



Monkeys, Mules and Mockery

A Workshop on Animals and the Pejorative in Pre-Modern Texts

The Early Text Cultures Project invites you to join us at **5 pm** on **Friday 2nd June** in the **Mure Room** at **Merton College** for a discussion of animals and negative depictions of nations, peoples and individuals. The presenters and participants will jointly explore the ways in which animals are employed within the pre-modern period to criticise individuals and groups, how such imagery alters between cultures and how modern perspectives might affect our understanding of it.

The workshop will involve a series of short presentations followed by a roundtable dialogue.

Alex MacFarlane (Linacre)

An Armenian interpretation of the lobster in the Alexander Romance

Vishal Sharma (Wolfson)

Associations between dogs and marginalised people within the Mahābhārata

Kirsty Stewart (Merton)

Byzantine depictions of individuals as animals

The event is open to all, and we hope that attendants will bring enrich the discussion with the insights from other traditions and periods. The event will be followed by a wine reception.

