## Addressing Difficult Aspects of the Medieval

## - CALL FOR PAPERS -

## 23<sup>rd</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 | St John's College, Oxford

## **KEYNOTE:** Professor Corinne Saunders

The inaugural ADAM workshop will bring together medievalists of all disciplines to discuss the research and teaching of 'difficult' or 'taboo' topics. We welcome applications for scholars working in any field that demands sensitivity and resilience from researchers, such as (but not limited to): gender, sexual violence, mental health, disability, and race.

The workshop exists to foster connection and conversation between researchers, to raise some of the key questions of challenging research and to create a reliable network of support.

Paper sessions will be linked by group discussions, addressing topics such as: the problems of establishing new terminologies and reworking those that may be problematic; how best to deal with extant scholarship with outdated views; how to approach sensitive topics rigorously within an academic framework.

Besides these methodological aspects, we are eager to discuss pastoral issues: the potential mental toll of research on these themes; the pedagogical demands that these issues place upon tutors and supervisors; how to undertake sound scholarship when personally affected by these issues.

ADAM's aims are to provoke academic discussion, provide scholarly resources, and to establish a community that can provide support for those working on such topics. The network will provide both a platform and a safe space for uncomfortable conversations, cultivating a greater understanding of the clear and latent difficulties of this research. It is also our intention to produce an edited collection on this topic, to which the workshop speakers will be warmly invited to contribute.

We invite abstracts for 20minute papers from Early Career Researchers and postgraduates. Please send abstracts of 300 words to grace.oduffy@sjc.ox.ac.uk by 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

