

OCLA

OXFORD CENTRE FOR LATE ANTIQUITY

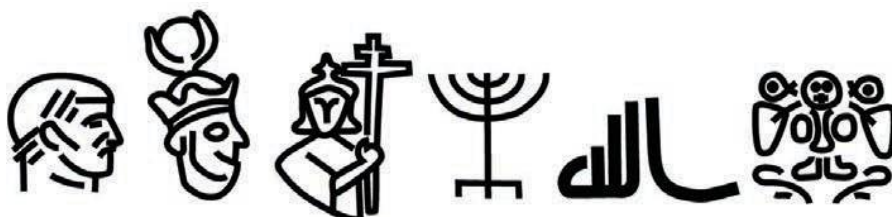


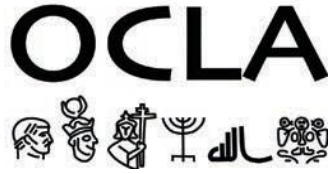
Listed here are the lectures, seminars, and events
in the field of Late Antiquity in Oxford

Michaelmas Term 2024

Details are also available on our website:

<https://ocla.web.ox.ac.uk>





Preface

Dear all,

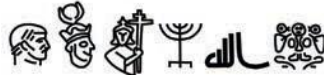
A very warm hello to everyone, in particular to those who are new to Oxford and to the world of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity. The Centre is a virtual network which gathers together the various relevant specialists scattered across different departments in the University, and which exists to promote the field of Late Antiquity in both Oxford and elsewhere. A crucial aspect of our work is the production of this booklet, which lists all the relevant events and seminars which are occurring in Oxford each term, and which you are invited to attend. You can also find the booklet, and more details about the Centre and its many members, on our website: <https://ocla.web.ox.ac.uk>.

OCLA has seen some significant changes in 2024. Earlier in the year a long-time friend and supporter of the Centre, John Beale, sadly passed away, and I know I speak for all of us in extending our deepest condolences to his family. Without John's generous help, we have been unable to continue supporting the activities of our wonderful Secretary, Dr Vendi Jukić Buča, who among other things was responsible for our mailing list, social media, and this booklet. On behalf of everyone I would like to thank Vendi for her many years of dedication to the Centre and to the highest standards in its workings. I have now taken over the duties of Secretary, and can be contacted at ocla@history.ox.ac.uk and/or philip.booth@theology.ox.ac.uk. Please let me know if there are any events which we have missed in this booklet, if there are new staff or students who should be included in the mailing list, or if you have any other enquiries related to the Centre.

I look forward to seeing or meeting you all soon. In the meantime, very best wishes for a happy and healthy term,

Phil Booth
Director, OCLA

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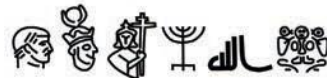
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Special Events

THE SYME LECTURE 2024

**CONFRONTING THE PAST:
CHRISTIANITY AND THE CLASSICS IN LATE ANTIQUITY**



Christopher Kelly

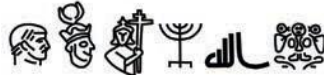
**Professor of Classics and Ancient History, Master of Corpus Christi College,
University of Cambridge**

Leonard Wolfson Auditorium, Wolfson College

Thursday, 7th November, 2024, 6-7pm.

More details at: <https://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/event/2024-syme-lecture/>

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Special Events

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

**STUDI E TESTI TARDOANTICHI
PROFANE AND CHRISTIAN CULTURE
IN LATE ANTIQUITY**

Transitions
A Historian's Memoir

AVERIL CAMERON

BREPOLS

AVERIL CAMERON
TRANSITIONS: A HISTORIAN'S MEMOIR

Discussants: Peter Groves, John Haldon
Levine Auditorium, Trinity College, Tuesday 12th November, 5pm
A drinks reception will follow.

The event will also be streamed via Zoom: [CLICK HERE](#)

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Special Events

The Khalili Research Centre

For the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East ♦ University of Oxford



Special Lecture, Monday 21 October 2024

5:15 PM, Large Seminar Room, St Cross College

All welcome

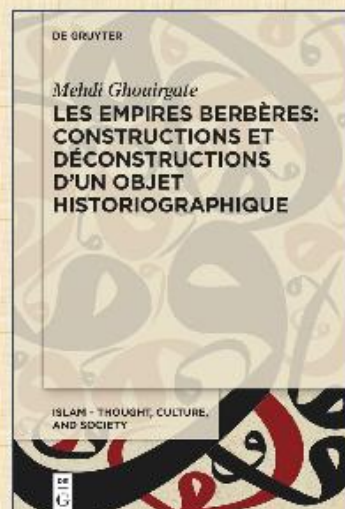
The Berber Empires construction and deconstruction of a historiographic object

The KRC and St Cross College are delighted to welcome **Mehdi Ghouirgate**, Professor of Islamic History at Bordeaux Montaigne University, who will present his latest book on the historiography of the Almoravid and Almohad Empires (11th–13th centuries).

Professor Mehdi Ghouirgate is a specialist in the history of the Muslim West (Maghrib and al-Andalus) during the medieval and modern periods. He is committed to revisiting this history based on a resolutely multidisciplinary approach that calls upon anthropology, material culture, economics, military history, and demography. He is the author of *L'Ordre almohade: Une nouvelle lecture anthropologique* (2014), *Ibn Khaldun: Itinéraires d'un penseur maghrébin* (2024), and *Les Empires berbères: Constructions et déconstructions d'un objet historiographique* (2024).

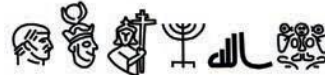
The discussion will be moderated by **Christian Sahrer**, Associate Professor of Islamic History, and **Umberto Bongianino**, Associate Professor of Islamic numismatics, epigraphy and material culture.

The event will be followed by a drinks reception.



You can contact the KRC administrator for more info: kate.kwok@ames.ox.ac.uk

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Special Events

'A Spark of the Glimmer of the Original Light'

A Workshop on the *Dēnkard*
as Literature, Theology, and Scholasticism

17 – 18 October 2024

The Buttery, Wolfson College, University of Oxford

D. Agostini (Naples)
M.A. Andrés-Toledo (Toronto)
S. Azarnouche (Paris)
Th. Benfey (Tübingen)
A. Bernard (Paris)
A. Cantera (Berlin)
K. Dang (St. Louis)
T. Good (Bochum)



G. König (Berlin)
B. Peschl (Berlin)
K. Rezaia (Bochum)
D. Sheffield (Princeton)
M. Timus (Bucharest)
M. Vassalli (Rome)
Y. Vevaina (Oxford)
A. Zeini (Oxford)

Organised by

Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina

**Bahri Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies, Wolfson College, Oxford
and**

Samra Azarnouche

**Professor of Zoroastrian Studies, École Pratique des Hautes Études-PSL
Centre de recherche sur le Monde iranien, Paris**

For pre-circulated papers, please contact: yuhan.vevaina@ames.ox.ac.uk



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Special Events

International Workshop Literary Beginnings in Late Antiquity

9 December 2024, Old Library, All Souls College, Oxford

Registration is required and subject to availability.

Please contact alberto.rigolio@all-souls.ox.ac.uk no later than Nov. 22.

9.00: Welcome: Alberto Rigolio (Durham / All Souls College)

9.10: Session 1, Chair: Zsuzsanna Gulácsi (Northern Arizona)

- F. Briquel Chatonnet (CNRS), *Cross Roots and Origins of Early Syriac Writing*
- J. BeDuhn (Northern Arizona), *The Beginnings of Manichaean Literature: New Breakthroughs and Insights*

10.30-11: Break

11.00: Session 2, Chair: Francis Watson (Durham)

- S. Richter (Berlin), *Coptic: Domains and Constraints of the Written Vernacular of Egypt*
- A. Papaconstantinou (Aix-en-Provence), *Copticists, Classicists, and Interpretations of the Egyptian Language in Late Antiquity: What has Empire got to do with it?*
- A. Camplani (Rome), *The Rise of Coptic and Syriac Cultures: A Comparison of the Contexts of Literarization*

13-14.15: Break

14.15: Session 3, Chair: Theo Van Lint (Oxford)

- T. Greenwood (St. Andrews), *Mind the Gap: Armenian Literature – Beginnings and Contexts*
- V. Calzolari Bouvier (Geneva), *Early Armenian Literature and its Links with the Syriac Cultural Environment*
- M. Debié (EPHE), *The Forgotten School of the Armenians in Edessa: Syriac and Early Armenian Literature*

16.15-16.45: Break

16.45: Session 4, Chair: Sebastian Brock (Oxford)

- D. Taylor (Oxford), *'Why should the Devil have all the Best Tunes?' Re-examining the Context of Early Syriac Poetry and Song*
- A. Butts (Hamburg), *Late Antique Ethiopic Literature: Challenges and Prospectives*

18.05: Roundtable Discussion

18.25: Closing Remarks

The workshop is generously supported by the British Academy, the Durham University Department of Classics and Ancient History, the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, and All Souls College Oxford. Image: UDUL Add. Ms 1950/F/23, Copyright of Durham University

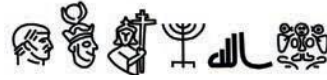
For further information, please scan the QR code



All Souls College
University of Oxford



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Special Events

Reading Jews in Late Antiquity

**16/10 Jewish Women and
Communal Roles**

**23/10 Heresies and Heretical
Beliefs**

**30/10 Magic and Religious
Boundaries**

**6/11 Angelology and
Demonology**

**13/11 The Emperor and the
Jews**

**20/11 Late Roman Legislative
Codices and Jews**

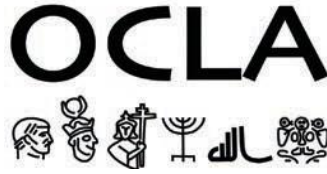
**27/11 Eating and Sharing
Meals with the Religious Other**

**4/12 Violence against Jews
and Jewish Violence**

**Co-lead by Prof. Meron Piotrkowski
and Ya'el Nu'emah-Kremer**

**Michaelmas, 8 meetings, Wednesdays 10-11 am
Room 207, The Clarendon Institute, Walton St.**

For registration and more information, contact
yael.kremer@ames.ox.ac.uk



Seminars

Mondays

Medieval History Seminar

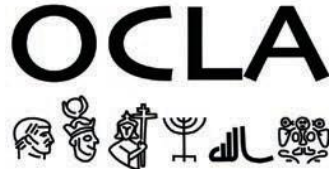
Convenors: Julia Smith, Laure Miolo, and John Merrington

Time: Monday, 5pm

Venue: Wharton Room, All Souls College

Online: 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 rmppucs). If you have any difficulties please email: medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk

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|--------------------------------|---|
| (W1) 14 th October | Edward Zychowicz-Coghill (KCL)
‘Writing the <i>Conquest of Egypt</i> : A case study in the Formation of Islamic Historical Writing’ |
| (W2) 21 st October | Genevieve Caulfield (UCL)
‘Making moral judgements: theory and practice in the thought of Johannes Nider’ |
| (W3) 28 th October | Sarah Hamilton (University of Exeter)
‘Writing history in the tenth century’ |
| (W4) 4 th November | Teresa Barucci (Magdalen)
‘Identity and geographical origin at the late medieval University of Paris: an analysis of manuscript decoration’ |
| (W5) 11 th November | Gregory Lippiatt (University of Exeter)
‘Bogomils or Bogeymen?: Heresy between East and West in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries’ |
| (W6) 18 th November | Moreed Arbabzedah (Jesus Oxford)
‘New perspectives on Gerald of Wales’ |
| (W7) 25 th November | Fouzia Farooq Ahmed (All Souls/Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad)
‘Gender Ventriloquism in Medieval India: The Writings of Amir Khusro’ |
| (W8) 2 nd December | Alicia Smith (Oxford)
‘Harlot/saint: tracking the figure of <i>Thais meretrix</i> in medieval manuscript compilations’ |



Seminars

Wednesdays

Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

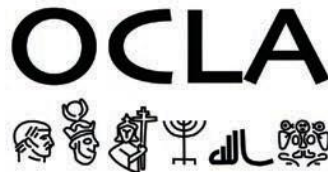
Convenors: Marc Lauxtermann and Ida Toth

Time: Wednesday, 5pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles

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

- (W1) 16th October **Alexander Sherborne et al.** (Oxford)
‘The Extraordinary Medieval Monuments of Georgia: A Report by the Oxford University Byzantine Society Research Trip, July 2024’
- (W2) 23rd October **Anne McCabe** (Athens)
‘From Temple to Church: New Evidence for the Christianization of the *Hephaisteion* in Athens’
- (W3) 30th October **Geoffrey Greatrex** (Ottawa)
‘What sort of Late Antiquity? Reflections on P. Brown, *Journeys of the Mind*’
- (W4) 6th November **Arkadiy Avdokhin** (Oxford),
‘Gone with the Wind: Ambition, Scatology, and Violence in Acclamations for Albinos at Aphrodisias’
- (W5) 13th November **Max Lau** (Oxford)
‘The Rebirth of Byzantine Anatolia in the Twelfth Century’
- (W6) 20th November **Lucia Orlandi** (Paris/Rome)
‘Recent Research on Baptism and Baptisteries in Late Antiquity’
- (W7) 27th November **Alberto Rigolio** (Durham)
‘The Rise of the *Memrā* in Syriac Literature’
- (W8) 4th December **Zdenka Stahuljak** (UCLA)
‘Methodologies of Commensuration: Poetry, History, and Knowledge’



Seminars

Thursdays

Late Roman Seminar

Convenors: Alison John, Conrad Leyser, and Neil McLynn

Time: Thursday, 4pm

Venue: Seminar Room, Corpus Christi College

- (W1) 17th October **Karl Berg** (Lincoln, Oxford)
‘Assessing the implications of a post-Julianic restoration of a provincial imperial priesthood: *CIL* VI, 1736 and the religiosity of Iulius Festus Hymetius’
- (W2) 24th October **Jane Masségia** (Leicester)
‘The Trojan War Mosaic from Ketton: Greek mythography in Late Roman Britain’
- (W3) 31st October **Victoria Lansing** (Balliol, Oxford)
‘(Lady) Philosophy’s Lucretian Teachings: The *De Rerum Natura* in Boethius’ *Consolatio Philosophiae*’
- (W4) 7th November** **Benet Salway** (UCL)
‘A question of time: the inscribing of Diocletian’s Edict on Maximum Prices at Aphrodisias’
- (W5) 14th November **Christa Gray** (Reading)
‘The devil in the pea pail: Commenting on Ch. 18 of Jerome’s *Life of Hilarion*’
- (W6) 21st November **Simon Swain** (Warwick/All Souls, Oxford)
‘Synesius’ Letters, Facts and Basics, Enemies and Friends’
- (W7) 28th November **Carolyn La Rocco** (St John’s, Oxford)
‘The conversion of the Visigothic Kingdom: Christian spaces and their creators in late- and post-Roman Iberia’
- (W8) 5th December **Catherine Ware** (Cork)
‘Orpheus *grammaticus*? Rhetoric and Dracontius’ *Romulea*’

**** NB No seminar drinks due to Syme Lecture at 6pm (above p. 4)**