

Humanities Institute Weekly Digest 3/15 - 3/22

OSU Humanities Institute <huminst@osu.edu>

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To: huminst@lists.osu.edu <huminst@lists.osu.edu>

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SASI_BB_AfterDecriminalization copy.pdf;

Greetings Affiliates,

Below, please find this week's Humanities Institute bulletin. Stay safe and have a great week!

Humanities Weekly Digest



Humanities Institute Spotlights of the Week

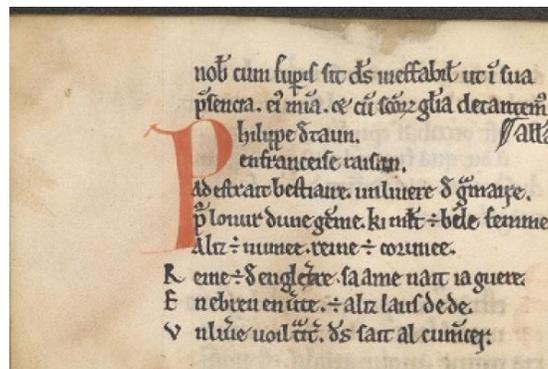


SAVE THE DATE! March 25, 3:30p.m.: SASI Research Brown Bag Series--After Decriminalization: Anti-Discrimination & Belonging

****As usual, this event is free and open to the public! Live captioning will be provided. However, if you require other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact huminst@osu.edu. Requests made by about 10 days before the event will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date. Register for the event at <https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwkcOGprDMuH9yJBpDC4qzjZQjd2L96Ht06>.****

Abstract: On September 6th, 2018, the Supreme Court of India made the historic decision to repeal, Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, the ban on same-sex relationships. The British colonial-era statute, Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, made sexual behavior “against the order of nature” illegal and punishable by imprisonment.

Decriminalization marked a significant step forward in the recognition and promotion of the human rights of LGBTQI people and queer politics in India. Suparna Bhaskaran will talk about her work on some of the debates in the aftermath of this decision as it pertains to issues of anti-discrimination, the linkages between social, economic, and political rights for LGBTQI people in India, and diasporic solidarity.



March 16, 4:30p.m. - 5:30p.m.: Old French Reading Group

Meet to read aloud in Medieval French and learn about the language and culture -- for scholarly inquiry or sheer amusement.

No prior experience needed!

- Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm during the Spring 2021 term
- Contact Prof. Sarah-Grace Heller (heller.64@osu.edu) for more information

Register via Zoom: <https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvc--vqz8sHdf9m4m1BwPg0NPnKnbcR97k>



March 18, 3:30p.m. - 4:30p.m.: Medieval Latin Reading Group

The Medieval Latin reading group will meet on Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., during the Spring 2021 semester, beginning Thursday, January 21.

Participants in the Medieval Latin reading group are not required to prepare the readings ahead of time, and nobody should feel obligated to participate aloud, if you're more comfortable listening. We are happy to accommodate participants with all levels of Latin expertise, including those who have never tried Latin or who have forgotten everything they once knew.

If you would like to receive the Zoom meeting link and be added to the mailing list for future links and readings, please contact CMRS Associate Director Leslie Lockett at lockett.20@osu.edu.



March 18, 4:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.: Religion, Conspiracy Theories and Epistemic Capital

****This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Please click [here](#) or on the event title below to register for this event.****

[Religion, Conspiracy Theories and Epistemic Capital](#), featuring Dr. David Robertson



David G. Robertson is Lecturer in Religious Studies at the Open University, co-founder of the Religious Studies Project, and co-editor of the journal *Implicit Religion*. His work applies critical theory to the study of alternative and emerging religions, and to "conspiracy theory" narratives. He is the author of [UFOs, the New Age and Conspiracy Theories: Millennial Conspiracism](#) (Bloomsbury 2016) and co-editor of [After](#)

World Religions: Reconstructing Religious Studies (Equinox 2016) and the Handbook of Conspiracy Theories and Contemporary Religion(Brill 2018).

Abstract: How does the study of religion help us to understand conspiracy theories – like QAnon? From fears of Satanic paedophile cabals in Washington to 5G affecting our chakras, there are plenty of examples of conspiracy theories as, in and about religion, but are there underlying structural reasons that they are such frequent bedfellows? I'll introduce the idea of epistemic capital, as a way to understand how different ideas and entrepreneurs become popular in the marketplace of stigmatised knowledge. Finally we'll look at QAnon, to show how ideas move through religious and conspiratorial spheres.

If you require an accommodation, such as live captioning, to participate in this event, please contact Sarah Dove at dove.76@osu.edu. Requests made at least one week in advance of the event will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date.



March 19, 4:00p.m. - 5:30p.m.: CMRS Lecture--"The Wood Age: A Thought Experiment in Past, Present and Future Human Ecologies"

*****This event, as with all the lectures in our annual series, is free and open to the public! Registration is requested.*****

Abstract: Wood has been the primary technological material for almost all of human history. But compared to ceramics, stone and metals it is barely visible to archaeologists. A limited range of surviving artefacts, backed by careful use of ethnographic study, allow us to posit key developments in human/wood ecologies. But to construct a coherent narrative of what one might call the Long Wood Age, to render visible that which is invisible, requires creativity in physical and intellectual experimentation. In this paper Max Adams, who is both an archaeologist and a woodsman, explores some lines of enquiry.

Bio: Max Adams is a critically-acclaimed author and biographer, an archaeologist, traveler and writing coach. His journeys through the landscapes of the past and the present, of human geography, music, art and culture are a continuing source of inspiration in his writing. Born in 1961 in London, he was educated at the University of York, where he read archaeology. After a professional career which included the notorious excavations at Christchurch Spitalfields, and several years as Director of Archaeological Services at Durham University, Max went to live in a 40-acre woodland in County Durham for three years. Max continues to manage woodland, and still lives on the north-west edge of County Durham, in a slightly more conventional dwelling. Max is also a musician, playing drums, harmonicas, Appalachian dulcimer and low-key whistle.

Weekly Events Listing

March 18, 4:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.

Religion, Conspiracy Theories and Epistemic Capital

[Zoom](#)

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion

March 19, 4:00p.m. - 5:30p.m.

CMRS Lecture: Max Adams (Independent Scholar) - "The Wood Age: A Thought Experiment in Past, Present and Future Human Ecologies" - Annual Barbara A. Hanawalt Public Lecture

[Zoom](#)

Sponsored by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Be sure to "like" us on [Facebook](#) and check out our [Twitter](#) feed for more news, event updates, links, and humanities-related miscellany.