saxon Rendlesham re-visited

29 October (Week 4)

Alice Blackwell:

Northernmost Northumbria and its neighbours: reassessing Anglo-Saxon small-finds from Scotland

12 November (Week 6)

Stephanie Wynne-Jones:

A Material Culture: exploring urbanism and trade in the medieval Swahili world

26 November (Week 8)

Paul Booth:

'Roman' and 'Anglo-Saxon' settlements and burials at Horcott, Gloucestershire – continuities and discontinuities on the Thames Valley gravels

Conveners: Lesley Abrams & Helena Hamerow

European Science Foundation Conference: Urban economic life in Europe and the Mediterranean from Antiquity to the Early Modern Period

Friday 9 and Saturday 10 November 2012

All Souls College, Old Library

Organized by the Oxford Roman Economy Project

Attendance is free, but please register with miko.flohr@classics.ox.ac.uk.

More information and abstracts can be found on the OXREP website:

<http://www.romaneconomy.ox.ac.uk/oxrep/index.php?pg=124>

Medieval History Seminar

MONDAYS at 5 pm in the Wharton Room, All Souls College.

Although generally dealing with the period after Late Antiquity, the following three talks have a strong late-antique element:

8 October (Week 1)

Hugh Kennedy (SOAS):

Landholding and Law in the Early Islamic Middle East (c.640 to c1050 CE)

12 November (Week 6)

Erica Buchberger (University College):

Romans in a Frankish World: Gregory of Tours, Venantius Fortunatus, and Ethnic Identities

19 November (Week 7)

John Blair (Queen's):

Land surveying in the post-Roman West

Conveners: Paul Brand and Mark Whittow

Workshop: 'Religion and political authority in the pre-modern world'

Saturday 27 October 2012
in Ertegun House (37a St Giles')

Registration essential

Full details: http://www.ocla.ox.ac.uk/pdf/religion_political_authority.pdf

Slavic Origins A Linguistic-Historical Workshop

10 December 2012
at Wolfson College, Oxford

organized by Ilya Yakubovich and Marek Jankowiak

Full details: http://www.ocla.ox.ac.uk/pdf/poster_slavic_origins.pdf

Colloquium: Islam and Late Antiquity

Saturday 8 December 2012, 10.30am–6.00pm

Seminar Room (or auditorium, depending on numbers), Corpus Christi College

Organizers: Tim Whitmarsh and Sajjad Rizvi

This colloquium explores the controversial issues raised by Tom Holland's book *In the Shadow of the Sword*. Can the history of early Islam be written in the same terms as that of late antiquity? What are the challenges that early Islam poses to a secular historiography?

Speakers (order to be confirmed):

- Tom Holland, 'Where angels fear to tread: writing a popular history of the origins of early Islam'
- Averil Cameron, 'Islam in late antiquity – why and wherefore'
- Simon Swain, 'Islamic economics – the ancient perspective'
- Luke Treadwell, 'The material evidence for the origins of Islam'
- Robert Hoyland, 'Arab conquests or Muslim conquests? The identity and composition of the seventh-century conquerors of the Middle East'
- Walid Saleh, 'The paltry gains of revisionism: or why isn't Peter Brown buying it?'
- Nicolai Sinai, 'Was the Qur'an codified under 'Abd al-Malik?'

Cost: £10 (includes coffee and tea), or £15 (with lunch). Please contact Tim Whitmarsh <tim.whitmarsh@ccc.ox.ac.uk> to book your place.

Professor Torstein Theodor Tollefsen

Author of the books *The Christocentric Cosmology of St Maximus the Confessor* (OUP, 2008) and *Activity and Participation in Late Antique and Early Christian Thought* (OUP, 2012) will speak on the topic

“St Maximus the Confessor on Deification”

Monday, 12 November, 3–4 pm
Examination Schools

His talk form part of the course ‘Writings, Images, Signs. Byzantium and its Hereafter. taught by Dr Dr Elena Ene D-Vasilescu.

OXFORD ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDENT SOCIETY: THE PHILOKALIC GROUP

Prof. Torstein Theodor Tollefsen (University of Oslo) will give a talk on
“Why should there be something like Christian Art at all?”

Monday 12 November 2012 at 8pm
Venue: Corpus Christi College (Rainolds Room)

Talk by Tom Heffernan (University of Tennessee)
on the Passion of Perpetua

Tuesday 20 November 2012 at 5pm

Ertegun House, 37a St Giles’

Attendance is free, but space is limited, so please register for this event by emailing <administrator@ertegun.ox.ac.uk>.

Deadline for registration is Monday 19 November.

The talk is being given as a prelude to the premiere of a dramatic cantata based on Perpetua’s story on Thursday 22 November in Christ Church Cathedral:
see <http://www.cantatadramatica.com/>