

# NETWORKS OF DISSENT AND PERSECUTION IN THE MIDDLE AGES

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP 27–28 MAY 2024 CLUBRAUM 2, ZENTRALMENSA PLATZ DER GÖTTINGER SIEBEN 4, 37073 GÖTTINGEN

The aim of the international workshop is to provide new perspectives on the history of medieval heresies. The papers will explore the overlap between medieval dissent and persecution from a network perspective, focusing on the actors and the relations between them but, especially, on the flow of ideas, narratives and religious knowledge across and within mainstream and non-mainstream Christian networks. Since traditional binary concepts of 'orthodoxy' and 'heresy' have increasingly been questioned in recent research, the workshop will put special emphasis on the blurred boundaries between these concepts.

The first section, "Circulation and Distortion of Normative Religious Discourses", focuses both on the construction and misconstructions of normative discourses. The second section, "Dynamics of Information Extraction and Exchange in Repressive Contexts", explores the strategies used by individuals and collectives within and outside orthodox boundaries to obtain and disseminate information that helped define their own networks. The conference will conclude with the third section, "Fluidity and Connections in Religious Identity Construction", which focuses on 'heretical' identities and the boundaries of

what could be considered religious dissent among lay communities.

The workshop is designed as a pre-circulating-paper workshop with concise presentations and extensive paper discussions. For registration and access to the papers to be discussed, please send an e-mail to: erik.wendlandt@uni-goettingen.de.





# NETWORKS OF DISSENT AND PERSECUTION IN THE MIDDLE AGES

#### Saturday, 25 May 2024 – Sunday, 26 May 2024

Workshop for advanced B.A. and M.A. students (*Medieval Studies*) at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen with Dr. Delfi Nieto-Isabel (Medieval History, Queen Mary University of London, UK) and Dr. Saku Pihko (Medieval History, Tampere University, Finland), organised by JProf. Dr. Anne Greule (Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany):

#### SATURDAY, 25 May 2024

**09:30–10:00: Welcome and Introduction:** JProf. Dr. Anne Greule (Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

10:00–12:00: Workshop with Dr. Saku Pihko (Medieval History, Tampere University, Finland)

Medieval Inquisition Records as a Source Critical Problem: Traditional Approaches

12:00-13:30: Lunch

13:30–15:00: Workshop with Dr. Saku Pihko

Medieval Inquisition Records as a Source Critical Problem: New Directions

**15:00–15:30:** *Coffee Break* 

15:30–16:30: Final Discussion

#### SUNDAY, 26 May 2024

**10:00–12:00:** Workshop with Dr. Delfi Nieto-Isabel (Medieval History, Queen Mary University of London, UK)

From Inquisition to Inquiry: Inquisitorial Records as a Source for Social Network Analysis

12:00–13:30: Lunch

13:30–15:00: Workshop with Dr. Delfi Nieto-Isabel (Medieval History, Queen Mary University of London, UK)

Beguines, Free Spirits, and the Inquisitorial Network Conundrum

15:00–15:30: Coffee Break

15:30–16:30: Final Discussion

# Monday, 27 May 2024 – Tuesday, 28 May 2024

Workshop for the preparation of a volume on Networks of Religious Dissent and Persecution in the Middles Ages. It will include the participation of the authors (most of them members of the Blurred Boundaries of Religious Dissent Research Initiative), members of the faculty of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, and advanced B.A. and M.A. students (*Medieval Studies*) of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

# MONDAY, 27 May 2024

**9:30–9:50: Welcome & Introduction**: JProf. Dr. Anne Greule (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany), Dr. Delfi Nieto-Isabel (Queen Mary University of London, UK)

### I. Circulation and Distortion of Normative Religious Discourses

Chair: Gitta Windt (PhD Student, Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

09:50–10:30: Dr. Rachel Ernst (Medieval History, Georgia State University, USA):

Misinterpreting Origen: The Convoluted Legacy of the Alexandrian Theologian in the High Middle Ages

10:30–11:10: Andra Alexiu (PhD student, Medieval History, Universität Münster, Germany):

Going Against the Flow? Religious Women and Responses to Proximity Anxiety in the Long Twelfth Century

11:10–11:30 Coffee Break

11:30–12:10: Dr. Stamatia Noutsou (Independent Scholar, Medieval History, Denmark):

Permeable Network of Discourses: How Images, Ideals and Ideas Were Transmitted through the Various Works of Bernard of Clairvaux

**12:10–12:50:** JProf. Dr. Anne Greule (Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

The Repression of Heresy in Me dieval Confessors' Guides – The Case of Alan of Lille's *Liber Poenitentialis* 

12:50–14:00: Lunch

# II. Dynamics of Information Extraction and Exchange in Repressive Contexts

Chair: Dr. Adrian Kammerer (Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

14:00–14:40: Dr. Saku Pihko (Medieval History, Tampere University, Finland):

Female Religious Talk in Medieval Inquisition Records

14:40–15:20: Prof. Dr. Claire Taylor (Medieval History, University of Nottingham, UK):

Faith in Crisis or a Crisis of Faith. Avignonet 1242: A Pedagogical Approach (remote via Zoom)

**15:20–15:45:** Coffee Break

15:45–16:25: Dr. Justine Trombley (Medieval History, Durham University, UK):

Heretics Without Borders: Reconsidering Connections Between Marguerite Porete and Guiard of Cressonessart.

#### **TUESDAY, 28 May 2024**

#### III. Fluidity and Connections in Religious Identity Construction

Chair: Dr. Stefanie Lenk (Medieval Art History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

09:30–10:10: Dr. Delfi I. Nieto-Isabel (Medieval History, Queen Mary University of London, UK)

Coming to Terms: Beguines, Beguines, Tertiaries, Beghards and the Network Boundary Problem in the 14th Century

10:10–10:50: Prof. Dr. Sean L. Field (Medieval History, University of Vermont, USA)

Clare of Rimini: A Case Study in the Circulation of Controversial Religious Claims (paper discussion, not in person)

**10:50–11:15:** *Coffee Break* 

11:15–11:55: Thomas Hendrik Kaal (PhD student, Hispanic Studies, Queen Mary University of London, UK)

Targeting of Converso Unbelief in 15th-Century Castile. The View of Friar Alonso de Espina

12:00-13:15: Lunch

Chair: Dr. Matthias Berlandi (Medieval History, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany)

**13:15–13:55:** Dr. Bert Carlstrom (Medieval History, Queen Mary University of London, UK)

Entanglement through Separation: The Religious Instruction of Conversos in 15th-Century Castile

14:00–14:40: Prof. Dr. Rosa Vidal Doval (Medieval Iberian Literature, Oxford University, UK)

*Limpieza de sangre*: Jews, *Conversos*, and the Boundaries of Genealogy in Renaissance Spain 14:40–15:00: *Coffee Break* 

15:00–15:30: Final Discussion: Conclusions and Future Perspectives