



LEEDS INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL CONGRESS

August 2026 Newsletter



Time Well Spent at IMC 2026

Between Monday 06 July and Thursday 09 July, 2,735 medievalists from 64 countries came together to engage in enthusiastic academic discussions across 737 sessions and round tables as well as fairs, receptions, and more!

Most delegates attended in person, enjoying the Leeds sunshine, but 11% attended online, with lively IMC discussion taking place all over the world. We're pleased to see so many people returning to Leeds in person to socialise and network, but we continue to be committed to investing in the hybrid experience, both to widen accessibility and capitalise on the benefits of session recordings.

Initial results from your survey response show that academic content continued to be a strong point of praise, with 89% rating this year's Congress programme as "excellent" or "good".

You can still turn back time and catch up on any missed sessions with session recordings available until **21 September 2026!**

Our special thematic focus, 'Temporalities', was a hit with attendees, with 419 sessions devoted to the theme. Special thanks go to Nada Zečević (Odsjek za povijest, Filozofski fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu) for co-ordinating the 2026 special thematic strand.

2027 is set to be another fantastic year, bringing our new special thematic strand 'Communities', as well as the chance to get involved in sharing your IMC experiences past and present via our Community Codex, a group art project.

More details on both of these can be found in this newsletter.



This year, our keynote speakers provided a fascinating series of lectures on our Special Thematic Strand. Kicking off the IMC on Monday morning, **Matthew Champion** (School of Historical & Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne) and **Elodie Lucuppre-Desjardin** (Institut de Recherches Historiques du Septentrion (IRHiS - UMR 8529), Université de Lille) delivered a pair of lectures on 'Sounding Time' and 'Differential History' respectively.



On Monday afternoon, **Heba Mostafa** (Department of Art History, University of Toronto) investigated 'Belief in Time: Muslim Being and the Islamic Temporal Paradigm'. Monday evening saw **Joanna Story** (School of History, Politics & International Relations, University of Leicester) deliver the annual Early Medieval Europe lecture, discussing 'The Calf and the Codex'.



On Tuesday afternoon, **Miriamne Ara Krummel** (College of Arts & Sciences: English, University of Dayton, Ohio) explored 'Making Jewish Temporality: Past Imperfect, Present (Re)Imagined, and Future Unknown'. Then on Tuesday evening, **Fiona Griffiths** (Department of History, Stanford University) discussed 'Timing, Temporalities, and the Cleric's Wife' in our annual Medieval Academy lecture.

Our final keynote took place on Wednesday afternoon, with **Alicia Spencer-Hall** (School of European Languages, Culture & Society, University College London) giving a lecture titled "'Timely Images": Medieval Trans Saints, Historiographical Dysphoria and/as Trans-Temporal Methodology'.



If you missed these presentations during the Congress, registered delegates can catch up with these recordings until **21 September 2026** via the virtual platform.

Introducing our IMC 2027 Special Thematic Strand - 'Communities'

IMC 2027 will be held on 05-08 July, and the special thematic focus for next year's Congress will be 'Communities'. This special thematic strand will be co-ordinated by **Cosmin Popa-Gorjanu** (Departamentul de Istorie, Arheologie și Patrimoniu,

Above, from top: Elodie Lucuppre-Desjardin presenting in the Monday keynote; the audience enjoys one of the keynotes; a delegate browses the Second-Hand Bookfair; a crowd of attendees listens intently to a session.

Universitatea '1 Decembrie 1918' din Alba Iulia); we are delighted to welcome him to the Programming Committee.

To learn more about our special thematic strand, please see the Call for Papers for IMC 2027, which can be found on the final page of this newsletter and [our website](#).

IMC 2027 will once again be a fully hybrid event, with both the Congress in Leeds and the virtual component combining to facilitate the participation of in-person and virtual delegates at the IMC.

Papers can be submitted individually directly to IMC [via our website](#) or as part of an organised session. If you would like to submit to an organised session, you can view the wider call for papers in organised sessions on the IMC Padlet: <https://tinyurl.com/IMC2027Padlet>. If you are a session organiser with a Call for Papers for IMC 2027, please email us to add your call.

At the submissions stage, we will ask speakers and presenters whether they intend to deliver their paper virtually or in person. Please note that this response plays an essential role in our Programming Committee's review and allocation process when creating the programme.

In December 2026, acceptance emails will be sent out, and we will ask participants to check their details. A copy of the IMC 2027 programme will be published online in January 2027, but allocation of session rooms will be made at a later date.

Programme books can be pre-ordered at registration for in-person delegates to collect onsite. Registration will open in February 2027.

Call for Submissions: 2027 Community Codex Group Project

On Tuesday 07 July we had a sneak-peak of an exclusive project for 2027. Heritage bookbinder Linette Withers of Anachronalia welcomed contributions to the Community Codex – a bespoke book created for and by the IMC community.

To celebrate the IMC 2027 theme of 'Communities', the Community Codex is



Above, from top: An IMC ambassador helps a delegate; delegates listening to a session; the postcard for IMC 2027: Communities; a speaker presenting during a session.

an art project open to contributions from anyone in the IMC community. We'd like your help creating pages for the book. This could be art, poetry, prose, photos, or collages about your memories and experiences of IMC.

Submissions can be made online by uploading a pre-formatted A4 landscape PDF of the pages you would like to submit. One A4 landscape submission will create two A5 portrait pages.

You can submit to the Community Codex online until **30 April 2027**. More information is available [on the IMC website](#).

Academic Summary

This year IMC hosted 737 sessions, round tables, and keynotes across four days covering subject matters as wide-ranging as pedagogy to philology, translation to trans* studies, Mongolia to Mercia, and Late Antiquity to the twenty-first century. One delegate commented, 'I greatly enjoyed the variety and depth of papers presented, and the opportunity to meet and hear from other types of historical researchers, as the differing approaches bring depth to my own thinking.'

'Temporalities', the special thematic strand for IMC 2026, was embraced by delegates to bring a critical lens to a range of topics including medieval conceptualisations of time, the spiritual and temporal, periodicity, and more. Delegates considered temporalities of not only the past but also the present, with a number of sessions giving thoughtful insights to the current state of Medieval Studies and Higher Education at large.



Hybrid allows in-person delegates to make use of live captioning and translation.

Several sessions were organised to commemorate the memory or legacy of colleagues, and we are always honoured when the Medieval Studies community chooses the IMC to pay tribute to and celebrate one another.

Hybrid and Recordings

The IMC continues to thrive as one of the largest fully-hybrid academic events in the humanities in the world, with every session at the Congress supporting online and in-person participation.

Whilst the majority of delegates attend in person, hybrid is an important provision for those who are unable to do so. Only ten sessions were fully virtual at IMC, but 195 sessions contained at least one virtual presenter, and 81.22% of all sessions had at least one virtual audience attendee.

Session livestreams are also the key component in facilitating session recordings. Our hybrid set up therefore gives the joint benefit of not only making our sessions accessible to those attending online, but also in allowing you to enjoy IMC beyond the temporal confines of the event.

Delegate appreciation for the format continues to shine through in the feedback we receive. One delegate highlighted that 'I am very happy that virtual attendance is possible. Due to health reasons it was my only option this year.' while another stated 'I think the hybrid format is invaluable and makes the IMC so accessible'.



A lively discussion during a session.



Delegates enjoying discounts at the IMC Bookfair.

Recordings were again praised, with one delegate describing them as an 'excellent resource', and another writing 'It's SUCH a help (especially with so many parallel sessions).' This year, recordings are available until **21 September 2026**.

No Time Wasted Rushing to the IMC Bookfair!

On Monday 06 - Thursday 09 July, Parkinson Court was once again transformed into the famous IMC Bookfair which we know and love. Both new and returning publishers came to Leeds and exhibited a collection of works in medieval studies and beyond.

The Bookfair opened with the traditional drinks reception on Monday 06 July. It was wonderful to see so many delegates networking and enjoying Parkinson Court in a more relaxed and social setting. The IMC strives to provide opportunities for delegates and publishers to connect.

A standout survey response said: 'It was a great opportunity to buy books at reduced prices, and I also unexpectedly had a really nice chat with a publisher's representative who asked me to contact them when I want to publish my thesis. I really appreciate how easy it is to network and how, no matter where in your career you are, you are taken seriously at the IMC.'

The IMC Registration Desk was also positioned in the Parkinson Court next to the Bookfair, so delegates collecting their packs and programme books were able to browse through the variety of stalls, meet publishers, and enjoy exclusive IMC discounts.

Our exhibitors particularly enjoyed successfully promoting their brands, selling their books, and networking with readers, authors, and academics. All publishers have a dedicated page on the IMC virtual platform and app, allowing delegates continue to connect with publishers and to benefit from exclusive IMC discounts until **21 September 2026**.

Time Well Spent at the Markets and Fairs on University Square

The sun was not the only thing shining brightly during IMC week. It was joined by the smiles on delegates' faces whilst making the most of the Second-Hand and Antiquarian Bookfair. The Bookfair returned to the Leeds University Union Foyer on Sunday 05 July - Tuesday 07 July and has been described as an 'invaluable part of the whole experience of the IMC'.

Delegates enjoyed browsing the shelves filled with rare and second-hand books and debating just how many they could fit in their suitcases to take back home. Delegates who arrived on the Sunday could pick up their registration pack and programme in the same central location. This meant that there was plenty of opportunities for traders and delegates to catch up with old colleagues, network with new customers, and strike up a conversation or two with a stranger over shared interests.

Then on Wednesday 08 and Thursday 09 July, the Craft Fair popped up in its place, taking over both the LUU Foyer and University Square for the second half of IMC. Many delegates browsed the stalls selling a



The IMC Craft Fair reception is a chance to make friends and browse beautiful craft pieces.



variety of beautiful handmade goods such as pottery, jewellery, ceramics, woodwork, artwork, and even medieval games. The IMC Craft Fair reception at 18.00 brought a crowd to University Square and was a perfect way for delegates to browse the stalls in the evening breeze.

On Thursday 09 July, we were delighted to welcome back the Historical and Archaeological Societies Fair, featuring societies from Yorkshire and beyond, which attracted positive attention and engagement from delegates who enjoyed finding out more about the work of the varied societies in attendance and exchanging information and ideas.

Feedback from all three fairs indicated that IMC 2026 was a positive experience overall and a particular highlight for exhibitors was successfully promoting, networking, and engaging with IMC delegates.

Events and Excursions

This year we were delighted to offer a wide-ranging programme of events, excursions, and workshops. In response to demand, IMC featured even more hands-on workshops. We welcomed back favourites like combat, bookbinding, nalbinding, embroidery, arms and armour replica handling, and medieval(ist) games, and also welcomed new workshops in historical herbal remedies, creating prints with linocutting, as well as illumination with watercolour and gold leaf.

Other workshops offered opportunities for professional development, with the IMC collaborating with the National Archives, the Digital Medieval Studies Institute (DMSI), and the University of Leeds Cultural Collections. Workshops on IIF (International Image Interoperability Framework) and other innovative technologies introduced delegates to opportunities to expand their research.

IMC 2026 was also a musical Congress with successful concerts by Vox Silentii and Siglo de Oro, plus the introduction of the Chant SoundWalk around campus. Collaborative workshops on medieval song, poetry, and chant, and our returning Open Mic Night



Above, from top: the Arms and Armour Replica Handling Workshop; a delegate browsing the beautiful wares at the craft fair; delegates enjoying a play from the Lords of Misrule; delegates gathering around the outdoor Craft Fair.

gave delegates the chance to lend their voices as well. Those who prefer to move their feet enjoyed our IMC dance in Stylus and a traditional Yorkshire Dales dance.

We also enjoyed performances of medieval and medievalist media. The Lords of Misrule returned with a pair of medieval moral and edifying plays, and Chris Vinsonhaler's performance of *Beowulf* put a new spin on the early medieval text. We were pleased to host a live recording of medieval warfare podcast *Bow & Blade* and a talk from public historian Dan Jones. Peter Konieczny, Thomas Smith, and Steve Tibble hosted a discussion of practical tips to inspire and inform delegates about communicating their research to a non-academic audience.

The good weather favoured our excursions, giving delegates a taste of Yorkshire's historical sites. This year delegates visited Sandal Castle, Beverly Minster and town, Kirtall Abbey, Middleham Castle, and a walking tour of medieval Leeds.

Delegates can continue the events excitement by using the code **IMC26** for 50% off the [Genghis Khan exhibition at the Royal Armouries in Leeds](#).

Making Leeds Medieval

On Thursday 09 July, the sun shone for the return of our ever-popular living history experience which delighted IMC delegates and the public.

For the first time since 2019, we had a cavalry parade, with knights in armour riding through campus. Mounted knights were joined by fighters on the ground with live combat displays from 3 Swords. Along with horses (and the ever-present campus rabbits), we were pleased to see the return of the birds of prey from SMJ Falconry.

Making Leeds Medieval offered a glimpse into the past with medieval dress, food, objects, and even a working forge! Delegates had the chance to try their hand at embroidery, nalbinding, and scribal arts. The 'La Mora' Tapestry Project returned to give delegates the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing art project.



Above, from top: Horses at Making Leeds Medieval; a delegate enjoying handling arms and armour; a busy session room; knights clash swords at Making Leeds Medieval.



Browsing a plethora of books at the main bookfair.

IMC Bursary Fund Opens for 2027

Applications to the IMC Bursary Fund for 2027 opened on 01 June 2026 and will close on **15 October 2026**. Guidance on submitting an application can be found [on our website](#).

Bursary applicants should ensure their supporting statement provides full details of their circumstances and is uploaded as a completed Word document. The template can be downloaded within the bursary application form and must be re-uploaded in the format of a word document (.docx) to ensure it can be processed.

The IMC Bursary Fund is open to applications from students, independent scholars, pensioners, unwaged scholars, and delegates from outside Western Europe. It is a key part of our commitment to widening access to the IMC.

Applications are especially welcome from scholars who are working outside of academia or experiencing precarity of employment.

For IMC 2026 a total amount of £19,000

was awarded. 255 applications were received and 99 applicants were awarded bursaries.

Bursaries were awarded to participants from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Macedonia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, and the USA.

Support the IMC Bursary Fund

If you are able to support the IMC Bursary Fund, you can do so when registering to attend the IMC or [make an one-off donation via our website](#). Even small contributions make a great impact.

Awards and Prizes

We are keen to hear from individuals and organisations who would like to support scholars. Bursary patrons covering the full cost of at least one bursary for one year or more have the option to be recognised and thanked in the IMC Programme.

Bursaries can cover registration fees only or include a contribution towards accommodation and meals. Previous patrons have included individuals from the medieval studies community, publishers, and organisations. If you or someone you know would be interested in participating in this way, please get in touch.

Templar Heritage Trust Bursaries

We would like to thank the Templar Heritage



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International Medieval
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Trust (THT) for offering three bursaries of £300.00 to support graduate students and early career academics attending the IMC.

The THT is a foundation charity incorporated organisation (registered charity number: 1202183) and makes a number of grants each year in support of academic historical research and skills training for the conservation of historic buildings. The THT takes a particular interest in the literary, architectural, archaeological, and cultural legacy of the medieval Knights Templar and their period in history.



The calvary arrives on campus!

Marci Freedman Bursaries

Dr Marci Freedman (13 July 1985 - 22 Nov 2024) was an alumna of the Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Leeds and of the University of Manchester. Dr Freedman completed her Ph.D. on the late medieval and early modern reception of Benjamin of Tudela's travelogue. Throughout her entire career, she was interested in medieval people travelling and their motivations, whether out of curiosity, trade, diplomacy, war, or pilgrimage. An avid traveller herself, it is only fitting that we dedicate this bursary fund to focus on medieval Jewish studies or medieval movements: curiosity, trade, diplomacy, war, or pilgrimage. This fund has been established through contributions from family, friends, and colleagues of Marci.

Social Media Summary

Bluesky and Instagram were abuzz over the IMC week! It has been wonderful to see delegates sharing photos and ideas. Here are a small selection of our favourites.

Charles West (overleaf) summarised their experience of an IMC day in one of the best ways possible: 'The end of a tremendous day at #imc2026 : a collective, international demonstration of the enduring intellectual and cultural value, even urgency, of the study of medieval history in the modern world.'

And in true IMC fashion, who could forget about the University of Leeds campus bunnies? Jeroen W.P. Wijnendaele (right)

IMC 2027 - Key Dates

Paper Proposal Deadline: Monday 31 August 2026
Session Proposal Deadline: Wednesday 30 September 2026
Bursary Application Deadline: Thursday 15 October 2026
Notification of Acceptance: December 2026
IMC 2027: 05-08 July 2027

Read the Call for Papers:
www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc-2027
Read our Proposal Guidelines:
[www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/proposals/
proposal-guidelines](http://www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/proposals/proposal-guidelines)

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

certainly didn't, stating: 'You've only officially arrived at @imc-leeds.bsky.social, when you can see bunnies on the field.'

We enjoyed Brittany Lugo's post (below) about how presenting at the IMC 'felt like stepping into a next chapter I hadn't let myself name yet'.

After all the hard work the IMC put into bringing knights on horseback to Making Leeds Medieval, it was an absolute delight to be tagged in videos of the Cavalry Parade. Hazal Kafadar (right) made us smile when we saw the words 'This is the best thing to ever happen to me!'.

It was exciting to collaborate with Mittelalter JLU Gießen on Instagram (right) and hearing about their experience and preferences around attending IMC, and we look forward to seeing what other collaborations will be possible in the future. If you are interesting in collaborating with us, please email imc@leeds.ac.uk.

2027's special thematic focus is 'Communities' and if you would like us to promote your organised session, please tag us on Bluesky at [@imc-leeds.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/imc-leeds.bsky.social) or on Instagram at [@IMC_Leeds](https://www.instagram.com/IMC_Leeds), and use the hashtag #IMC2027. Calls for papers for organised sessions will be collated on the [IMC 2027 Padlet](#).

You can also add your CfP to the Padlet by emailing us at imc@leeds.ac.uk.

Reposted by you



Charles West @pseudo-isidore.bsky.social · 19d

The end of a tremendous day at #imc2026 : a collective, international demonstration of the enduring intellectual and cultural value, even urgency, of the study of medieval history in the modern world.



Dr. Jeroen W.P. Wijnendaele @drdragases.bsky.social · 22d

You've only officially arrived at [@imc-leeds.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/imc-leeds.bsky.social), when you can see bunnies on the field.



bre_032 Spent a week in gē UK and it completely rewired me ♥

Oxford first — two days buried in library collections, presenting in the three minute thesis competition, and finally meeting in person the people who've been voices and faces on a screen through my entire masters. [@theacceptedociety](#)

Then Leeds, where I had the opportunity to present at [@imc_leeds](#) where I took the methods from my thesis and pointed them forward. Looking at old english poetry to understand how Early England understood and represented Africans. Presenting that work felt like stepping into a next chapter I hadn't let myself name yet.

Brightest interlude: Brighton. got my second tattoo from [@_art.of.gold](#) at [@1770tattoo](#). Well-deserved and can't wait for more.

and then London to scour the archives [@britishlibrary](#). Accessing and viewing manuscripts that not only informed my thesis but that can compel my research forward.

Research isn't just solitary reading. Sometimes it's crossing an ocean to prove to yourself the work is real.

📍 oxford → leeds → brighton → london

2w



Even with the good weather, even better discounts on books tempt delegates back to the main bookfair.



Delegates enjoying the Leeds sunshine.

Delegate Feedback Summary

Thank you to everyone who completed the IMC 2026 feedback survey. Your voice matters to us, and we value the helpful input you give us. In addition to the survey, this year we ran a focus group on the hybridity of the Congress as we strive to continue to improve this important provision.

We appreciate that streaming sessions online creates extra work for all those involved in that session, however, feedback from the focus group indicates that this work is recognised as valuable.

You told us that hybrid sessions and recordings are seen as essential for inclusivity, and the hybrid components are complementary to the in-person experience, not interchangeable. Therefore, we will continue to investigate improvements to hybrid delivery as well as the in-person experience of the conference.

Feedback from the focus group and survey highlighted the value of the academic and social community at IMC. The international Medieval Studies community is crucial to the success of the IMC each year. We are thrilled to contribute to the growth of the field. At the IMC we are also aware that in many parts of the world, academia is increasingly under pressure, and so we are pleased to offer scholars the opportunity to meet and share their experiences.

With community in mind, we look forward to welcoming new and returning delegates to IMC 2027.

'I very much enjoyed the ability to present virtually and to attend sessions virtually. This assists not only those with limited funds, but also those with certain medical concerns.'

'As a non-academic, I also appreciate how un-hierarchical the IMC is. Everyone is taken on their own terms, and the value comes from the quality of their research, not their title or position. I've also been thinking about how wonderful relationships across generational gaps are possible in academic generally and at the IMC specifically. I can't think of many places where 20-somethings and 80-somethings come together on common ground for mutual benefit.'

'The participants and session organizers created an extraordinarily warm, receptive, and empathetic atmosphere. When the audience requested that I recite my poetry in its original [language], it demonstrated how inclusive and vibrant the IMC community is in honoring non-Western literary traditions and performative scholarly evidence. The cross-cultural dialogues and rich thematic strands made this one of the most rewarding academic conferences I have attended.'

'It felt like a celebration of medieval studies at a time when so many of us are facing down miserable news: departmental closures, redundancies, lack of jobs etc. To have such energy and excitement and celebration felt really meaningful.'

Call for Papers: IMC 2027, 05-08 July

The IMC provides an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of all aspects of Medieval Studies. While proposals on any topic related to the Middle Ages are welcome, every year the IMC chooses a special thematic focus. In 2027, this will be 'Communities'.



LEEDS INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL CONGRESS

5-8 July 2027

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 2027, this is 'Communities'.



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Images (from left to right): 1. Monastery of San Lorenzo del Escorial, Madrid, Escorial, Mts. S.II. 16, f. 168v, © Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons; 2. Weland the smith and adoration of the Magi, Frauke Giedel, British Museum, © Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons; 3. Mosaic, Ravenna, Basilica San Vitale, The sacrifice of Isaac, © Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons; 4. Aerial view of Gwentloppa Medieval Village, © Historic England Archive; 5. Bibliothèque nationale de France, Azulejo 5847, f. 138a, © Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons; 6. Whirly Abbey, North Yorkshire, © Shutterstock.com. Underlying image: Yorkshire Archaeological & Historical Society (YAHS), YAS/02985, 15th century gift with warranty, University of Leeds Special Collection, reproduced with kind permission of YAHS Board of Trustees.

The study of communities involves groups of people, their sharedness, and how those groups define themselves and manage challenges over time. They include the individual's experience, place, and change relative to the group. The relationship between the individual and circle of social actors with whom they interact affects how these groups appear and work as well as how they influence the actions and activities of the individual.

Communities can form across ethnic, linguistic, social, political, professional, spatial, and religious identities. Often these identities intersect, with individuals often belonging to multiple communities, which could bring advantages or cause conflict and hostility. But how are these groups defined today, and how do we use different methodologies to analyse communities, including multidisciplinary perspectives? Approaches such as the consideration of imagined, embodied, or emotional communities, as well as the concept of 'communities of practice', open up a wider range of research disciplines and areas. Other research questions address how communities emerged and were maintained, their value and legitimacy, the use of memory to consolidate collective identities, how to achieve cohesion, or how different communities impinged on each other.

Key topics across different fields include, but are not limited to:

- Political, religious, confessional, and ethnic communities
- Structures, hierarchies, rules, regulations, administration, and law
- Emotional, imagined, textual, and discourse communities
- Material culture of communities
- Symbols and identifiers
- Language, multilingualism, language learning, and linguistic markers of communities

- Communities of knowledge and practice
- Community of/with God(s)
- Spaces and places, rural and urban, daily life, and living communally
- Travelling and migrating communities
- Commemoration and origins myths, legacies, and the lost and forgotten
- Projection and performance of communal identity
- Chant, song, liturgy, and ritual
- Being part of a community (inclusion/exclusion), legitimacy, values, and cohesion
- Within/without - 'them' and 'us' - exile, outlawry, expulsion, and closed and marginalised communities
- Neighbourliness
- Sense of community and sense of belonging
- Decline and collapse, loss of purpose/focus, and external eradication
- Traditional and innovative communities
- Scholarly and disciplinary communities, medieval and modern
- Communities of violence and disruptive communities
- Non-human communities and non-human social actors

IMC 2027 is the global medieval platform which promotes a broad spectrum of perspectives and critical discussions on medieval studies. We aim to engage scholars working at all geographical scales, from global to local contexts, and across various time periods. The IMC especially welcomes papers that bring in perspectives from under-represented disciplines, regions, and theoretical and conceptual perspectives, in all major languages.

Proposals should be submitted online at www.imc.leeds.ac.uk from 01 June 2026.

Deadlines: Paper proposals: 31 August 2026; Session proposals: 30 September 2026.