



LEEDS INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL CONGRESS

1-4 July 2019

January 2019 Newsletter

Register for IMC 2019

Delegate and exhibitor registration opens: 11 February
Registration deadline: 13 May

For more information go to www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/registrations

After celebrating the 25th annual IMC last year, we are excited to launch another diverse and stimulating academic programme for 2019. With around 2,500 individual papers from archaeology to theology, this four-day programme demonstrates that medieval studies as a discipline is as innovative and lively as ever.

Around 2,800 delegates are expected to descend on the University of Leeds in July, to meet colleagues and share ideas at Europe's biggest conference in medieval studies. In addition to over 760 sessions and round tables, the programme boasts our largest ever selection of concerts, performances, workshops, exhibitions, and fairs.

Special Thematic Strand: 'Materialities'

Around half of this year's academic programme relates to the special thematic strand of 'Materialities'. A total of 388 individual sessions have been accepted into the programme for this strand, covering a fantastic range of topics from manuscript traditions, object histories, relics, and mobility to philosophy of the mind. We are delighted to see that 'Materialities', co-ordinated by Anne E. Lester (Department of History, Johns Hopkins University), has attracted such a wide variety of papers from medievalists around the world.

Four keynote speakers will draw together different aspects of the strand. Monday morning's traditional double lecture will see Katrin Kogman-Appel (Institut für Jüdische

Studien, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster) open the IMC with a lecture entitled 'Text or Book?: A Material Approach to the Medieval Passover Haggadah'. Emma Dillon (Department of Music, King's College London) will complete the session with her lecture 'Things that Sing: Song-Object Relations in European Court Culture, 1160-1360'.

Monday's lunchtime keynote lecture will be given by Maria Giuseppina Muzzarelli (Department of Medieval Studies, Università degli Studi di Bologna), entitled 'From Words to Things: Colours, Forms, and Fabrics of Forbidden Garments'. On Tuesday our final keynote lecture, 'Contractual, Archival, and Historical Time: The Ecology of Documents and the Workings of State Power in Fatimid Egypt', will be presented by Marina Rustow (Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University).

Late Call for Papers

As vacancies arise, we will continue to update the IMC website with the details of all sessions that are accepting late paper proposals. If you have a paper that you would like to propose for any of these, email the IMC with your title and abstract.

Find the late call for papers at www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc2019/latecall

Special Lectures

The academic programme is also enriched by a variety of special lectures taking place throughout the week. Monday evening will see the return of the annual Early Medieval Europe lecture, in which Leeds' own Ian N. Wood (School of History, University of Leeds) will speak on 'Creating a Temple Society in the Early Medieval West', while on Tuesday, the annual Medieval Academy of America lecture will be "The Gift of Screws": Material Un-Making in the Middle Ages', presented by Aden Kumler (Department of Art History, University of Chicago).

After the success of last year's inaugural New Voices lecture, we are also delighted to announce that Tom Johnson (Department of History, University of York) will present a lecture entitled 'The Materiality of Law in Later Medieval England'. We look forward to cultivating the New Voices lecture as a new tradition at the IMC, showcasing new and emerging perspectives in medieval studies.

Finally, to celebrate 50 years of Boydell & Brewer, the publisher will host a special lecture on 'Magnificence', presented by the company's own Richard Barber.



Participating in sessions and round tables

Concerts and Performances

In addition to the wide-ranging academic programme, we are pleased to announce our programme of events for IMC 2019. Highlights include a concert performed by the senior boys and girls choirs of Leeds Cathedral, directed by Benjamin Saunders, with soloist Anna Prosser and organ music by Jane Flynn. The ensemble Trouvère returns to the IMC with a programme of music inspired by the life and times of William Marshal, one of England's greatest knights, who died in 1219. Also featured are performances by the Leeds Waits, who will tell the story of Henry VII's search for a new bride in words and music, as well as storyteller Daisy Black's show 'The Bayeux Tapestry: The Full Yarn'.

Furthermore, Dean Davidson and Stuart Ivinson will present an evening session entitled 'Swords of the Silver

Screen', taking combat sequences from medieval-inspired film and television and considering whether these scenes are in any way grounded in what we know of medieval fighting techniques. Alana Bennett will also give a dramatic reading of the romance of *Sir Eglamour of Artois* and the Lords of Misrule from the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of York will perform Hrotsvit of Gandersheim's play *Calimachus*.

Returning to the IMC events programme are the Leeds University Union Medieval Society pub quiz, the Open Mic Night (organised with the Universities Chaplaincy), the ever-popular IMC dance, and Making Leeds Medieval. In our closing event, the Arbeau Dancers will also give a demonstration of medieval dance in which delegates are welcome to participate.



Trouvère performing for delegates at IMC 2017

Workshops

Hands-on workshops at the IMC include embroidering in the style of *Opus Anglicanum*, Jewish scribal arts, bookbinding and decorating book covers, as well as the Islamic astrolabe and using the longsword.

For participants interested in professional development, there is a storytelling workshop, giving advice about how to use storytelling in teaching and research, as well as a Wikipedia editathon, aiming to increase the representation of medieval women and women in medieval studies in the largest source of knowledge in the world. Other workshops will involve handling replica arms and armour (photography encouraged) and creating fanzines to promote research, and The National Archives will return with a workshop in the use of medieval records.

Building on the popularity of its sessions in the previous years, the Treasures Gallery in the Parkinson Building has organised a series of drop-in events throughout the IMC, giving delegates the opportunity to see highlights from the holdings of Leeds University Library Special Collections.



Browsing the IMC Bookfair at our 2018 reception

Excursions

Beginning with a castles tour on Sunday, featuring exclusive access to the privately-owned Sheriff Hutton Castle, our week of excursions will also include visits to old favourites of the IMC, the Royal Armouries Museum and Fountains Abbey. Attendees of the Royal Armouries session will have out-of-hours handling access to medieval arms and armour, whilst visitors to Fountains Abbey will explore one of the best preserved medieval Cistercian monasteries in Europe.

This year will also see us branching out to new locations, including Tuxford Museum of the Horse - one for anyone interested in learning more about horses and social history - and Calverley Old Hall, dating from 1160 and now owned by the Landmark Trust. Alternatively, those interested in the notorious Battle of Towton will be able to tread the battlefield in person.

Closing the Congress will be a full-day trip to the historic market town of Beverley, taking in the 14th-century Minster and St Mary's church, or a half-day trip to West Tanfield where delegates will explore the remarkable carved effigy of Sir John Marmion.

Registration and Accommodation

Delegates can book accommodation, meals, and event and excursion tickets through the University of Leeds Online Store during the registration process. Registration for IMC 2019 is due to open on Monday 11 February - go to www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc2019/registrations.

A variety of accommodation options are available, both in University halls of residence and in hotels around Leeds city centre. For more information and an interactive map of the options available, go to www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc2019/accommodation.

With so many delegates expected on campus, we expect demand for accommodation to be particularly high. Early booking is recommended to reserve a room; unfortunately we cannot guarantee accommodation.

IMC Bursary Fund

Some 449 applications were received for this year's IMC Bursary Fund. A total of £16,000 was awarded to 75 recipients from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Libya, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Republic of Kosovo, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the UK, and the USA.

If you would like to donate to the IMC Bursary Fund, you can do so through the Online Store as part of the registration process. Even small donations can make a significant difference.

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. It takes a particular interest in the literary, architectural, and cultural legacy of the medieval Knights Templar and their period in history.

Sieglinde Hartmann Prize for German Language and Literature

Thanks to the generosity of Sieglinde Hartmann, president of the Oswald von Wolkenstein-Gesellschaft and a long-standing supporter of the IMC, a new prize was instituted in 2018. The prize of £250 is awarded each year for the best abstract for any paper proposal in the field of medieval German language and/or medieval German literature.



Meeting artisans at the Medieval Craft Fair



Birds of prey displays at Making Leeds Medieval

Programming and Standing Committees

We would like to welcome some new members to the IMC Programming Committee:

- Dolores Jørgensen (Universitetet i Stavanger) as strand co-ordinator for Culture and Society
- Alexandra F. C. Cuffel (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) for Jewish Studies
- Yaniv Fox (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan) for Late Antique and Early Medieval Studies
- Åslaug Ommundsen (Universitetet i Bergen) for Scandinavian Studies.

We are continuing to look for a strand co-ordinator for Global Middle Ages and are keen to hear suggestions. If you or anyone you know would be interested in developing this programming strand, please get in touch.

In addition, we say farewell to Vanessa Wright and Pietro Delcorno from the IMC Standing Committee, and welcome Thomas Smith and Jacob Deacon as our new early career researcher and postgraduate representatives respectively.



Combat displays at Making Leeds Medieval



Enjoy Routledge special offers and more as an IMC conference delegate

The IMC have partnered with Routledge and are delighted to offer you the following benefits:

- **Browse new & noteworthy Medieval Studies books** in a specially curated book collection
- **Enjoy a 20% discount*** across the whole range of Routledge books
- **Download a FREE Medieval Studies Chapter Sampler** including chapters from new and recent publications, as well as those relating to this year's IMC conference theme
- **Download other FREE resources** to support you in your research and Academic career
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Exploring Special Collections in drop-in sessions at the Treasures Gallery

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Call for Papers - IMC 2020

Special thematic strand: 'Borders'

The IMC provides an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of all aspects of Medieval Studies. Proposals on any topic related to the Middle Ages are welcome, while every year the IMC also chooses a special thematic focus. In 2020 this is **'Borders'**.

Medieval borders have preoccupied scholars for several decades in various guises. The term 'border' designates a wide variety of phenomena: physical geographical limits, that can be signalled by border markers or natural features, points where toll has to be paid, political boundaries, that vary from points in space to linear and fortified military fronts, ways of controlling space, frontier zones, borderlands, porous zones of encounters and contact, ways of limiting community and identity, ideological and metaphorical delimitation including discourse and representation, bordering practices, the process of creating and performing borders, and borderscapes to capture fluidity and change over time.

This strand seeks to bring together medievalists of all fields interested in both the theory and practice of borders in all their variety, from physical boundaries and material borders to dynamic social and spatial relationships. Borders can be linked to power and the formation of states, to definitions of self and other, to violence and military engagement, to belonging and becoming, to material and symbolic construction, to relational and perspectival production of space, to mapping and discourse, to experience and theory, to negotiation and performance. Borders can also be found in frescoes, textiles, clothing, ceramics or coins, with practical, symbolic or aesthetic functions. Borders are also subject to evolution and significant change over time not just between the medieval and modern, but within the medieval period.

Themes to be addressed may include, but are not limited to:

- Political and military borders
- Living in border zones
- Medieval and Modern perceptions, descriptions, and conceptualizations of borders
- Delimiting borders, border markers
- Border maintenance
- Encountering and experiencing borders
- Bordering practices
- Borderscapes in the *longue durée*
- Symbolic borders
- Belonging and exclusion
- Mapping borders and border zones
- Border institutions
- Materiality of borders
- Border and power
- Migration
- Medieval imagery of borders
- Transnationalism
- Political, social, cultural, religious performance of borders
- Village and parish boundaries
- Boundaries between town and countryside and within towns
- Practices of delimitation
- Blurring boundaries such as human/animal, animate/inanimate, gender, age, status, religion
- Self and other, boundaries of the self
- Fluidity and fixity of borders
- Borders in manuscripts
- Material and visual borders
- Processual and performative turns and medieval borders
- Disciplinary boundaries
- Paratexts as borders
- Borders of the body
- Transcending and reaffirming boundaries between life and death
- Borders, boundaries, frontiers

The IMC online proposal form will open in May 2019.

Proposals should be submitted online at:

www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc2020

Paper proposals must be submitted by 31 August 2019

Session proposals must be submitted by 30 September 2019

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: 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.

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. Formed in 1967, the IMS today is one of the largest communities of medievalists in the UK, with over 50 members of staff and associated specialists.

The University's world-class library has the best medieval resources in the north of England and, with the archive of the Yorkshire Archaeological 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.

PhD Research in Medieval Studies

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

Usually, IMS research students 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 their 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. Thematic contributors (who may be based anywhere) are particularly sought for art history, humanism, Italian literature, French literature, German literature, Jewish Studies, linguistics, numismatics, and music. For more information contact the Editorial Director, Alan Murray: a.v.murray@leeds.ac.uk.

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