

# ***Politics of Migration and Mobility in the Middle Ages***

**Sponsored by the Program in Medieval Studies at Princeton University**

55th International Congress on Medieval Studies

May 7 – 10, 2020

## Call for Papers

With the abuse of the Middle Ages, or better, uninformed images and imaginations of it for the legitimization and politicization of pernicious and racist activism, it seems all the more urgent to refine our awareness of the medieval past. In this vein, the Program in Medieval Studies will be organizing two sessions at the 55<sup>th</sup> International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo (2020) on Politics of Migration and Mobility in the Middle Ages. We invite applications to present papers in these sessions and offer a stipend of \$500 for the participants. In the two sessions, we hope to consider migration in the Middle Ages through the lens of the politics, administration, and the perception of social mobility in the period from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> century CE. We would like to invite papers that focus on these questions in more local or regional contexts, in micro-politics rather than in large migration movements. In doing so, we invite participants to explore questions such as how societies accommodated and integrated immigrants on a local and supra-local level, how they regulated horizontal mobility, how geographical migration was connected to social mobility, how social, ethnic, or gender differences were made into social boundaries, which differences mattered, and how they were maintained or transformed when people moved into a region or away from it.

We welcome examples from different sources and materials such as literature, art, architecture, religious discourses, legal concepts and procedures, social practices, and political instrumentalizations. We would also like to encourage applicants to present insights about this topic from contexts outside of medieval Europe who might examine these dynamics of inclusion and exclusion within different cultures and regions such as Byzantium, the Islamic world, Africa, or East Asia.

We invite short abstracts for *twenty-minute papers* from all fields of study related to the Middle Ages. We plan to offer travel stipends of \$500 to successful abstracts. The Princeton medieval studies community is deeply committed to inclusivity. Graduate students, contingent faculty, early-career medievalists, women, persons with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply. To be considered, please email a C.V. and abstract to Sarah Porter ([sp7@princeton.edu](mailto:sp7@princeton.edu)) and Helmut Reimitz ([hreimitz@princeton.edu](mailto:hreimitz@princeton.edu)) until September 1, 2019.