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OXFORD CENTRE FOR LATE ANTIQUITY



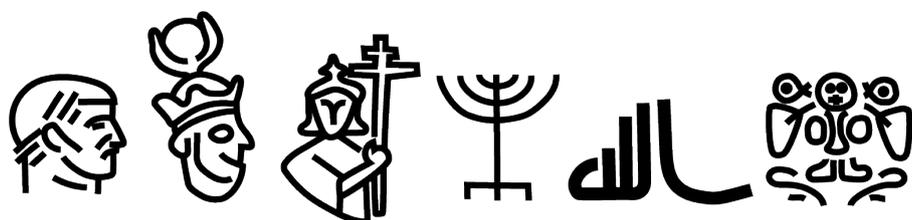
Listed here are the lectures, seminars and events on
Late Antiquity
in Oxford

Trinity term
2020-2021
(April - June)

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

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

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





With the addition of the new material, Manar al-Athar now has over 9600 photographs related to Cairo online.
#Egypt #Cairo #culturalheritage
Cairo - Mosque-Madrasa of Sultan al-Nasir Hassan - prayer hall - mihrab (Ross Burns/Manar al-Athar)
To see more, visit <https://bit.ly/32CKVev>

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Preface

Dear all,

Please find below the listings for academic events being held this Trinity Term in the field of Late Antiquity. We all hope that this will be the last OCLA booklet advertising events which are exclusively online, and that Michaelmas Term will see a return to our regular meetings in person, the importance of which has been underlined for us all in the past twelve months.

I would like to draw your attention to a new but annual seminar amongst the listings, under the name 'After Rome and Further East'. This seminar replaces the regular 'After Rome' seminar which was long ago established by Bryan Ward-Perkins and John Matthews, and which last met in 2019. It continues that seminar's interest in both textual and material approaches to the world of late antiquity, but extends the definition of late antiquity to the end of the first millennium, and into the Middle East and Central Asia. The seminar is a collaboration between the History Faculty and Oriental Institute, and we hope to see many of you there each Thursday evening.

Finally, on behalf of everyone I would like again to thank **Dr Vendi Jukić Buča**, the OCLA Secretary, for all of her assistance this academic year. Vendi is responsible for compiling and designing this booklet for us all, but also for administering the Centre and for launching and presiding over its new Facebook page, which can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/OCLASocial/>. For all enquiries or for notifications not listed here, Vendi can be contacted at ocla@history.ox.ac.uk.

With best wishes and hopes to see you soon

Phil Booth



Impressum

Director
Phil Booth

OCLA site administrators and content editor
Vendi Jukić Buča

Booklet design and typesetting
Vendi Jukić Buča

Contact us

If you would like to inform us about the events in your organisation, or wish to be sent occasional emails detailing forthcoming events in Oxford, please email Vendi Jukić Buča to ocla@history.ox.ac.uk.

Oxford, April 2021.

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Lectures and Events

Ancient Architecture Discussion Group Special Lecture

Dr J. Martínez Jiménez

The urban water cycle of late antique Iberia

Friday May 21 at 4pm UK Time. Join via this link: <http://rb.gy/gmudag>

Many Roman cities had aqueducts and piped water for centuries; it is natural to assume that cities and city life evolved around this easy access to water, and it is unsurprising that, when aqueducts eventually ceased to function, cities and city life had to adapt to the new circumstances.

Javier Martínez will be presenting in this lecture the main results of his book 'Aqueducts and Urbanism in Post-Roman Hispania' (Gorgias Press, 2019), which is based on his 2014 OCLA thesis.

Photo: Fifth/sixth-century fountain of the Lisbon harbour (Sommer site excavation). Author: J. Martínez Jiménez.



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Seminars

Mondays

Oxford Byzantine Graduate Seminar

Mondays at 12.30 PM, via Zoom.

To register, please contact the organiser at james.cogbill@worc.ox.ac.uk.

- (W1) 26 April **Katherine Krauss** (Somerville College, Oxford) ‘Rereading the ‘Canon’ in Latin Late Antiquity: Exemplarity and Allusion in Macrobius’ *Saturnalia*’
- (W2) 3 May **Alessandro Carabia** (University of Birmingham) ‘Defining the ‘Byzantine Variable’ in Early Byzantine Italy: The Case of Liguria (500-700 CE)’
- (W3) 10 May **Cristina Cocola** (Universiteit Gent & Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven) ‘Feeling Repentance in Byzantium: A Study on the Literary Sources of Katanyktic Poetry’
- (W4) 17 May **Ben Kybett** (Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge) ‘Themistius and the Muses: Religion, Rhetoric, and Classical Statuary in Fourth-Century Constantinople’
- (W5) 24 May **Grace Stafford** (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz) ‘Between the Living and the Dead: Use, Reuse, and Imitation of Painted Portraits in Late Antiquity’
- (W6) 31 May **Josh Hitt** (St. Hilda’s College, Oxford) ‘Ageing, Rejuvenation and Patronage in Twelfth-Century Byzantium’
- (W7) 7 June **Constanța Burlacu** (Merton College, Oxford) ‘Monastic Presence and Book Circulation in the Lands North of the Danube (15th-16th Centuries)’
- (W8) 14 June **Kyriakos Fragkoulis** (University of Birmingham) ‘(Re)contextualising a Late Antique City through the Ceramic Record: The Case of Dion in Macedonia (Pieria, Greece)’

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Seminars

Mondays

Medieval Archaeology Seminar

Monday, 3rd May (only) at 3 PM via Teams

(W2) 3 May

Dr Emma Brownlee (Cambridge University) 'Early Medieval bed burials: a European perspective'

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Seminars

Tuesdays

Seminar On Jewish History And Literature In The Graeco-Roman Period

Convened by M. Goodman & A. Salvesen
Tuesdays at 2 PM.

For information on how to join the seminar online, please follow the links below.

- (W2) 4 May **Dr Kristin de Troyer** (Salzburg) [LXX Forum] ‘Bestowing honour and wearing the appropriate clothes: the Book of Esther in Greek’
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtd-uqpkjuHtZPq5NDzuoNLNbYuihjlqxG>
- (W3) 11 May **Dr Joseph Scales** (Birmingham) ‘Before the synagogue? The emergence of Jewish communal spaces in 1st century Galilee’
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvdeGopzkiG9flw270IWmbP7g3F85eYzw2>
- (W5) 25 May **Dr Rodrigo de Sousa** (Aix-en-Provence) [LXX Forum] ‘The Septuagint and early Jewish literary cultures’
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApfuyurzojHNW0rDcexnfMigZT_mWcyQj
- 8 (W6) 1 June **Dr Hallel Baitner (Wolfson)** ‘Greater than the former? Continuity and innovation in the architectural depictions of the Second Temple’
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdumprT0qHdf5OB5_sXPzxBPdA3irX3Ff
- (W7) 8 June **Professor Adele Reinhartz** (Ottawa) [Speaker’s Lecture] ‘What does the New Testament tell us about the ‘parting of the ways?’’
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEscuihqjwGdKucBSmEX73cbrFLWbSSU16>
- (W8) 15 June **Dr Benjamin Williams** (Oriental Institute and Leo Baeck College) ‘The parable of the disappearing gladiators: interpreting a late antique cultural reference in Midrash Genesis Rabba’
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvdOqvpjgpH9TexmCusJfNEy-5HHt9uy7Q>

Of special interest

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Seminars

Wednesdays

Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

Convened by **M. Jankowiak & M. Lauxtermann**
Wednesdays at 5 PM.

Google Meet: meet.google.com/dqa-ytsv-okk

Etiquette:

You will need a gmail account to join.

Talks will be c. 40 minutes long, followed by half an hour of discussion.

Please join the seminar promptly.

Please remember to mute your microphone during the talk, but ideally leave your camera on, and please use it when asking questions.

We recommend the Sidebar layout for the talk and the Tiled layout for the discussion (you can change them by pressing on three dots in the bottom right corner of the screen).

In order to ask a question raise your physical or electronic hand, or post your question in the chat.

All welcome!

Marek Jankowiak (marek.jankowiak@history.ox.ac.uk), Marc Lauxtermann (marc.lauxtermann@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

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|---------------|--|---|
| (W1) 28 April | Przemysław Marciniak (Katowice) 'Of Fleas and Men. Byzantine Cultural Entomology' | 9 |
| (W2) 5 May | Christophe Erismann (Vienna) 'Why do Methods change? On the Significance of 815 for Byzantine Thought' | |
| (W4) 19 May | Daria Resh (NYU/Athens) 'What is in the Bath: Pilgrims, Brides, and Baptism in the Early Byzantine Passion of Barbara' | |
| (W5) 26 May | Krystina Kubina (Vienna) and Nathanael Aschenbrenner (Princeton) 'Word as Bond in an Age of Division. John Eugenikos as Orator, Partisan, and Poet' | |
| (W6) 2 June | Grace Stafford (Oxford) 'Veiling and Head-Covering in Late Antiquity' | |
| (W7) 9 June | Karen Hamada (Tokyo/Oxford) 'Who wants a union? Rethinking the negotiations between the Armenians and the Byzantines for an ecclesiastical union in the 12th century' | |
| (W8) 16 June | Michiel Op de Coul (Tilburg) 'Theodore Prodromos: Towards an edition of his Letters and Speeches' | |

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Seminars

Thursdays

After Rome and Further East Seminar

Convened by F. Bessard, P. Booth, C. Sahner & Y. Vevaina
Thursdays at 5 PM.

Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/uky-nyfm-uah>

- (W1) 29 April **Scott Johnson** (University of Oklahoma) ‘The Byzantine Near East: Opportunities and Hesitations’
- (W2) 6 May **Cecilia Palombo** (Leiden University) ‘Monastic Documents and Islamic Governance in Abbasid Egypt’
- (W3) 13 May **Étienne de la Vaissière** (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris) ‘Manichaean Roads’
- (W4) 20 May **Kevin van Bladel** (Yale University) ‘Written Literature in the Kingdom of the Persian Sasanids’
- 10 (W5) 27 May **Marie Legendre** (University of Edinburgh) ‘The Making of the Marwanid “Language Reform”: Translations, Economic Incentives, and Scribal Training in the Umayyad State’
- (W6) 3 June **Elizabeth Urban** (West Chester University) ‘Applying the Lens of Unfreedom to Early Islamic History: Possibilities and Challenges’
- (W7) 10 June **Nora Schmidt** (University of Oxford) “‘Those Who Pray Without Ceasing’: Ascetic Reading and Recitation in the Qur’an’
- (W8) 17 June **Naïm Vanthieghem** (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris) ‘Prosopography as a Tool for Microhistory and Macrohistory. A Close Examination of P. Lond. IV 1447’

Damascus - Umayyad (Great) Mosque - Bab al-Barid
(Judith McKenzie/Manar al-Athar)
To see more, visit <https://bit.ly/32ErmCE>



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Resources

Manar al-Athar open-access photo archive

The Manar al-Athar photo-archive, based at the University of Oxford, provides high resolution, searchable images for teaching, research, publication, and heritage work. These images of archaeological sites, buildings and artworks, cover the areas of the former Roman Empire which later came under Islamic rule (such as Syro-Palestine/the Levant, Egypt and North Africa), and adjoining regions, such as Armenia and Georgia. The chronological range is from Alexander the Great (i.e., from about 300 BC) through the Islamic period.

The photo-archive is open-access so that it can be freely used by anyone anywhere in the world. Photographs can be freely downloaded as original high resolution images (tif images) without water marks, making them immediately available in a format suitable for publication or research, simply by acknowledging the source.

Current strengths include Late Antiquity (AD 250–750), the period of transition from paganism to Christianity and, in turn, to Islam, especially religious buildings (temples, churches, synagogues, mosques) and monumental art (including floor mosaics), early Islamic art (paintings, mosaics, relief sculpture), as well as Roman and early Islamic (Umayyad) architecture, and iconoclasm.

Manar al-Athar is Arabic for “Guide to Archaeology” and has been chosen because Manara, in Egypt, refers to both the Lighthouse of Alexandria (the Pharos) and to minarets. This conveys the transition, and often continuity, covered by the chronological range of the material.

The Manar al-Athar photo-archive is in continuous development.

<http://www.manar-al-athar.ox.ac.uk>

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Manar al-Athar is Arabic for ‘Guide to Archaeology’ and has been chosen because Manara, in Egypt, refers to both the Lighthouse of Alexandria (the Pharos) and to minarets. This conveys the transition, and often continuity, covered by the chronological range of the material.

<http://www.manar-al-athar.ox.ac.uk/index.html>

‘The Last Statues of Antiquity’ database



‘The Last Statues of Antiquity’ database is from 4 May 2012 accessible to all and fully searchable, with over 2600 individual entries. The database consists of the published evidence for statuary and inscribed statue bases set up after AD 284, that were new, newly dedicated, or newly re-worked. This database was completed and made public in May 2012 (with only some minor revisions thereafter).

<http://laststatues.classics.ox.ac.uk/>

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Resources

'The Cult of Saints' database



The project maps the cult of saints as a system of beliefs and practices in its earliest and most fluid form, from its origins until around AD 700 (by which date most cult practices were firmly established): the evolution from honouring the memory of martyrs, to their veneration as intercessors and miracle-workers; the different ways that saints were honoured and their help solicited; the devotion for relics, sacred sites and images; the miracles expected from the saints.

Central to the project is a searchable database, on which all the evidence for the cult of saints will be collected, presented (in its original languages and English translation), and succinctly discussed, whether in Armenian, Coptic, Georgian, Greek, Latin or Syriac.

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Resources

EAMENA

Welcome to the Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East & North Africa (EAMENA) Database

Please visit us at our new location to access EAMENA v2:

[EAMENA v2 Database](#)

Supported by Arcadia Fund and based at the Universities of Oxford, Leicester, and Durham, the EAMENA Database brings together data from satellite imagery, photographic archives, and published reports to present information about archaeological sites and landscapes that are under threat. Using Arches, an open-source platform designed by the Getty Conservation Institute and World Monuments Fund, this resource is available online to researchers and heritage professionals across the MENA region, Europe, and beyond.

If you would like to gain user-level access to the database, please register:

[Register for Full Access](#)

Please allow us time to process your registration request.

Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa
الأثار المهددة في الشرق الأوسط و شمال إفريقيا

Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa

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Supported by the Arcadia Fund and the Cultural Protection Fund and based at the Universities of Oxford, Leicester, and Durham EAMENA was established in January 2015 to respond to the increasing threats to archaeological sites in the Middle East and North Africa. This project uses satellite imagery to rapidly record and make available information about archaeological sites and landscapes which are under threat.

EAMENA's spatial database will provide the fundamental information for each site, including the level of risk and how each site relates to one another. It will be accessible to all heritage professionals and institutions with an interest and passion for the wonderfully rich and diverse archaeological heritage of the Middle East and North Africa. Not all damage and threats to the archaeology can be prevented, but they can be mitigated and so at the core of our project is the desire for excellence in heritage management. To this end, EAMENA works with relevant authorities on the ground to limit likely damage, share information and skills, strengthen networks and raise awareness. Fieldwork and outreach are essential components of the project and the EAMENA team will target investigations to the most threatened sites, visiting (where possible) to assess site conditions, make detailed records and liaise with national authorities to share data and findings.

<http://eamena.arch.ox.ac.uk/>

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Schedule

Hilary Term 2020-2021

- Ancient Architecture Discussion Group Special Lecture
- Oxford Byzantine Graduate Seminar | Mondays at 12.30 PM
- Medieval Archaeology Seminar | Mondays at 3 PM
- Seminar On Jewish History And Literature In The Graeco-Roman Period | Convened by M. Goodman & A. Salvesen | Tuesdays at 2 PM
- Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar | Convened by Marek Jankowiak & Marc Lauxtermann | Wednesdays at 5 PM
- After Rome and Further East Seminar | Convened by F. Bessard, P. Booth, C. Sahner & Y. Vevaina | Thursdays at 5 PM

April 2021

March 2021	April 2021	May 2021
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■ 12:30 Katherine Krauss (Somerville College, Oxford) 'Re-reading the 'Canon' in Latin Late Antiquity: Exemplarity'		■ 17:00 Przemysław Marciniak (Katowice) 'Of Fleas and Men. Byzantine Cultural Entomology'	■ 17:00 Scott Johnson (University of Oklahoma) 'The Byzantine Near East: Opportunities'			



May 2021

April 2021							May 2021							June 2021								
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June 2021

May 2021							June 2021							July 2021								
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