

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Medieval and Modern Languages Graduate Network Conference

26th June 2025, Taylor Institution Library, University of Oxford

Oxford University's Medieval & Modern Languages Graduate Network is pleased to announce its 8th annual Graduate Conference. The theme of this year's conference: journeys.

Journeys occur through space and time; they can be geographical, experiential, or spiritual. They mark the transformation of perspective and identity, lending significance to the remembrance of the past and anticipation of the future. Stories and texts themselves undergo journeys, entering new environments and experiencing regeneration through translation and transmission. The 2025 MMLGN Conference will explore literary journeys to gain a better understanding of the change and development that journeys facilitate.

Topics could include, but are not limited to:

- The concept of *journey*
  - Conceptions of *journey* in different times and places
  - How modern (social) media impacts the notion of a journey
- Comparing different types of journeys
  - Physical, spiritual, and educational journeys
  - Literary vs. non-literary journeys (e.g. literary depiction vs. historic reality)
  - The use, function, or effect of journeys in different languages or historical periods
  - The effect of literary genre on the depictions of journeys
- The journey(s) of literary figures
  - Stories of pilgrimage, migration, diaspora, travel, or adventure
  - Accounts of personal development or growth
  - Unexpected, involuntary, or subconscious journeys
- Journey(s) of literary texts
  - The reception of texts, films, and stories across different cultures and languages
  - Transmission of manuscripts and printed texts
- Significance of specific spaces, tropes, or symbols for journeys
- The absence of journeys and its effects on literature/literary figures

Please submit a **250-word abstract** for a 15-20 minute paper and short bio (including your affiliation and research interests) by **March 14<sup>th</sup>** to Colton Duncan ([colton.duncan@linacre.ox.ac.uk](mailto:colton.duncan@linacre.ox.ac.uk)) and Giovanna de Campos Mauro ([giovanna.decamposmauro@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:giovanna.decamposmauro@merton.ox.ac.uk)). Please do not hesitate to get in touch with either of us if you have any questions.

We have a limited budget and regret our inability to support the travel and accommodation costs of speakers.