**Sessions at Leeds 2020**

501: Truth and Falsity in Late Medieval Thought

Organiser: Frances Kneupper (Univ. of Mississippi)

Chair   Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität in Hagen )

(a) Michael A. Ryan (Univ. of New Mexico), Ambiguity and Alchemy in Venice

(b) Frances Kneupper (Univ. of Mississippi), Do Women Make the Best Prophets?: The Case for Female Prophecy in Late Medieval Germany

(c) Pavlína Cermanová (Czech Academy of Sciences, Praha), Who Were the False Prophets in Hussite Sources?

Abstract: This session approaches the theme of 'boundaries' in two ways. First, the presentations demonstrate continuities across geographical boundaries, with papers on Central, Northern, and Southern Europe. The presentations also consider another boundary - the line between true and false. This session explores knowledge-making and the attempts of individuals to distinguish true from false in subjects that straddled magic and science, the natural and the occult. Some germane questions included: How can 'true' knowledge be obtained? How can 'truth' be verified?, and Who can be trusted? This session addresses these questions as they related to the topics of prophecy, alchemy, and eschatology.

Tue. 07 July - 09.00-10.30

634: Mappings II: What can a map show?

Organisers: Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität in Hagen)/ Dan Terkla (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Chair: Christoph Mauntel (University of Tübingen)

(a) Sabine Hynek (Fernuniv. in Hagen), Frankfurt and its hinterland in the 16th century on maps by Lukas Böttcher

(b) Anette Baumann (Univ. Giessen), Visualized evidence: visualizing space at the Imperial High Courts in 16th century

(c) Gerda Brunnlechner (FernUniversität in Hagen), The 'Genoese World Map' as an Example of the Transformation of Media? Map Making in the Middle of the 15th Century

Abstract: From the fifteenth century onwards in Latin Europe, new types of maps emerged, regional and portolan, for instance. This occurred as new types of spatial visualization and graphic representation came into play. Consequently, maps came to be used more than descriptive texts when spatial representations were required. Speakers in this session discuss these novel processes and their consequences, not the least as used by the creators and sponsors of the maps.

Tue. 07 July - 11.15-12.45

734: Mappings III: Borders between text and map

Organisers: Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität in Hagen)/ Dan Terkla (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Chair: LauraLee Brott (University of Wisconsin)

(a) Amichay Schwartz (Bar-Ilan University Israel and Ariel university Israel), The Borders of the Holy Land as Represented in a Medieval Hebrew Map

(b) Thomas Wozniak (Univ. Tübingen), Perceptions and descriptions of borders during the Crusades

(c) Stefan Striegler (Univ. Greifswald), The 'Wilderness' — Geographic Knowledge between Textual Description and Practical Application in Late Medieval Prussia

Abstract: Somewhat paradoxically, medieval Jews and Christians considered the Holy Land to be their familiar, yet distant homeland, a place that they could de*scribe* and de*pict*, by drawing on the ancient traditions underpinning their beliefs. Not surprisingly, then, they de*scribed* and de*picted* contested missionary territories, which they perceived as wilderness, before laying claim to them.  In order to differentiate homeland from wilderness, late medieval writers and map makers incorporated borders within and around these areas, thereby creating zones of inclusion and exclusion. Speakers in this session will provide multiple perspectives on this phenomenon and thus lay the groundwork for a fruitful discussion of the beginnings of regional mapping.

Tue. 07 July - 14.15-15.45


749: Mighty pillars for bridging borders: Networks and cooperationin Hanseatic world

Organiser: Maria Seier (FernUniversität in Hagen)

Chair: Nadine Holzmeier (Univ. Rostock)

(a) Ilkka Leskelä (Univ. Helsinki/ Univ. Turku), The 'Hanseatic' trade network of the Finnish Skalm family in the 15th and early 16th centuries

(b) Maria Seier (FernUniversität in Hagen), Mighty friends when times get rough: The "Lübecker Ratsstreit", Council conflict 1403-1416

(c) Anja Rasche (Netzwerk Kunst und Kultur der Hansestädte), Artists and their networks in the Baltic Sea region: some examples from Lübeckand Tallinn in the second half of the 15th century


As a political and economic hub between Northern and Central Europe the Baltic Searegion together with neighbouring regions is characterised by the Hanseatic League, which has occupied a dominant place within historical research. As a strong and well-organized network in questions of politics, economy and trade, it has been regarded as THE shaping force. However, the more powerful the Hanseatic League is portrayed, the more other, equally important alliances in the region fall behind. In three case studies we focus on network structures and interdependencies, which developed complementary, competitively or independently to the League.

Tue, 7 July –14.15-15,45 h

834: Mappings IV: Continental borders on maps and in texts

Organisers: Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität in Hagen)/ Dan Terkla (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Chair: Nadine Holzmeier (University of Rostock)

(a) Julia Verkholantsev (University of Pennsylvania), Scitica regio in Europa situm habet: What do Medieval Chronicles Tell us about the Borders of Medieval Europe?

(b) Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität in Hagen), *Termini Europae* — where, when, and how does „our" continent feature on medieval maps and in medieval prophecy

(c) Christoph Mauntel (Univ. Tübingen): HIC FINIS ASIAE. The Borders of the continents on Medieval Word Maps

Abstract: The idea of three distinct continents seems deeply inscribed into medieval Christian thinking, in part because Genesis 10 says that after the Flood, God divided what we might call the landmasses among Noah's three sons. But not only were the boundaries – geographical, cultural – of the separate continents defined quite differently if at all in Antiquity and the Middle Ages, a closer look at Latin European medieval attempts to describe a world order also shows that continents 1. weren't frequently used at all and 2. if they were the usage differed considerably from what has seemed obvious to modern historians. The papers of the session will approach the problem of the representation of borders as such and different possibilities to actually think about, write about, and draw borders in quite a range of different medieval genres.