Listed here are the lectures and seminars on Late Antiquity taking place in Oxford between January and March 2011.

The activities of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity are made possible by the generous support of Lewis Chester, Paul Pheby, and John Beale, former students of Trinity, Exeter, and Brasenose Colleges.

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

www.ocla.ox.ac.uk

(where any up-datings will be posted)
Slobodan Ćurčić
(Princeton University):
“The roots of the ‘balkanization’ of historiography of medieval architecture in the Balkans”

Wednesday 23 February 2011 at 5pm
Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles’, Oxford

Professor Ćurčić will also be talking, at 12 noon on Thursday 24 February, at the Byzantine Art and Archaeology Seminar (in the Ioannou Centre), on “Columns, Towers, and Holy Men: Physical and Spiritual Aspects of Height in Late Antiquity and Byzantium”.

These Events are funded through the generosity of Lewis Chester.

WORKSHOP
Priests and prophets in the religious cultures of the Roman world
Saturday, 15 January 2011
Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles, Oxford

MORNING SESSION
Chair: Robin Lane Fox (New College)
10.00–10.15 Introduction: Beate Dignas (Somerville)
10.15–11.15 John Scheid (Collège de France):
Priests and Divination in Rome
11.15–11.30 Coffee Break
11.30–12.30 Guy G. Stroumsa (LMH):
False Prophets of Early Christianity
12.30–14.00 Lunch Break

AFTERNOON SESSION
Chair: Mark Edwards (Christ Church)
14.00–15.00 Jan Bremmer (Groningen):
Priests in Late Antiquity: Three Snapshots
15.00–15.15 Coffee Break
15.15–16.15 Kai Trampedach (Heidelberg):
Prophets of Theocracy: Holy Men as Imperial Diviners in Late Antiquity
16.15–16.45 General Discussion, led by Robert Parker

The organizers acknowledge the help of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity.
Late Antiquity or Byzantium: The parting of the ways, or the ways that never parted?

Saturday 30 April, 1.30–6 pm, in the Auditorium, Corpus Christi College

The periodization of Late Antiquity has received a huge amount of attention, including, for instance a set of opening articles in the new Journal of Late Antiquity. Was Late Antiquity short or long: did it fall with the western Roman empire in the fifth century, or continue well into the Islamic period? And when did Byzantium begin: with the founding of Constantinople, or only in the seventh century? The editors of the many recent Companions and Handbooks to Late Antiquity and Byzantium have all had to take a view on these issues. This joint workshop celebrates the collaboration between the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity (OCLA) and the Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research (OCBR), and invites late antique scholars and Byzantinists to give their views on these questions, and to consider the effects of periodization in their field, and how much it matters.

Confirmed speakers include Judith Herrin, Arnaldo Marcone, Éric Rebillard, Peter Sarris and Paul Stephenson. Full details will be circulated nearer the time (and will be posted on the OCLA website).

Conveners: Averil Cameron and Neil McLynn

The colloquium is being sponsored by Paul Pheby.

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**Corpus Christi Classics Seminar: Communication and exchange in multilingual societies from Gaul to Central Asia**

Corpus Christi College, Seminar Room, Wednesdays at 5 pm

19 January (Week 1)
**Rachel Mairs** (Oxford, Merton College) and **Maya Muratov** (Adelphi University):
Interpreters of foreign languages in the ancient world: from the Nile to the Steppe

26 January (Week 2)
**David Taylor** (Oxford, Oriental Studies):
A Greek-speaking eastern Roman empire? Language use in late antique Syria and Mesopotamia.

2 February (Week 3)
**Andrew Wilson** (Oxford, Archaeology):
Roman traders and interpreters: translation and transaction costs

9 February (Week 4)
**Fergus Millar** (Oxford, Oriental Studies):
Greek into Latin and Latin into Greek in late antiquity

16 February (Week 5)
**Annick Peters-Custot** (Saint-Étienne):
To translate and to adapt, to understand and to believe: Greek and Latin in Calabrian deeds from the so-called bilingual Norman period

23 February (Week 6)
**Alex Mullen** (Cambridge):
Multilingual Samian ware in Gaul

9 March (Week 8)
**Annliese Nef** (Paris):
Languages, administration and politics in Norman Sicily

Convener: Arietta Papaconstantinou

The seminar is organised with the support of the Faculty of Classics, Corpus Christi College, the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity and the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (New York University).
**Research Seminar in the Abrahamic Religions**

The Seminar meets on Wednesdays of Weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8, at 5pm
Lecture Room 1, Oriental Institute (Pusey Lane)

26 January (Week 2)  **Nicolai Sinai** (Pembroke):
*Too little too late? Pharaoh’s Repentance in the Qur’an and the Jewish Tradition*

9 February (Week 4)  **Marina Rustow** (Johns Hopkins):
*Muslim Treatment of Christians and Jews on the Eve of the Crusades*

23 February (Week 6)  **Rémi Brague** (Paris I, Munich):
*Monotheism, Abraham, Book: Common Points or Dividing Lines?*

9 March (Week 8)  **Mona Siddiqui** (Glasgow):
*Islamic and Other Perspectives on Evil*

Conveners: Adam Silverstein and Guy Stroumsa

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**Late Antique and Byzantine Reading Group**

This informal group of postgraduates and early career researchers will meet on Friday of 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th Week, 5–6.30pm in the MBI Al Jaber Auditorium at Corpus Christi College.

All are welcome, refreshments provided.

Email  [nicholas.stawpert@history.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nicholas.stawpert@history.ox.ac.uk)
or  [jenny.thompson@history.ac.uk](mailto:jenny.thompson@history.ac.uk)
for more information.

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**Late Roman Seminar**

Thursdays at 5pm in the Seminar Room, Corpus Christi College

20 January (Week 1)  **John Weisweiler** (Chicago):
*All the emperor’s men: State formation, imperial withdrawal and the aristocracy of Rome in the fourth century AD*

27 January (Week 2)  **Bella Sandwell** (Bristol):
*How to teach Genesis 1.1-19: John Chrysostom and Basil the Great on the creation of the world*

3 February (Week 3)  **Kate Cooper** (Manchester):
[Title to be confirmed]*

10 February (Week 4)  **Julia Lenaghan** (Oxford):
*Fourth-century portrait statuary and the re-use of earlier sculpture*

17 February (Week 5)  **Simon Ford** (Oxford):
*Take us to your leader: The political mechanics of ecclesiastical authority in the exilic monophysite church (AD 518–638)*

24 February (Week 6)  **Atsuko Gotoh** (Hosei University, Tokyo):
*Constantinian laws in the Theodosian Code: A report from the Japanese translation project*

3 March (Week 7)  **Richard Flower** (Cambridge):
*Nobody does it better: Epiphanius of Salamis and the birth of heresiological authority*

10 March (Week 8)  **Sigrid Mratschek** (Rostock):
*The unwritten letters of Augustine of Hippo*

Conveners: Neil McLynn and Philip Booth
Medieval Archaeology Seminar

Mondays of Weeks 3, 4, 6, and 8 at 3pm (except for 31 January)
in the Institute of Archaeology Lecture Room

31 January (Week 3)
Bryan Ward-Perkins:
The barbarian invasions and the last statues of antiquity
[Please note: this seminar will be at 4 pm]

7 February (Week 4)
Richard Morris:
Lastingham. A northern monastery and its context, c.600–1100

21 February (Week 6)
Anne Pedersen:
New Developments and Interpretations at the Royal Site of Jelling, Denmark

7 March (Week 8)
Aidan O’Sullivan:
Early medieval dwellings in Ireland: Interdisciplinary perspectives and arguments
between archaeology, early Irish history and palaeoenvironmental studies

Conveners: Helena Hamerow and Lesley Abrams

Emotions and Ancient Greek History

Tuesdays at 5pm
in the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles’

The following two seminars in this series have a late antique element:

18 January (Week 1)
Chrysi Kotsifou (University of Oxford):
Womanly weakness and manly moderation: the use and abuse of pity in fourth-
century petitions

1 March (Week 7)
David Frankfurter (Boston University):
Desperation and the Magic of Appeal: Representations of women’s emotions in the
voices of magical texts and votive images

Conveners: Chrysi Kotsifou and Georgy Kantor

Patristics Seminar

Patristic Exegesis of Genesis 1–3

Wednesdays at 5pm in Christ Church (Tom Quad, Staircase 8, Room 2)

The seminar will be led by various senior members and postgraduates. It will
emphasize analysis and discussion of the following authors’ works on Genesis.
Notice of works to be read will be available the preceding week and attendees are
encouraged to review these texts beforehand.

19 January (Week 1): Origen

26 January (Week 2): Gnostics

2 February (Week 3): Athanasius

9 February (Week 4): Cappadocians

16 February (Week 5): Ambrose

23 February (Week 6): Augustine

2 March (Week 7): Theodoret

9 March (Week 8): Bede

Conveners: Mark Edwards and Stan Rosenberg
Late Antique and Byzantine Studies Seminar

Wednesdays at 5 pm in the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles’. The two sessions marked with an asterisk are special lectures organized jointly with the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity: see posters above

19 January (Week 1)
**Professor Caroline Macé** (Leuven):
Pseudo-Gregorius’ Contra Astronomos and the Theory of the Four Humours in Late Antiquity

26 January (Week 2)
**Dr Phil Booth** (Oxford):
New Evidence for the Circus Factions from Maurice to Heraclius (Re-reading John of Nikiu)

2 February (Week 3)
**Professor Paul Magdalino** (Istanbul):
Topographical Problems and Literary Sources in 12th-century Constantinople

9 February (Week 4)
**Professor Peregrine Horden** (Royal Holloway/Oxford):
Spaces of Healing: Byzantium and Medieval Islam Compared

16 February (Week 5)
**Dr Vivien Prigent** (British Academy):
The Origins of the European Economy and The Myth of the Mancus

*23 February (Week 6)*
**Professor Slobodan Ćurčić** (Princeton):
The Roots of the ‘Balkanization’ of Historiography of Medieval Architecture in the Balkans

*2 March (Week 7)*
**Dr David Frankfurter** (Boston):
Workshops, Shrines and ‘Pagan Survivals’: Re-modelling the Christianization of Egypt

9 March (Week 8)
**Dr Irene Giviashvili** (Florence):
Oshki Monastery Church as the Reflection of Political and Cultural History of Georgia

Conveners: Prof. Marc Lauxtermann and Dr Mark Whittow

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Byzantine Art & Archaeology seminar

Thursdays at 12 noon in the seminar room of the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles’

20 January (Week 1)
**Michael Vickers** (Ashmolean Museum):
Early Christian and Jewish Antiquities in Oxford from the Roman Catacombs

27 January (Week 2)
**Ebru Fındık** (Hacettepe University, Istanbul):
New Finds from the Church of St Nicholas in Myra/Demre

3 February (Week 3)
**Mark McKerracher** (St Cross):
Agricultural Development in Middle Saxon England

10 February (Week 4)
**Paul Hetherington** (London):
Fragile Gems: The Diaspora of Byzantine Enamels

17 February (Week 5)
**Mark Whittow** (Corpus Christi):
Reframing Early Medieval Byzantium: Archaeology for a New Agenda?

24 February (Week 6)
**Slobodan Ćurčić** (Princeton University):
Columns, Towers and Holy Men: Physical and Spiritual Aspects of Height in Late Antiquity and Byzantium

3 March (Week 7)
**Elizabeth Montgomerie** (Exeter):
Images of Time in Late Antique Floor Mosaics

10 March (Week 8)
**John Lansdowne** (St Cross):
The ‘New Jerusalem’ in Fifteenth-century Florence

Conveners: Georgi Parpulov and Lukas Schachner
Seminar on Jewish History and Literature in the Graeco-Roman Period

Tuesdays of the weeks shown below at 2.30 pm in the Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane.
All meetings in the Faculty Room except where otherwise indicated.

18 January (Week 1)
Professor Fergus Millar:
Judaism and Christianity in South Arabia in Late Antiquity
(Room 314)

1 February (Week 3)
Professor Geza Vermes, Professor Fergus Millar and Professor Martin Goodman:
Emil Schürer a Century after his Death
(Round Table)

8 February (Week 4)
Dr Holger Zellentin (Nottingham):
Jerusalem Fell after Betar: Josephus, Bar Kokhba, Eusebius, and Rabbinic Memory

22 February (Week 6)
Professor William Horbury (Cambridge):
Liberty in the Coinage and Documents of the Jewish Revolt
(Room 314)

8 March (Week 8)
Professor Michael Graves (Wheaton College):
Jewish Traditions in the Commentaries of Jerome

Convener: Professor Tessa Rajak

KRC Research Seminar

Tuesdays, 2–3.30pm in the Khalili Research Centre Lecture Room, 3 St John Street.

18 January (Week 1)
Dr Alex Metcalfe (Lancaster University):
The multilingual charters of medieval Sicily: a lingua franca in the Mediterranean?

25 January (Week 2)
Professor Jeremy Johns:
Muslim artists and Christian art: some examples from the Cappella Palatina

1 February (Week 3) [Text for discussion on WebLearn*]
Dr Georgi Parpulov:
Christian visual art in the Islamic Near East, c.700–1000 AD

8 February (Week 4)
Professor James Allan:
Approaches to interfaith encounters in material culture

15 February (Week 5) [Texts for discussion on WebLearn*]
Dr Nicola Clarke:
Discussion session: Selected primary sources

22 February (Week 6) [Texts for discussion on WebLearn*]
Dr Lukas Schachner:
Business as usual? Life in the 'late' antique countryside

1 March (Week 7)
Dr Arietta Papaconstaninou:
Objects and society in early Islamic Egypt

8 March (Week 8)
Dr Mat Immerzeel (Leiden University):
The Monastery of Our Lady in Saydnaya (Syria): A sanctuary for everyone

* WebLearn: https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/hierarchy/humdiv/orient/iw/iaa
From the Bosporos to Oxford:
Unseen Photographs of Prof. Harrison’s
Byzantine Excavations in Istanbul

Stelios Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies
Hilary Term 2011

An exhibition organized by L.A. Schneider & B. Furguson