



**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**Thirteenth Annual Symposium on Medieval  
and Renaissance Studies**

**June 8-10, 2026**  
Saint Louis University  
St. Louis, Missouri, USA

The Annual [Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#) is a convenient summer venue in North America for scholars to present papers, organize sessions, participate in roundtables, and engage in interdisciplinary discussion. The goal of the Symposium is to promote serious scholarly investigation into all topics and in all disciplines of medieval and Renaissance studies (c. 500-c. 1700).

The **plenary speakers** for the **Thirteenth Annual Symposium (June 8-10, 2026)** are **Kathryn Starkey** (Stanford University) and **Robert Pasnau** (University of Colorado Boulder).

The Symposium is held on the beautiful midtown St. Louis campus of Saint Louis University. Housing options include affordable, air-conditioned dorm rooms on campus as well as a more luxurious hotel adjacent to campus. Inexpensive meal options are available, and there is a wealth of restaurants, bars, and cultural venues within easy walking distance of campus.

While attending the Symposium, participants are free to use the [Vatican Film Library](#), the [Rare Books Division](#), and the general collection at Saint Louis University's [Pius XII Memorial Library](#). These collections offer access to tens of thousands of medieval and early modern manuscripts on microfilm as well as strong holdings in medieval and Renaissance history, literature, languages, manuscript studies, theology, philosophy, and canon law. The [Jesuit Archives & Research Center](#) is adjacent to the university and also accessible to Symposium attendees.

We invite proposals for papers, complete sessions, and roundtables. **Any topic in the scholarly investigation of the medieval and early modern world is welcome.** This year our organizing, optional theme is: **“Materiality.”**

Individual papers should be twenty minutes in length. Scholars may also organize and submit full session proposals of three papers each. Scholars in a session must represent at least two institutions. Scholarly organizations are encouraged to sponsor proposals for complete sessions; organizing at least two sessions in coordination with each other is highly recommended. **All papers must be delivered in-person.**

**Mini-conferences or sub-conferences**, large and small (ranging from 15 to more than 100 people) are hosted by societies and occur within the context of the SMRS. Additionally, some societies sponsor sessions in the main SMRS. See below, p. 2 and following, for more information.

Most scholars present one paper but are permitted additionally to participate in panel discussions. As far as formal, separate papers, scholars are limited to one paper in the main SMRS plus one paper in a mini-conference, if they wish to participate in both. All submissions are centralized and are made through the SMRS website. Mini-conference organizers evaluate proposals specific to their mini-conferences.

The **submission portal** will open on November 1. The portal has buttons for submission to the main SMRS and for each of the mini-conferences. The deadline for all submissions is **December 31, 2025**. Decisions will be made by the end of January, and the final program will be published in March.

For more information or to submit your proposal, go to: <https://www.smrs-slu.org/>.



## MINI-CONFERENCES

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*So-called “mini-conferences” utilize the SMRS infrastructure but operate independently in terms of their academic organization, selection of papers, and maintenance of conference traditions, such as keynote speakers and shared meals. They range in size from about 15 to 100 people or more.*

#### International Arthurian Studies Mini-Conference

The International Arthurian Studies-North American Branch returns to the SMRS in June 2026. The IAS-NAB welcomes individual proposals or proposals for complete sessions on any topic pertaining to Arthurian studies, whether medieval or its modern adaptations. Inquiries may be directed to Professor Evelyn Meyer ([evelyn.meyer@slu.edu](mailto:evelyn.meyer@slu.edu)) & Professor Siân Echard ([sian@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:sian@mail.ubc.ca)), President of the IAS-NAB.

#### South-Central Renaissance Conference

We are pleased to welcome the South-Central Renaissance Conference (SCRC) to the SMRS for the second time. The SCRC welcomes paper proposals in all areas of Renaissance studies. Besides general sessions, it regularly hosts sessions affiliated with the Queen Elizabeth I Society, the Andrew Marvell Society, and the Society for Renaissance Art History. Presenters in this mini-conference must be members of the SCRC and can join at <https://southcentralrenaissanceconference.org/>. Submissions will be made via the SMRS website and will open November 1.

#### Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy

The 2nd Biennial Conference of the SMRP will take place at the 2026 SMRS. Featured speakers are SMRS plenary speaker Bob Pasnau (University of Colorado Boulder) and Stephen Ogden (University of Notre Dame), who will deliver the presidential address. We invite proposals for individual papers as well as for complete sessions on any area or topic in Medieval or Renaissance Philosophy. Anyone wishing to be included on the program must be a current member of the SMRP. To join or renew go to <https://smrpblog.wordpress.com/join/>. Abstracts of 250-300 words will be submitted via the SMRS submission portal. Questions should be directed to conference organizers: Susan Brower-Toland ([susan.browertoland@slu.edu](mailto:susan.browertoland@slu.edu)) and Can Laurens Löwe ([canlaurens.lowe@slu.edu](mailto:canlaurens.lowe@slu.edu)).

## Additional Call for Papers for Pre-organized Sessions

### International Boethius Society:

“Boethian Matters”

The theme for the 2026 SMRS is Materiality, and the International Boethius Society seeks papers which may speak to this theme as well as others. The materiality of Lady Philosophy’s dress, the way the Consolation of Philosophy draws attention to its materiality through the prosimetric form, Boethius’s philosophy of the value of material goods, the question of the relationship of the material universe to eternity, and his treatment of Porphyrian and Aristotelian classifications of materiality in the logical works are all just a few possible topics one may explore in the fascinating range of concepts to which the theme of materiality might speak. Papers on any topics which address the question of Boethius’s life, times, works, and influence (in philosophy, literature, theology, art, and history) are also welcome. Please send your abstracts of 250-350 words with accompanying CV to Anthony G. Cirilla, Co-editor of *Carmina Philosophiae: The Journal of the International Boethius Society*, at [acirilla@cofo.edu](mailto:acirilla@cofo.edu) by December 29th, 2025.

Also please consider becoming a member of the International Boethius Society to help support our efforts to promote Boethius scholarship: <https://boethius.blogspot.com/p/ibs-membership.html>.