

MAKING SENSE OF THE OATH IN LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLIER MIDDLE AGES

RELIGIOUS ACT, SOCIAL BOND, HOLY SACRAMENT



Image courtesy of the Penn Museum, Image #238272

International Conference

Freie Universität Berlin

15 – 17 December 2016

Programme

Thursday, 15th December
(Room 2.2058)

14:00 – 14:30

Stefan Esders (Freie Universität Berlin)

Welcome and Introduction

Session 1 – The Christian Oath in Roman Society

14:30 – 16:00

Bernd Kollmann (Universität Siegen)

Jesus' Teaching on Oaths in its Ancient Context

Moshe Blidstein (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Religious Authority and the Cancellation of Oaths and Vows in the Roman Empire

coffee break

16:30 – 18:00

Kevin Uhalde (Ohio University)

The Shape of Early Christian Fidelity: Tertullian on Swearing and Repentance

Nicholas Wheeler (University of Toronto)

Two Cases of Perjury: The Fourth Century Origins of the Canonical Norm against Perjury in the Latin Church

Friday, 16th December
(Room 2.2059)

**Session 2 – Obligations, Promises, Vows and Oaths:
Redefining Social Relations in an Age of Transition**

9:00 – 10:30

Susanna Elm (University of California at Berkeley)

*Conditio — Religious Bonds and Social Acts in
Augustine*

Claudia Rapp (Universität Wien)

*Promise — Prayer — Contract — Oath: Religious
Frameworks and Legal Norms for Social Interactions
in Early Byzantium*

coffee break

11:00 – 12:30

Andrew Marsham (University of Edinburgh)

Oath and Covenant in the Qur'an

Jamie Wood (University of Lincoln)

*Oath-Taking in Early Medieval Iberia: Contextualising
'Pactual' Monasticism*

lunch break

**Session 3 – Fidelity, Oath-Taking and Narrative Justice: The
Carolingian Empire and After**

14:00 – 14:45

Jennifer R. Davis (The Catholic University of America / The
American Academy in Berlin)

*Re-imagining the Oath during the Reign of
Charlemagne*

short break

15:00 – 16:30

Mayke de Jong (Universiteit Utrecht)

*"Fides" after the Battle of Fontenoy (25 June 841):
Nithard and Paschasius Radbertus*

Heiko Behrmann (Freie Universität Berlin)

*Oath-Taking and Perjury in the Annals of St. Bertin:
Tracing the Political Thought of Hincmar of Rheims*

coffee break

17:00 – 18:30

Ian Ward (Princeton University)

*The End of the Carolingian Oath of Loyalty in the
Tenth Century*

Theo Riches (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster)

*Differentiating Sacred and Profane in the Eleventh-
Century Oath: A Bishop's Job, But Does Anyone Have
to Do it?*

Saturday, 17th December
(Room 2.2059)

**Session 4 – Framing the Oath in Early Medieval Theology,
Exegesis and Canon Law**

09:00 – 10:30

Owen Phelan (Mount St. Mary's University)

Oaths and Bishops in the Ninth Century

Gerda Heydeman (Österreichische Akademie der
Wissenschaften / Freie Universität Berlin)

*“Ego autem dico vobis non iurare omnino”: The
Prohibition to Swear (Matthew 5:33–37) in
Carolingian Exegesis*

coffee break

11:00 – 11:45

Stefan Esders (Freie Universität Berlin)

Dissolving the Oath (7th–11th centuries)

11:45 – 13:00

Kate Cooper (University of Manchester) / Conrad Leyser
(Worcester College / University of Oxford)

Conclusive Remarks

Final Discussion

DFG Collaborative Research Centre 700 - Governance in
Areas of Limited Statehood

Prof. Dr. Stefan Esders

Lukas Bothe

in collaboration with

Dr. Gerda Heydeman (Österreichische Akademie der
Wissenschaften/ Freie Universität Berlin)

Please register at:

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European Union Horizon 2020 research
and innovation programme/ Marie
Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No.
655748 (BIBLACE).

