

# OCLA

# OXFORD CENTRE FOR LATE ANTIQUITY



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

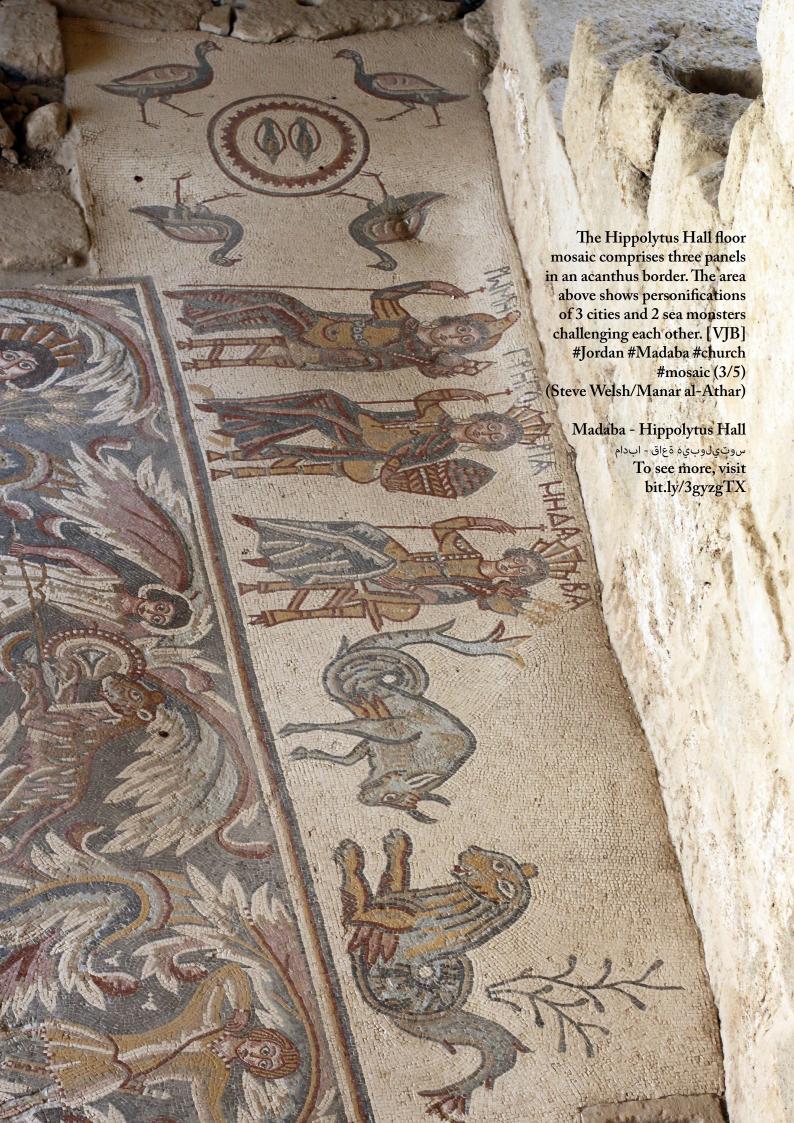
Michaelmas term 2020-2021 (October - December)

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.







# Preface

Dear all,

I hope that all of you and your loved ones are safe and well. For those of you who are arriving in Oxford for the first time, this booklet contains the listings for all academic events related to the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity in this Michaelmas Term. Details of the mission, members, and activities of the Centre can be found on our website, <a href="www.ocla.ox.ac.uk">www.ocla.ox.ac.uk</a>, as well as details of past events and seminars. We would like to remind you all that members of the University can also apply to the Centre for a small grant to support academic events. Details can be found on the website.

The pandemic continues to affect everything we do, and seminars will remain online. Instructions for accessing each seminar can be found below. We have all had to adapt to this new format quickly, but as last term showed, this situation has also opened up new academic opportunities for us all – to hear papers from international colleagues who would ordinarily not be able to travel, and to extend the audience of our papers to interested scholars and students from around the globe. As always, we are extremely grateful to those colleagues who have taken the time to organise these events for us.

I would in particular like to thank the OLCA Secretary, **Dr Vendi Jukić Buča**, for all of work in compiling and designing this booklet, and in maintaining the website. If you would like your profile to be added to the website (as a postholder or a DPhil student), if you know of an unlisted event which members might wish to attend, or if you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vendi (ocla@history.ox.ac.uk).

To keep our late-antique community more informed and engaged while maintaining social distancing, we have created a Facebook page for OCLA (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/OCLAsocial">https://www.facebook.com/OCLAsocial</a>, @OCLAsocial) to connect more often at least virtually. The Facebook interface will be used for sharing relevant information about events, seminars, call for papers, etc. from both local and external sources. The above contact information applies for this purpose as well, and we particularly look forward to further suggestions, ideas, and new insights.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy term,

Phil Booth
Director of OCLA



# 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 <u>ocla@history.ox.ac.uk</u>.

Oxford, October 2020.



# Contents

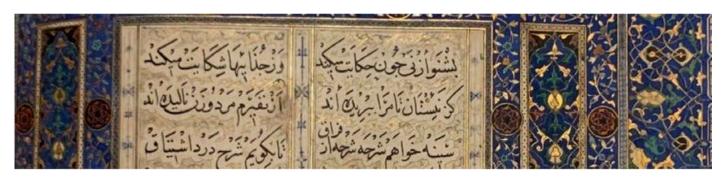
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# Lectures and Events

### Islamicate Manuscripts and Texts Colloquium

https://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/event/islamicate-manuscripts-and-texts-colloquium



Islamicate culture, in the words of Marshall Hodgson, refers to "the social and cultural complex historically associated with Islam and the Muslims, both among Muslims themselves and even when found among non-Muslims." In this colloquium, we will read texts from the Islamicate world, from Nile to Oxus and beyond, written in different languages and scripts of the pre-modern Islamicate world, including Arabic, New Persian, Middle Persian, Pāzand, and Hebrew.

Weekly online sessions every Tuesday of Michaelmas Term 2020 of up to 90 mins, each on a new document or set of documents from one part of the Islamicate world. Each session has 2 parts. 1) Speakers in the first 45 minutes give a historiographical, historical, and/or literary context to the texts. Participants to do not need to know the primary source language (first 45 minutes). 2) The subsequent 45 minutes are devoted to a close, group reading of the text (s) by participants familiar with the source language. Participants need not attend both parts, and can join whichever part they prefer.

For any questions, please contact the convenors, Arezou Azad, Tommy Benfey, and Zhang Zhan, at <u>invisible</u> east@orinst.ox.ac.uk.

13 October 2020: Arabic deeds of sale and Islamic law in Christian Sicily

Jeremy Johns, Director of the Khalili Research Centre; Professor of the Art & Archaeology of the Islamic Mediterranean

Nadia Jamil, Senior Researcher in Arabic, ERC-DocuMult project, Khalili Research Centre

Website: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/arabic-deeds-of-sale-and-islamic-law-in-christian-sicily">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/arabic-deeds-of-sale-and-islamic-law-in-christian-sicily</a>

Eventbrite: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/arabic-deeds-of-sale-and-islamic-law-in-christian-sicily">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/arabic-deeds-of-sale-and-islamic-law-in-christian-sicily</a>

20 October 2020: Al-Muzani's al-Mukhtasar: An Arabic legal text from 9th century Egypt

Christopher Melchert, Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies

Website: https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/al-muzanis-al-mukhtasar-an-arabic-legal-text-from-9th-century-egypt
Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-al-muzanis-al-mukhtasar-an-arabic-legal-text-from-9th-

century-egypt-tickets-119893951035



27 October 2020: In Search of the Arkand: Astral Science between India, Sasanian Iran, and the Early Islamicate World

Tommy Benfey, ERC-Go.Local Post-doctoral Researcher

Website: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/in-search-of-the-arkand-astral-science-between-india-sasanian-iran">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/in-search-of-the-arkand-astral-science-between-india-sasanian-iran</a>
Eventbrite: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-in-search-of-the-arkand-astral-science-between-india-sasanian-iran-tickets-119894817627">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-in-search-of-the-arkand-astral-science-between-india-sasanian-iran-tickets-119894817627</a>

3 November 2020: A Zoroastrian Critique of Islam in the Škand Gumānīg Wizār in Pāzand

Christian Sahner, Associate Professor of Islamic History

Website: https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/a-zoroastrian-critique-of-islam-in-the-skand-gumanig-wizar-in-pazand Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-a-zoroastrian-critique-of-islam-in-the-skand-gumanig-wizar-in-pazand-tickets-119895856735

10 November 2020: Embryonic New Persian: two letters by a Jewish Sogdian in eighthcentury Khotan Zhang, ERC-Go.Local Post-doctoral Researcher

Website: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/embryonic-new-persian-two-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/embryonic-new-persian-two-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan</a>
<a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/embryonic-new-persian-2-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/embryonic-new-persian-two-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan</a>
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<a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/e/imt-embryonic-new-persian-2-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan-tickets-119896627039">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/e/imt-embryonic-new-persian-2-letters-by-a-jewish-sogdian-in-eighth-century-khotan-tickets-119896627039</a>

17 November 2020: [Jewish Books in the Islamicate World – specific title TBD] Judith Olszowy-Schlanger, Director of the Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies

Website: https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/jewish-books-in-the-islamicate-world-specific-title-tbd

Eventbrite: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-jewish-books-in-the-islamicate-world-specific-title-tbd-tickets-119897682195">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-jewish-books-in-the-islamicate-world-specific-title-tbd-tickets-119897682195</a>

24 November 2020: Book-picking from a Conquered Citadel in the Summer of 1517

Zeynep Yurekli-Gorkay, Associate Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture

Website: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/book-picking-from-a-conquered-citadel-in-the-summer-of-1517">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/book-picking-from-a-conquered-citadel-in-the-summer-of-1517</a>
Eventbrite: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-book-picking-from-a-conquered-citadel-in-the-summer-of-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-picking-p

1517-tickets-119897896837

1 December 2020: Remembering the Barmakids in a Persian Fürstenspiegel

Arezou Azad, Programme Director, Invisible East and Senior Research Fellow

Pejman Firoozbakhsh, AHRC-PersDoc Post-doctoral Researcher

Website: <a href="https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/remembering-the-barmakids-in-a-persian-furstenspiegel">https://torch.ox.ac.uk/event/remembering-the-barmakids-in-a-persian-furstenspiegel</a>

Eventbrite: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-remembering-the-barmakids-in-a-persian-furstenspiegel-tickets-119899315079">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-remembering-the-barmakids-in-a-persian-furstenspiegel-tickets-119899315079</a>

https://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/event/islamicate-manuscripts-and-texts-colloquium

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/imt-arabic-deeds-of-sale-and-islamic-law-in-christian-sicily-tickets-119891158683

Further updates on Twitter at: Invisible\_East



### Mondays

### Medieval Archaeology Webinar

Convened by J. Kershaw & H Hamerow Mondays at 3 PM.

### Link to join (Teams):

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3ac957f011191a43d083cafbc84f87821b%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=550fb0dc-672f-428e-81c4-e3d5e5f63b47&tenantId=cc95de1b-97f5-4f93-b4ba-fe68b852cf91

(W2) 19 October Michelle Alexander 'The dynamics of diet and economies in multi-faith societies of the Medieval Mediterranean explored using stable isotope analysis'
 (W4) 2 November Jane Kershaw & Martin Goldberg 'The Galloway Hoard: results of recent research'
 (W6) 16 November Katie Howarth 'Necklaces in seventh-century England: materiality and female agency'
 (W8) 30 November Emily Forster 'AUnder pasture or plough? Exploring post-Roman and medieval land use in England through pollen data'





### Mondays

### **Medieval History Seminar**

Convened by Ian Forrest, Julia Smith, Benjamin Thompson Student Administrator: Tanya Heath Mondays at 5 PM.

An exciting range of papers will be presented online this term. Speakers will pre-circulate their paper on Teams, then introduce it assuming it has been read in advance by participants, before opening the floor to questions and discussion.

This seminar relies on signing up to receive an online invitation to access papers and join the seminar itself. The papers and meeting invitations are available by joining the seminar's Microsoft Teams group – search in Teams groups for 'Medieval History Research Seminar', (Team code rmppucs) then click 'Join Team'.

Alternatively, send an email from your Oxford University email address to <u>medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk</u> and request to be added to the group.

Please note that the seminar papers will not be retrospectively available.

(W2) 19 October	Marina Rustow (Princeton) 'Petitions from Medieval Egypt and the Problem of Premodern Rights'
(W3) 26 October	Robin Fleming (Boston College) 'The Material Fall of Roman Britain: Living with Little Corpses'
(W6) 16 November	<b>Helmut Reimitz</b> (Princeton) 'Observing peoples as peoples: the study of ethnicity in late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages'



### Mondays

### Classical Archaeology Seminar

# Tarquinia to Aphrodisias: Reading sites and monuments

Convened by Bert Smith & Andrew Wilson, Classics Faculty Mondays at 5 PM.

For more information please contact: <u>bert.smith@classics.ox.ac.uk</u> or <u>andrew.wilson@classics.ox.ac.uk</u>

### Link to join (Teams):

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting

<u>YTE1YWFhMzgtNDczNS00NTRILTgzOWUtNzBhOWYyNGI4YjU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22cc95de1b-97f5-4f93-b4ba-fe68b852cf91%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22436c96b4-f6bf-46eb-92bc-3c66699a272f%22%7d</u>

(W1) 12 October	Charlotte Potts 'The 'Tarquinia: the first religious buildings'
(W2) 19 October	Thomas Mannack 'Felsina (Bologna): The Tomb of the Panathenaic Amphorae and the Tomb of the Arnoaldi Situla - Athenian Vases in Etruria'
(W3) 26 October	Irene Lemos 'Lefkandi in Euboea: resilience and transformation from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age Greece'
(W4) 2 November	Maria Stamatopoulou 'Demetrias: the painted stelai'
(W5) 9 November	Bert Smith 'Aphrodisias: New statues and contexts'
(W6) 16 November	Peter Stewart 'Qinghai Province, China: Roman Imagery on a Belt from the Tibetan Plateau'
(W7) 23 November	Andrew Wilson 'Aphrodisias: The Place of Palms and the end of the Classical City'
(W8) 30 November	Ine Jacobs 'Aphrodisias: Encountering the limits of Classical Archaeology at the Tetrapylon Street'





### Wednesdays

# Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar

Convened by Marek Jankowiak & Marc Lauxtermann

Wednesdays at 5 PM.

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For more information please contact: <u>marek.jankowiak@history.ox.ac.uk</u> and <u>marc.lauxtermann@exeter.ox.ac.uk</u>

Link to join (Google Meet): meet.google.com/dqa-ytsv-okk

(W1) 14 October	Maria Mavroudi (Berkeley) 'Byzantine and Islamic philosophy: a comparison of their modern historiographies'
(W2) 21 October	'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 1): Phil Booth, Monica Hellström, Ine Jacobs
(W3) 28 October	Lucy Parker (Oxford) 'Stephen of Mar Sabas (d.794): the last holy man of late antiquity?
(W4) 4 November	'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 2): Dimitris Skrekas, Marc Lauxtermann, Alexandra Vukovich
(W5) 11 November	Ben Anderson (Cornell) 'The Oracles of Leo the Wise'
(W6) 18 November	'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 3): Mirela Ivanova, Peter Frankopan, Catherine Holmes
(W7) 25 November	Adam Izdebski (Berlin) and Piotr Guzowski (Białystok) 'A palaeoecological approach to the Justinianic Plague and the Black Death: nuancing our understanding of late antique and medieval pandemics'
(W8) 2 November	'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 4): Ida Toth, Marek Jankowiak, Julian Baker

All welcome!

### 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 recommnd 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).







### Thursdays

### Late Roman Seminar

### Convened by Mattias Gassman & Conrad Leyser

Mondays at 4 PM on Teams. Please note: Papers/readings for the seminars are pre-circulated on the OCLA list.

### Link to join (Teams):

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 $\frac{https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19\%3a51bb501c36f14b4c9f2c0bd9f152f605\%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=f4c0f545-f21d-4e58-af42-c2ed0e91355b\&tenantId=cc95de1b-97f5-4f93-b4ba-fe68b852cf91$ 

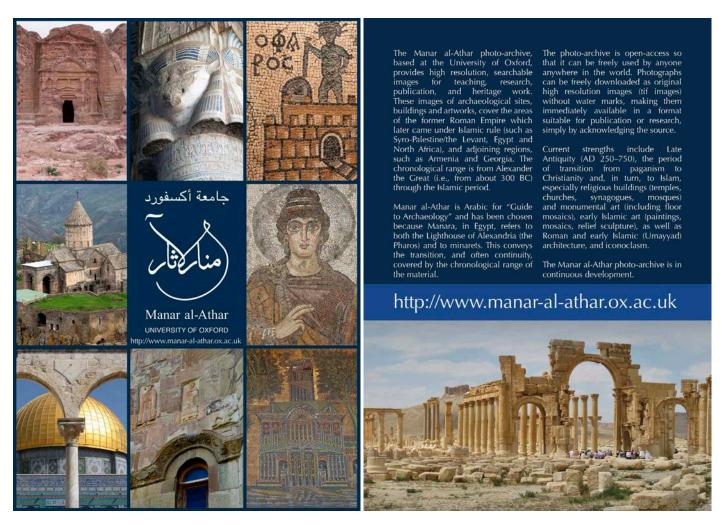
(W1) 15 October	Philip Rousseau, In Memoriam. Chair: Kate Cooper (Royal Holloway). Speakers: Averil Cameron and Blake Leyerle (Notre Dame).
(W2) 22 October	Monica Hellstrom 'Respectful distance? Diocletian's government and the Roman senatorial elite?'
(W3) 29 October	Lea Niccolai (Cambridge) 'The Hermeneutics of Power: Constantine and Julian on reading Rome'
(W4) 5 November	Rebecca Usherwood (TCD) 'What's in a name? The Consulate and political communication in the 4th Century'
(W5) 12 November	Hope Williard (Lincoln) 'The miracle-working capacity of letters in the late/post-Roman West'
(W6) 19 November	Matthieu Pignot (Durham) 'Manuscripts and early reception of Augustine's works on initiation, marriage and penance'
(W7) 26 November	Jenny Rallens 'Late Latin Kisses'
(W8) 3 December	Charles Mathewes (UVA) 'Another City: Introducing Augustine's City of God after Secularism'







### Manar al-Athar open-access photo archive



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.

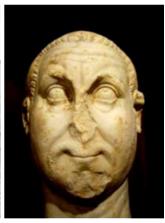
http://www.manar-al-athar.ox.ac.uk/index.html



### '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/



### 'The Cult of Saints' database



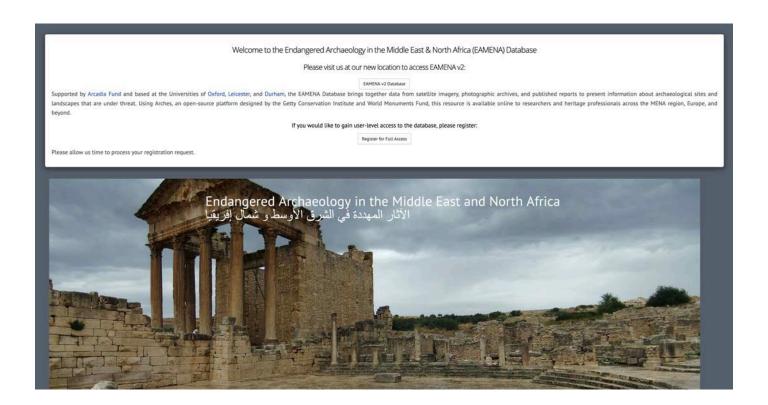
The project maps the cult of saints as a system of beliefs and practices in its earliest and most fluid form, from its origins until around AD 700 (by which date most cult practices were firmly established): the evolution from honouring the memory of martyrs, to their veneration as intercessors and miracle-workers; 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.

http://cultofsaints.history.ox.ac.uk



### **EAMENA**



## Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa

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.



# Schedule

# Michaelmas Term 2020-2021

- Islamicate Manuscripts and Texts Colloquium
  - Medieval Archaeology Webinar | Convened by J. Kershaw & H Hamerow | Mondays at 3 PM
  - Medieval History Seminar | Convened by Ian Forrest, Julia Smith, Benjamin Thompson | Student Administrator: Tanya Heath | Mondays at 5 PM
    - Classical Archaeology Seminar | Convened by Bert Smith & Andrew Wilson, Classics Faculty | Mondays at 5 PM
    - Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar | Convened by Marek Jankowiak & Marc Lauxtermann | Wednesdays at 5 PM
    - Late Roman Seminar | Convened by Mattias Gassman & Conrad Leyser | Mondays at 4 PM

### October 2020

September 2020						
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8		10	11
= 17:00 Charlotte Potts 'The 'Tarquinia: the first reli- gious buildings'	13 JerernJohnsAravirChristiar6icily	= 17:00 Maria Mavroudi (Berkeley) 'Byzantine and Islamic philosophy: a com- parison of their modern historiographies'	= 16:00 Philip Rousseau, In Memoriam. Chair: Kate Cooper (Royal Holloway). Speakers: Averil Cameron and Blake Leyerle (Notre Dame).	16	17	18
19 15:00 Michelle Alexander 'The dynamics of diet and economies in multi-faith 17:00 Thomas Mannack 'Felsina (Bologna): The Tomb of the Panathenaic 17:00 Marina Rustow (Princeton) 'Petitions from Me	20 ChristopheMelc9threntunyEgypt	= 17:00 'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 1): Phil Booth, Monica Hellström, Ine Jacobs	= 16:00 Monica Hellstrom 'Respectful distance? Dio- cletian's government and the Roman senatorial elite?'		24	25
= 17:00 Irene Lemos 'Le- fkandi in Euboea: resilience and transformation from the Late Bronze to the Early = 17:00 Robin Fleming (Bo- ston Collego) 'The Material Fall of Roman Britain: Liv- ing with Little Corpses'	27 TommßenfeylnyskamicateWorld	= 17:00 Lucy Parker (Oxford) 'Stephen of Mar Sabas (d. 794): the last holy man of late antiquity?	= 16:00 Lea Niccolai (Cam- bridge) 'The Hermeneutics of Power: Constantine and Julian on reading Rome'	30	31	1

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### November 2020



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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9 17:00 Bert Smith 'Aphrodisias: New statues and contexts'	1.0 ZhanZhangEmbhcentur,Khotan	= 17:00 Ben Anderson (Cor- nell) 'The Oracles of Leo the Wise'	= 16:00 Hope Williard (Lin- coln) 'The miracle-working capacity of letters in the late/post-Roman West'	13	14	15
= 15:00 Katie Howarth 'Necklaces in seventh-cen= 17:00 Peter Stewart 'Qing- hai Province, China: Roman = 17:00 Helmut Reimitz (Princeton) 'Observing peoples as peoples: the	17 JudithOlszowydspecifiditleTBD] <sup>†</sup>	18 = 17:00 'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 3): Mirela Ivanova, Peter Frankopan, Catherine Holmes	19 16:00 Matthieu Pignot (Durham) 'Manuscripts and early reception of Augustine's works on initiation, marriage and penance'	20	21	22
23 = 17:00 Andrew Wilson 'Aphrodisias: The Place of Palms and the end of the Classical City'	24 ZeynepYurekli6summeofl.517	25 = 17:00 Adam Izdebski (Ber- lin) and Piotr Guzowski (Bi- alystok) 'A palaeoecologic- al approach to the Justinianic Plague and the Black Death: nuancing our	26 = 16:00 Jenny Rallens 'Late Latin Kisses'	27	28	29
30  = 15:00 Emily Forster 'AUnder pasture or plough? Exploring post-Roman and medieval land use in = 17:00 Ine Jacobs 'Aphrodisias: Encountering the limits of Classical Archae-	1 ArezouAzadReiarFürstenspiegef	= 17:00 'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 4): Ida Toth, Marek Jankowiak, Julian Baker	= 16:00 Charles Mathewes (UVA) 'Another City: Intro- ducing Augustine's City of God after Secularism'	4	.5	6

### December 2020

November 2020						December 2020								January 2021								
М	T	W	Т	F	S	S		М	Т	W	т	F	S	S		М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30  15:00 Emily Forster 'AUnder pasture or plough? Exploring post-Roman and medieval land use in 17:00 ine Jacobs 'Aphrodisias: Encountering the limits of Classical Archaeology at the Tetrapylon	ArezouAzadReiarFürstenspiegel	= 17:00 'What is it that you do?' LABS research update (part 4): Ida Toth, Marek Jankowiak, Julian Baker	16:00 Charles Mathewes (IVA) 'Another City: Intro- ducing Augustine's City of God after Secularism'			
7		9	10			
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