



January 2017 Newsletter

3-6 July

Register for IMC 2017

Registration opens for IMC delegates via the University of Leeds Online Store on Wednesday 1 February. A paper registration form is also available, but will incur an additional processing fee.

For more information, go to <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/IMC2017/registration.html>

Entering its 25th year, the International Medieval Congress at the University of Leeds continues to grow and evolve. For 2017, we expect that around 2,500 delegates from around the world will descend onto campus to meet, share ideas, and discuss all aspects of the Middle Ages.

The four-day programme of sessions and round tables is complimented by a programme of events, excursions, and workshops, as well as receptions, bookfairs, craft and historical society fairs. Accepting papers in all major European languages, the IMC brings together medievalists from all around the world, creating a truly international forum for the field of medieval studies.

Special Thematic Strand: 'Otherness'

A huge number of session and paper proposals were received this year, reflecting the broad scope of 'Otherness' as this year's special thematic strand. Of the 645 sessions in the 2017 programme, 238 are part of this strand, with the rest covering the full spectrum of medieval studies.

Co-ordinated by Hans-Werner Goetz (Historisches Seminar, Universität Hamburg), the strand showcases an impressive breadth of approaches to 'otherness'. To complement this diversity, Professor Goetz will also moderate a special round table on 'The Medieval Concept of Otherness', on Wednesday 5 July at 19.00.

Four keynote lectures will relate to this year's strand. Monday morning's double lecture will begin with Nikolas

Jaspert (Historisches Seminar, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg), speaking on 'The Mediterranean Other and the Other Mediterranean: Perspective of Alterity in the Middle Ages'. Eduardo Manzano Moreno (Instituto de Historia, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid) will follow with his lecture on 'Drawing Boundaries: Inclusion and Exclusion in Medieval Islamic Societies'.

In addition, the traditional Monday lunchtime keynote will be given by Felicitas Schmieder (Historisches Institut, FernUniversität Hagen), entitled 'The Other Part of the World for Late Medieval Latin Christendom'. Tuesday's keynote speaker will be Sylvia Huot (Pembroke College, University of Cambridge), speaking about 'Other Sexualities - The 'Natural' and the 'Unnatural' in Medieval French Ovidian Narratives'.

Late Call for Papers

The IMC website will be updated until the end of June with all sessions that are accepting late paper proposals. Please email the IMC directly to submit a proposal.

Find the late call for papers at www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/late_call.html

Special lectures

IMC 2017 will also see the return the Early Medieval Europe lecture on Monday evening. This year, the talk will be given by Wendy Davies (formerly University College London) with the title 'Gardens and Gardening in Early Medieval Spain and

Portugal’.

The annual Medieval Academy of America lecture will be presented by Jeffrey J. Cohen (Department of English, George Washington University, Washington, DC), speaking on ‘Outside Noah’s Ark: Sympathy and Survival as the Waters Rise’.



Delegates listen to the 2016 Monday morning keynote lecture

Events at the IMC

As always, the IMC will include a rich and varied programme of events and excursions. Workshops will include opportunities to try calligraphy, jewellery-making, and combat. Author Justin Hill will also direct a masterclass on writing historical fiction. Meanwhile, musical group Trouvère will perform music from the Chansonnier du Roi and Thomas M. Schallaböck will explore ‘Minnesang as a Mirror of Otherness’ in two of our concerts.

A number of free events will complement the programme: storyteller Anne Lister will present her adaptation of the tale of Jaufre, while Kristine Larsen, astronomy professor at Central Connecticut State University, will offer delegates the chance to learn to use an astrolabe, and delegates will also be able to enjoy a traditional music session and open mic night. Wednesday evening will also feature a screening of a new film adaptation of the Second Shepherds’ Play, followed by a question and answer session with director Douglas

Morse and producer Heide Estes.

The legendary IMC Dance will take place on Wednesday night. The following evening, the Arbeau Dancers will lead an evening of medieval dance to bring the IMC to a close.

Professional development workshops

Each year the IMC also offers delegates the chance to develop their skills and knowledge through a variety of workshops.

Friday 7 July will see workshops provided by Medievalists.net, whose session will be titled ‘How Medievalists Can Engage a Wider Audience’ and the National Archives, Kew, with a session on ‘Central Government, Courts, Commemoration, and the Church: Medieval Records and the National Archives’. Lisa Fagin Davis of the Medieval Academy of America will also present a workshop on identifying, cataloguing, and using manuscript fragments, drawing on materials from the archive of Ripon Cathedral, which was deposited at the University of Leeds in 1980.

Early booking is recommended for all of these workshops, which can only accommodate a limited number of participants. To find out more about individual sessions and costs, visit www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/IMC2017/events.html.

Excursions

In addition to a full programme of events, the IMC organises a variety of excursions allowing delegates to explore the heritage of Leeds and the surrounding region. This will begin on Sunday 2 July, with opportunities to visit priories in used by canons regular in North Yorkshire, or Ripon Minster, which was originally one of the four minsters of the diocese of York.

Throughout the week there will also be opportunities to visit Helmsley Castle, dating from the 12th century; the Royal Armouries Museum, for an out-of-hours handling session involving arms and armour from the British national collection; Stonyhurst College, home of the biggest collection of Catholic material culture in Britain; Lincoln Cathedral and the Bishops’ Palace; Lud’s Church

IMC PROGRAMME

The printed programme will be ready in February and a copy will be sent to everybody actively involved in the IMC 2017.

**View the fully searchable online programme at
www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2017.html**

The online programme includes abstracts of all sessions.



Kirkham Priory in North Yorkshire, part of our Canons Regular excursion on Sunday 2 July

and the landscape of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight; and Knaresborough Castle, which was founded after the Norman Conquest.

Excursions can only accommodate limited numbers of participants, so early booking is recommended. For more information and costs, go to www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/IMC2017/events.html.

Special Collections drop-in sessions

Leeds University Library will host a free lunchtime drop-in session every day of the IMC to showcase some of the medieval treasures held in its Special Collections. Delegates will be able to speak to Special Collections staff and see highlights including items from its collections of medieval manuscripts, incunabula, the Ripon Cathedral Library and Archives, and archival collections of the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society.

In addition, the Special Collections Reading Room will be open 09.00-18.00 every day during Congress week. IMC delegates are welcome to explore the collections, though scheduling an appointment is recommended. Visit <http://library.leeds.ac.uk/special-collections> to find out more about searching and using the collections.



Delegates explore highlights from the Special Collections

Dignity, mutual respect and social media

The IMC celebrates diversity. We want everyone to have a safe, accessible and enjoyable experience at the IMC where they can make the most of the opportunities we can offer.

To this end, we have established a Policy on Dignity and Mutual Respect to which all delegates, exhibitors and staff are expected to adhere. By confirming attendance your attendance at the IMC, you are confirming your adherence to this policy.

Since it applies both in person and online, this policy includes our social media policy, which sets out good practice for posting about papers and sessions online.

Both policies can be found at https://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/dignity_respect_social_media.html.

Use the hashtag #IMC2017 on Twitter to join the conversation about this year's Congress, or follow us @IMC_Leeds.



Exhibitors and delegates meet at the Medieval Craft Fair, which will return in 2017

Web survey

As part of our continuous efforts to improve the way the IMC communicates with its delegates, we are running an online survey about how you use (or don't use) the IMC programme, website and social media.

The survey will run until the registration deadline on 14 May, and we would appreciate your help. To complete the survey, either go to the IMC website or access the survey directly at <https://leeds.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/imc-comms-2017>.

On campus

Building work continues across the University of Leeds campus, meaning that a number of new facilities will be available to delegates while some familiar spaces will return.

After its extensive refurbishment last year, perennial

favourite Old Bar will be back in action for IMC 2017. Hot food and drinks will be available to purchase on each day of the IMC, and the Leeds University Union Medieval Pub Quiz will take place there on Monday 3 July.

While the Michael Sadler Building will be undergoing building work, delegates will have the opportunity to attend sessions in the Maurice Keyworth Building, home of Leeds University Business School, which is a short walk away on the University's Western campus. The stunning newly-refurbished Fine Arts Building will also be in use, close to University House and Leeds University Union.



Delegates browse at the annual IMC Bookfair

Accommodation

This year the IMC can provide a number of different accommodation options on campus, as well as a wider range of off-campus facilities than ever before. These can all be booked through the IMC using the University of Leeds Online Store. To book, go to <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/IMC2017/registration.html>.

Among the new hotels for which IMC can offer special delegate rates are the Discovery Inn and the Queen's Hotel, located right next to the rail station in the centre of Leeds. Rooms are also available in off-campus student accommodation at Unite – The Plaza, a 15-minute walk from the Parkinson Building.

For more information on IMC accommodation, go to www.leeds.ac.uk/imc/imc2017/accommodation.

IMC Bursary Fund and Leeds Medieval Studies Endowment Fund

The IMC Bursary Fund was established in 1994 as part of our commitment to widening participation at the IMC. The IMC Bursary deadline is mid-October every year and applications are made online via the IMC website. The Bursary Fund is available to delegates from Central and Eastern Europe, students, independent scholars, retired, and unwaged scholars. The bursaries awarded range in value and may cover all or part of the Registration and Programming Fee, accommodation, and meals.

The Institute for Medieval Studies received a substantial bequest from a fellow medievalist which enabled us to establish the Leeds Medieval Studies Endowment Fund in 2008. This fund contributes to the IMC Bursary Fund and in addition it provides scholarships for MA and PhD students in the Institute for Medieval Studies, internship opportunities, and support for other activities in the Medieval Studies community.

If you would like to support either the IMC Bursary Fund or the Leeds Medieval Studies Endowment Fund, please use the relevant section when making your booking for the Congress.

Templar Heritage Trust Bursaries

We would like to thank the Templar Heritage Trust (THT) for offering three bursaries of £200 each to IMC delegates. THT operates as part of the Charities Aid Foundation and makes a number of grants each year in support of academic research and conservation of historic buildings. The THT takes a particular interest in the literary, architectural, and cultural legacy of the medieval Knights Templars and their period in history.



Arbeau Dancers, who led an evening of medieval dancing at IMC 2015, will return this year

CONTACT DETAILS

International Medieval Congress

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www.leeds.ac.uk/imc

IMC DIARY DATES

14 May 2017: IMC 2017 registration deadline

3-6 July 2017: IMC 2017

31 August 2017: Paper proposal deadline

30 September 2017: Session proposal deadline

15 October 2017: Bursary application deadline

2-5 July 2018: IMC 2018



Call for Papers - IMC 2018

Special thematic strand: 'Memory'

The IMC provides an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of all aspects of Medieval Studies. Paper and session proposals on any topic related to the Middle Ages are welcome, while every year the IMC also chooses a special thematic focus. In 2018 - the year of the 25th IMC - this is 'Memory'.

There are many kinds of memory - personal and social, natural and artificial, political and cultural. Along the lines of this general taxonomy, memory operates in many diverse modes: as a mechanism, process, instrument, and cognitive framework relating to, and concerning recreations of, the past - the social past, the institutional past as well as the past of an individual. Central in the process of storing, retrieving, and (re)constructing the past, memory is by no means a stable entity; it is always undergoing transformation.

In recent decades, memory has become a very fashionable research topic. In Medieval Studies, the concept of memory has been studied as permeating history, literature, language, religion, science, philosophy, and other fields.

In addition to treating the processes of storing and retrieving information, the study of memory now naturally also encompasses personal and communal identity and self-fashioning, conceptualization of the world, perception of time and space, intellectual cognition and emotional reactions, established patterns and creativity, continuity and discontinuity, memorization and forgetting - to name but a few conceptual domains under scrutiny.

This, however, also means that the study of memory has gradually become very complex and even somewhat elusive. In this sense, this special thematic strand offers a unique opportunity for a fresh and vigorous treatment of the field of memory in its astonishing breadth and variety.

The IMC welcomes proposals in all areas of memory. Themes to be addressed may include but are not limited to:

- Personal memory, self-fashioning, and identity
- Social, political, and religious memory
- The art of memory, mnemonics
- Memory: orality and literacy
- Knowledge and education - and its dissemination
- Metaphors for memory
- The media, mechanisms, and methods of memory - visual, verbal, and material memory
- Memory and beauty: aesthetic relevance and impact of memorization and remembering
- Objects of memory
- *Lieux de memoire* - communities and identity
- Construction and reconstruction of the past
- Memory: order and disorder
- Memory: sense and sensibility
- Commemoration and re-enactment
- Memory and immortality
- The arcane and daily life
- Memory and virtue
- Performance/drama/music - memory and playfulness
- Memory: habit and improvisation
- Forgetting and oblivion: natural processes vs. *damnatio memoriae*
- Forbidden memory
- Manipulative memory
- Categorization in language (analogy vs. anomaly, etc.)
- Etymologizing (including folk etymology)
- Formulas and catalogues
- Remembering the Middle Ages

The IMC online proposal form is now available.

Proposals should be submitted online at: www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2018_call.html

Paper proposals must be submitted by **31 August 2017**.

Session proposals must be submitted by **30 September 2017**.

The IMC welcomes session and paper proposals submitted in all major European languages.

About the Institute for Medieval Studies

Medieval Research and Teaching at Leeds - PhD Research in Medieval Studies A Unique Environment

Leeds combines exceptional interdisciplinary teaching and research with access to some of the best aspects of the British Isles in the medieval period.

Formed in 1967, the Institute for Medieval Studies (IMS) is the home of the International Medieval Congress as well as the International Medieval Bibliography, the world's foremost interdisciplinary bibliography of the Middle Ages. Together, they provide opportunities for students to combine paid work experience with academic practice.

The University's world-class library has the best medieval resources in the north of England and, with the archive of the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society, houses important collections of medieval manuscripts and rare books. Many of the medieval manuscripts of the Library can now be viewed online:

<https://library.leeds.ac.uk/special-collections>

The libraries of the Royal Armouries and the British Library Lending Division are close at hand. Cooperation with the Royal Armouries and Leeds City Museum enriches teaching, research, and career development opportunities.

MA in Medieval Studies

Full-time (12 months) and part-time (24 months)

The MA in Medieval Studies programme is made up of a core of language and skills modules, which give the student an excellent grounding for postgraduate study, plus a range of interdisciplinary, team-taught and single-discipline option modules, and an extended piece of supervised independent research.

Our teaching and supervision expertise spans 1300 years and enables the student to study either a closely interrelated set of subjects or to spread their interests across an outstanding range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields.

There are also specialised modules offering language teaching for beginners in Old and Middle English, Old French, Old Norse, and Middle High German.

The MA Medieval Studies programme provides an excellent basis for further work at doctoral level, either full-time or part-time, including key skills for research on medieval topics. An MA in Medieval History is also available at Leeds.

The IMS supervises doctoral research on interdisciplinary medieval topics, across a wide range of subjects. Research degrees in the IMS are structured so that, as well as embarking on their doctoral project, in the first year of study students take the following taught modules in foundational skills for research:

- Research Methods and Bibliography
- Medieval Latin
- A modern foreign language for reading scholarship on the research topic

It is the usual practice in the IMS for research students to have two co-supervisors, from different relevant disciplines. They work with the students to shape the project and give bibliographical and methodological guidance, and will continue to read and advise throughout their research. Each student presents an annual paper on his or her work in progress at a research seminar in the IMS. Research students are also encouraged to give papers at national and international conferences.

International Medieval Bibliography Call for Contributors

The editorial team is looking for individuals or organisations to become contributors to join its existing range of partners throughout the world. Contributors take responsibility for identifying and cataloguing publications relating to specific subjects or geographical areas, and are rewarded with free subscriptions to IMB (online or print), other free publications and additional benefits.

Contributors are sought for national, regional, and local history in France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Portugal, Serbia, Israel, Lithuania, Greece, Cyprus, Latvia, Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Korea, and the Arab world.

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