

Listed here are the lectures and seminars on Late Antiquity taking place in Oxford between January and March 2015

The activities of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity are made possible by the generosity of donors to the Centre

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

www.ocla.ox.ac.uk

As at 12 March 2015

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

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

Syriac Intellectual Culture in Late Antiquity: Translation, Transmission, and Influence

Friday 30 and Saturday 31 January 2015 at Ertegun House, Oxford



Organizers:
Walter Beers (Princeton) and
Jeremiah Coogan (Oxford)

Full details including
how to register at
<https://oxfordsyriac2015.wordpress.com>

Friday 30 January 2015

- 9.00 Registration and Coffee
9.30 Welcome (Dr David Taylor)
9.45 **Keynote Lecture** in Upper Annexe:
Dr Timothy Michael Law
(St Andrew's):
The Syriac Reception of Solomon
10.45 Coffee
11:00 **César Merchan-Hamann**
Bodleian Manuscripts
(Weston Library, Bahari Room)
12.15 Lunch
13.30 **Handling session**
at Ashmolean Museum
16:30 Tea
16.45 **Paper Session One**
18.15 Wine Reception
19:00 Conference Dinner

Saturday 31 January 2015

- 9.00 Registration and Coffee
9.30 **Keynote Lecture** in Upper Annexe:
Dr Jack Tannous (Princeton):
*Samuel of Edessa, Mattai of Aleppo,
and Wapha the Aramean Philosopher:
Some thoughts on Syriac literature as
a distorting mirror*
10.30 Coffee
10:45 **Paper Session Two** (Upper Annexe)
12.15 Lunch
13.30 Paper Session Three (Upper Annexe)
15.00 Tea
15.15 **Paper Session Four**
Moderator: **Jonathon Wright** (Oxford)
16.45 Concluding Discussion

Conference: Early Islamic Balkh: History, landscape and material culture

Friday 16 and Saturday 17 January 2015 at Wolfson College, Oxford



Friday 16 January 2015

14:00	Welcome and introduction
14:15	I. Reconstructing the city <i>Discussant:</i> Jeremy Johns (Director, Khalili Research Centre, Oxford) Edmund Herzig: <i>Balkh and the 'Islamic City' Debate</i> Rachel Mairs: <i>Alfred Foucher and DAFA Excavations at Balkh (1924–25)</i> Stefan Heidemann: <i>Coin Finds in Relation to Local and Economic History, and Spatial Organization</i>
16:00	Tea
16.30	II. Balkh in a regional context <i>Discussant:</i> Tim Williams (Director, Ancient Merv Project, University College London) Philippe Marquis: <i>The City of Balkh in the Context of the Oasis</i> Paul Wordsworth: <i>Balkh as a Central Asian 'Oasis City'</i>
18:00	Drinks reception, Wolfson College
19.30	Conference Dinner for speakers and discussants

... Early Islamic Balkh conference continued

Saturday 17 January 2015

9:15	III. The changing city from religious perspectives <i>Discussant:</i> Etienne de la Vaissière (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris) Arezou Azad: <i>Where the Good Men Go to Die: Saints and the City</i> Charles Ramble: <i>Tibetan Mythical Cities and Central Asia</i> <i>[Third speaker to be confirmed]</i>
11:00	Coffee
11:30	IV. Narrating Balkh <i>Discussant:</i> Sarah Savant, Aga Khan University Robert McChesney: <i>Some Reflections on Textual Narratives of Post-Mongol Balkh"</i> Robert Hoyland: <i>Balkh in the Umayyad Period</i> Hugh Kennedy: <i>Balkh as a Capital of the Ghaznevids</i>
13:15	Lunch
14:15	IV. Narrating Balkh (cont.) <i>Discussant:</i> Dominic Brookshaw, Oriental Institute, University of Oxford Domenico Ingenito: <i>Mahmud's New Garden in Balkh: a Literary Approach to Ephemeral Architecture</i> Ali Mir-Ansari: <i>Memoir Writing (tadhkira-nawāsi) in Greater Khurāsān during the 6th/12th Century</i> Tasha Vorderstrasse : <i>Chinese Sources on Balkh</i>
16:00	General Discussion and Concluding Remarks

Places are strictly limited so please register early by emailing
< balkh.conference@orinst.ox.ac.uk >

Please note: we are obliged to charge an attendance fee to help cover the costs of refreshments. Students: £7.50, Others: £15. Please pay by cash or cheque (made payable to "The University of Oxford") on the door.

Heresy from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages

11:00: REGISTRATION
AND WELCOME

11:15 SESSION 1:
Chair: **Antonia Fitzpatrick**
(St John's)

Richard Flower (Exeter):
*The birth of scientific
heresiology in late antiquity*

Jill Moore (Birkbeck):
*Set a thief to catch a thief?
Family experience of heresy
among thirteenth- and
fourteenth-century Italian
inquisitors*

12:45 Lunch

13:45 SESSION 2:
Chair: **Phil Booth** (Trinity)

Liz Mincin (St Andrews):
*Curing the common soul:
re-examining the
heresiological motif of
disease in Middle Byzantium*

Ali Bonner (Jesus):
*The reception of Pelagius and
interactionist theory*

15:15 Coffee

15:45 SESSION 3:
Chair: **Robin Whelan**
(TORCH/Brasenose)

Lucy Sackville (York):
*The great divide: inquisition
texts and the history of heresy*

PLENARY DISCUSSION:

Conrad Leyser (Worcester)
and **Kantik Ghosh** (Trinity)

Saturday 14 March 2015

TORCH Seminar Room, Radcliffe Humanities,
Woodstock Road, Oxford



To register, or for more information,
e-mail Robin Whelan
<robin.whelan@history.ox.ac.uk>

*A sandwich lunch is available; please request it on
registration and supply any dietary requirements.*

*This seminar is supported the Oxford Centre for Late
Antiquity and the Oxford Medieval Studies Network*

Special Seminar

Friday 13 February 2015, at 5pm

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

Joost Hagen (Leiden/Leipzig):

*Four Coptic letters from Qasr Ibrim concerning the relations between Christian
Nubia, Muslim Egypt and the Blemmyes/Beja in the summer of 760 AD*

Dr Hagen will begin his paper with general remarks about Qasr Ibrim and its
archive of documents

Convener: James Howard-Johnston

Handling sessions at the Ashmolean Museum

Kate Cooper is organising two handling sessions with Senta German from the
Ashmolean.

- **Friday 27 February 2015**, 3–5 pm: Objects related to the Cult of Saints
from late antiquity and early Byzantium
- **Friday 13 March 2015**, 3–5 pm: Objects related to violence and the
sacred
- More information: <http://kateantiquity.com/2015/02/23/objects-of-love/>

Oxford University Byzantine Society's XVII International Graduate Conference

*Cross-Cultural Exchange in the Byzantine World,
c.300–1500*

Friday 27–Saturday 28 February 2015
Faculty of History, George Street

For more details about registration, please see the OUBS website:
<https://oxfordbyzantinesociety.wordpress.com/>

Carlyle Lectures:

'The grim regalia of destruction': points of tension between sacred and secular authority in Christian Europe c.400–c.1100

Dr Stuart Airlie (Glasgow)

WEDNESDAYS of Weeks 3–8 of Hilary Term 2005
Examination Schools at 5pm

4 February (Week 3)

Rulers, martyrs and questionings of authority

11 February (Week 4)

'As a roaring and ravening lion': heretical and wicked rulers 400–700

18 February (Week 5)

Holy men in times of trial

25 February (Week 6)

Ordering the Carolingian world I

4 March (Week 7)

Ordering the Carolingian world II

11 March (Week 8)

Towards Canossa

The David Patterson Lectures

'The Jewish contribution to Byzantine civilization'

Professor Nicholas de Lange (University of Cambridge):

Monday 2 March 2015 (Week 7) at 7.15pm (drinks 6.45pm)
Clarendon Institute, Walton Street

Late Roman Seminar

THURSDAYS in Hilary Term 2015
Sutro Room, Trinity College at 5pm

22 January (Week 1)

Victoria Leonard (Cardiff):

The origin of zealous intolerance: Paulus Orosius and violent religious conflict in the early fifth century

29 January (Week 2)

Hannah Probert (Sheffield):

Fathers and family property in Francia c.400–700

5 February (Week 3)

Simon Corcoran (UCL):

Honorius and the freedmen: Sirmondian 19 and security of status in the fifth century

12 February (Week 4)

Gavin Kelly (Edinburgh):

Why do we need a new text and translation of Ammianus Marcellinus?

19 February (Week 5)

David Lambert (Oxford):

Heraclea, 515: The ecumenical council that never was

26 February (Week 6)

Phillippe Blauveau (Angers):

Liberatus of Carthage's Breviarium (566?): very special history with very special purpose

5 March (Week 7)

Robin Whelan (Oxford):

A separation? Gelasius, the "two powers", and Christian politics in the late fifth century

12 March (Week 8)

~~**Rebecca Littlechild** (KCL): CANCELLED~~

~~*Chaste cohabitation in Late Antiquity: ascetic ideals and social practice*~~

Conveners: Conrad Leyser and Bryan Ward-Perkins

Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

WEDNESDAYS in Hilary Term 2015
in the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles', at 5pm

21 January (Week 1)

Brian Croke (Macquarie University) :

Ariadne Augusta: Casting the mould for the early Byzantine empress

28 January (Week 2)

Jaś Elsner (Corpus Christi College):

The Origins of the Icon

4 February (Week 3):

Tony Eastmond (Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London)

The court of saints, and the great ivory triptychs of the tenth century

11 February (Week 4)

Marjolijne Janssen (Cambridge):

The Cambridge Grammar of Medieval Greek Project

18 February (Week 5)

Michael Jeffreys (University of Sydney/Oxford):

Michael Psellos and Constantine X: Pacifism, Philosophy and Provincial government

25 February (Week 6)

Robert Wisniewski (University of Warsaw)

Displaying, seeing and hiding relics in Late Antiquity

4 March (Week 7)

Ida Toth (Wolfson College)

Eastern Prose Fiction in Byzantium: a case study

11 March (Week 8)

Martin Hinterberger (University of Cyprus):

Phthonos/Envy and the Emotional World of Homo Byzantinus

Conveners: Marc Lauxtermann and Mark Whittow

Late Antique and Byzantine Archaeology and Art Seminar

THURSDAYS of Weeks 2–8 in Hilary Term 2015
St John's College, New Seminar Room, 11am–12.30pm

29 January (Week 2)

Marlena Whiting:

Encountering the Word: the inscriptions of Holy Land pilgrimage

5 February (Week 3)

Georgi Parpulov:

The Crucified Monk

12 February (Week 4)

Georges Kazan:

The Golden Gate at Constantinople: evidence and interpretation

19 February (Week 5)

Natalija Ristovska:

Enamelled metalware between Byzantium and the Islamic world : reconstructing the contexts of exchange (9th/10th–12th centuries)

26 February (Week 6)

Jim Crow (Edinburgh):

Research on the citadel at Sinope: reflections on Byzantine cities and the sea

5 March (Week 7)

Agnieszka Lic:

Stucco decoration of a church on Sir Bani Yas island, United Arab Emirates: Christian artistic production of Southern Mesopotamia and the Persian Gulf in Late Antiquity.

12 March (Week 8)

Ine Jacobs:

Christian protective magic in archaeological context

Conveners: Ine Jacobs and Marlia Mango

Patristic and Late Antique Seminar: Patristic Exegesis of Pauline Epistles

TUESDAYS in Hilary Term 2015
Christ Church, Room 2, 4.00–5.30pm

20 January (Week 1)

Matthew Thomas:

Irenaeus

27 January (Week 2)

Professor Mark Edwards:

Origen

3 February (Week 3)

Dr Jenn Strawbridge:

Tertullian

10 February (Week 4)

Dr Stan Rosenberg:

Ambrosiaster

17 February (Week 5)

James Cook:

Chrysostom's sermons

24 February (Week 6)

Dr Susan Griffith:

ComPaul Project

3 March (Week 7)

Dr Julia Hudson:

Augustine

10 March (Week 8)

Dr Elena Draghici-Vasilescu:

The use of Galatians in Byzantine Liturgy

Conveners: Dr Stan Rosenberg and Professor Mark Edwards

Workshop: Freedom, self-reflection and self-movement in neoplatonic philosophy

WEDNESDAY 18 AND THURSDAY 19 MARCH 2015

(starting at 11am on Wednesday and finishing by lunchtime on Thursday)
Corpus Christi College (seminar room)

Speakers:

- **Pauliina Remes** (Uppsala University)
- **Jan Opsomer** (University of Leuven)
- **Frans De Haas** (Leiden University)
- **James Wilberding** (Ruhr University Bochum)
- **Ursula Coope** (Oxford University)

Everyone welcome. If you intend to be there, please contact Ursula Coope
<ursula.coope@philosophy.ox.ac.uk>, so that she has some idea of numbers.

The workshop is funded by the British Academy.

Medieval Archaeology Seminar

The following seminar in Hilary Term 2015 is relevant to Late Antiquity:

Monday 9 February (Week 4) at 3pm
Institute of Archaeology Lecture Room

Helena Hamerow:

*Furnished Female Burial in Seventh-Century England: Gender and Sacral
Authority in the Conversion Period*

Convener: Helen Hamerow

Temples in Late Antiquity: Newly Built Structures and their Urban Context

Ancient Architecture Discussion Group
A talk by **Luke Lavan** (Kent)

Friday 13 March 2015, 3–4pm

Lecture room, Institute of Archaeology, Beaumont Street, Oxford

From Panopolis to Baghdad and back: Centres and Networks in the Classical, Late Antique and Medieval Near East

THURSDAYS in Hilary Term 2015
Swire Seminar Room, University College at 5pm

The following four lectures in the programme relate to Late Antiquity:

29 January (Week 2)

Ian Rutherford (Reading):

Centre and Periphery in Greek Religious Networks: The Case of Artemis of Ephesus

5 February (Week 3):

Ine Jacobs (Oxford):

A Small Town's Networks. Production, Consumption and Distribution at Sagalassos (Pisidia)

12 February (Week 4):

Jonathan Shepard (Oxford):

Imperial Fields and Market Forces: Creative Tensions and Byzantium

26 February (Week 6):

Peter van Minnen (Cincinnati):

'Only Connect ... the Beast and the Monk': Panopolis in the Late Antique World

This lecture series is organised by Lisa Kallet (Classics), Mark Smith (Egyptology) and Catherine Holmes (Medieval History) and sponsored by University College

www.neareastnetworks.wordpress.com

Seminar on Jewish History and Literature in the Graeco-Roman Period

TUESDAYS in Hilary Term 2015

Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Clarendon Institute Building,
Walton Street, 2.30–4 pm

The following three seminars in the programme relate to Late Antiquity:

24 February (Week 6)

Dr Katharina Keim (Manchester):

The exposition of scripture in Pirquei deRabbi Eliezer

3 March (Week 7)

Professor Nicholas de Lange (Cambridge):

Greek Jewish bible translations in medieval Judaism: the ancient roots of the medieval translations [**GRINFIELD LECTURE**]

10 March (Week 8)

Dr Alexander Panayotov (Aarhus):

Jewish everyday life in the late-Roman and early Byzantine Balkans

Convener: Professor Martin Goodman

The Oxford Celtic Seminars

THURSDAYS in Hilary Term 2015

Habakkuk Room, Jesus College

Tea and biscuits from 2.30pm, with papers starting at 3pm.

The following three seminars are relevant to Late Antiquity:

22 January (Week 1)

Professor Patrick Sims-Williams (Aberystwyth):

Kenneth Jackson and the Dating of Early Welsh Poetry

29 January (Week 2)

Dr Andy Seaman (Canterbury Christ Church):

Aaron and Julius, 'citizens of Caerleon': Wales's Roman Martyrs?

26 February (Week 6)

Dr Alison Bonner (Jesus College):

Bede and Pelagius

For further information, email Benjamin Sadler
<benjamin.sadler@jesus.ox.ac.uk>

The Roman Discussion Forum

WEDNESDAYS in Hilary Term 2015

Institute of Archaeology, Beaumont Street, Lecture Room, 1.00pm

The paper by Mark Jackson in 1st Week is centrally focused on Late Antiquity, while several of the other papers will contain a late antique component

21 January (Week 1)

Mark Jackson (University of Newcastle):

New work on Late Roman D ware; the discovery and implications of 'Cypriot' Red Slip ware production in Turkey

28 January (Week 2)

Miko Flohr, (Universiteit Leiden):

Tabernae and urban economies in Roman Italy: towards a history of commercial investment?

4 February (Week 3)

Professor Michael Fulford (University of Reading):

The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain Project

11 February (Week 4)

Paul Booth (Oxford Archaeology):

Maximising agricultural resources in the Oxfordshire Windrush Valley? A Roman nucleated settlement at Gill Mill and its environment

18 February (Week 5)

Oriol Olesti Vila (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona):

A marginal zone? Roman Mining in the Pyrenees

25 February (Week 6)

Janice Kinory (University of Oxford):

Living off the Romans in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

4 March (Week 7)

Tyler Franconi (University of Oxford):

Economic development along Rome's German frontier

11 March (Week 8)

Professor Jean-Pierre Brun (Collège de France):

Textile, leather and organic remains in the Roman forts along the routes to Myos Hormos and to Berenike

Organisers: Andrew Wilson, Maggie Burr, and Tyler Franconi, with the support of the Faculty of Classics, the School of Archaeology, and All Souls College

Medieval Church and Culture

TUESDAYS in Hilary Term 2015

Carpenter Room, Harris Manchester College

Refreshments at 5pm, papers at 5.15pm

The following three seminars relate to Late Antiquity:

20 January (Week 1)

Conor O'Brien (Sheffield):

Re-reading the Lives of the Abbots of Wearmouth and Jarrow

10 February (Week 4)

Bryan Ward-Perkins (Oxford):

The Cult of Saints Project: Ambitions and Problems

24 February (Week 6)

Trevor Morse (Oxford):

Wilfrid Unabased: Church and State in Early 8th-century Northumbria

Conveners: Margaret Coombe (HMC), Karl Kinsella (Keble), Lesley Smith (HMC)

Deflation and Crisis in Byzantium: Making and using coins in the long 8th century

A lecture by **Cécile Morrison**

(Director of research emerita at the CNRS, Paris and Advisor for Byzantine Numismatics, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC)

Friday 13 March 2015

5.45-8.30pm (lecture at 6pm)

RSVP to Roslyn Britton-Strong, Administrator, Heberden Coin Room

Local Connections in the Literature of Late Antiquity

The third annual conference of the International Society for Late Antique Literary Studies (ISLALS) will be held at TORCH, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities, on 1–2 July 2015.

This conference, on the topic of ‘local connections’, will explore the place of literature in the shifting geography of late antiquity. The transfer of imperial power away from Rome and the founding of Constantinople in the early fourth century had a profound effect on the literary culture of the ancient Mediterranean. In the west, this is the era in which ‘Roman’ literature can be seen to become ‘Latin’ literature, as authors and readers spread out from the capital to form regional literary communities in other parts of Italy, Gaul, Spain, and Africa. Greek literature had been produced in these sorts of local contexts for a much longer period of time, but in the east as well, new centres of literary activity were emerging in late antiquity. Papers will therefore examine the ways in which local landscapes and communities are represented in late antique literary texts. Other questions to address might include: how distinctive are the various regional literatures of the world of late antiquity, and what kinds of relationships existed between them? In what ways did later Latin and Greek authors shape the dialogue between local identities and international institutions, such as the Roman Empire or the Christian Church? What was the role of late antique texts in the formation of modern European literatures, and how have local considerations influenced their reception in other periods?

If you would like to participate, please send an abstract of your paper via email attachment to the steering committee by March 1, 2015: Scott McGill <smcgill@rice.edu>, Joseph Pucci <Joseph_Pucci@brown.edu>, and David Bright <dbright@emory.edu>. Papers should be no longer than thirty minutes in length.

Thanks to the generosity of the Oxford Faculty of Classics and the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, lunch, refreshments, and a closing banquet will be provided for conference speakers. Other meals, as well as lodging and travel will be the responsibility of participants. Please send queries about conference particulars to Ian Fielding <ian.fielding@classics.ox.ac.uk>. General queries about ISLALS may be sent to any member of the steering committee