



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH



**European Research Council**

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## PROGRAMME

### PAIXUE Symposium

Classicising Learning, Performance, and Power  
*Eurasian Perspectives from Antiquity to the Early Modern Period*

School of History, Classics & Archaeology  
The University of Edinburgh  
12–14 December 2019

*Venue*

Meadows Lecture Theatre  
William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4  
Old Medical School  
Teviot Place  
Edinburgh EH8 9AG



PAIXUE | ERC CoG 726371 | 2017–2022

Classicising Learning in Medieval Imperial Systems:

Cross-cultural Approaches to Byzantine *Paideia* and Tang/Song *Xue*



**THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019**

8:30 Registration and coffee  
*McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor*

9:15 Welcome and opening remarks  
Niels Gaul and Curie Virág

**1. Classicising learning and political thought**

*Chair* Curie Virág (University of Edinburgh)

9:30 Christophe Erismann (University of Vienna)  
*Educating students, burying Iconoclasm, and advising the prince: The classicising approach of Photius, patriarch of Constantinople*

10:00 Javier Cha (Seoul National University)  
*Creativity in the service of the state: autocracy without orthodoxy in the political philosophy of Sŏng Hyŏn (1439–1504)*

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Coffee

**2. Classical models of rulership and education**

*Chair* Gavin Kelly (University of Edinburgh)

11:30 Elvira Wakelnig (University of Vienna)  
*Ibn Bahr̄z's definitions and divisions*

12:00 Florian Hartmann (University of Aachen)  
*Classicising learning within the political system of the Italian communes (twelfth–thirteenth centuries)*

12:30 Discussion

13:00 Lunch

**3. The politics of classicising learning**

*Chair* Joachim Gentz (University of Edinburgh)

14:30 Elizabeth Tyler (University of York)  
*'A Theban Song': Fratricide, civil war and the politics of classicism in eleventh-century England*

15:00 Michael Fuller (University of California, Irvine)  
*The Confucian canon and the construction of cultural identity in Song dynasty China*

15:30 Luka Špoljarić (University of Zagreb)  
*Humanism and politics in Renaissance Dalmatia: Split, c.1490–c.1520*

16:00 Discussion

16:30 Tea

**4. Establishing political authority through classicising learning**

*Chair* Patricia Ebrey (University of Washington)

17:00 Julian Yolles (University of Southern Denmark)  
*Performing learned Latinity in the Levant (twelfth–thirteenth centuries)*

- 17:30 Marina Loukaki (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)  
*Politics and religion in Byzantium: Bishops and classicising learning in the provinces; Athens in the twelfth century*
- 18:00 Ming-kin Chu (University of Hong Kong)  
*Performance of learning through imperial voice: Parallel proses by Wang Zao and Sun Di in the northern–southern Song transition*
- 18:30 Discussion
- 19:00 Welcome reception  
*McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor*

## FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019

### 5. Receiving and reconstructing the ‘Classics’

*Chair* Foteini Spingou (University of Edinburgh)

- 9:00 Christopher Nugent (Williams College)  
*Thinking through categories: The Chuxue ji and literary composition*
- 9:30 Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila (University of Edinburgh)  
*Regaining the Zoroastrian past: Muslim elites and Zoroastrian wisdom*
- 10:00 Justin Stover (University of Edinburgh)  
*The Spring of Pergusa: Greek into Latin in the eleventh and twelfth centuries beyond the philosophical*
- 10:30 Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee
- 6. Examinations of classicising learning**  
*Chair* Stephen McDowall (University of Edinburgh)
- 11:30 Robert Ashmore (University of California, Berkeley)  
*Dui yang 對揚, or ‘responsive exalting’: Performative aspects of the Early Tang civil service examination*
- 12:00 Floris Bernard (University of Ghent)  
*Exploiting the talent for words: The sociological value of poetry and rhetoric in eleventh-century Byzantium*
- 12:30 Discussion
- 12:45 Lunch
- 7. Classicising education**  
*Chair* Anna Shields (Princeton University)
- 14:00 Pascale Hugon (Austrian Academy of Sciences)  
*Tibetan Buddhist scholars and the Indian heritage*
- 14:30 Alberto Rigolio (Durham University)  
*Education and paideia in early Syriac*
- 15:00 James Hankins (Harvard University)  
*Philosophy, the liberal arts, and the humanities in Renaissance Italy*
- 15:30 Discussion
- 16:00 Tea

**8. Competing with the Classics**

Chair Divna Manolova (University of York)

- 16:30 Asuka Sango (Carleton University)  
*The acts and texts of commentary: Debate (rongi) as a means of classicising learning in medieval Japanese Buddhism*
- 17:00 Michael Hope (Yonsei University)  
*The wisdom of royal glory: The oral transmission of knowledge at Mongol Quriltai ceremonies*
- 17:30 Bram Fauconnier (University of Ghent)  
*The artists around Dionysos: Performing Greek culture in the Roman empire*
- 18:00 Discussion
- 18:30 End of proceedings

**SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2019****9. The social dynamics of classicising learning**

Chair Michael Höckelmann (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg)

- 9:00 Lieve van Hoof (University of Ghent)  
*Libanius' letters: Culture as an instrument for political power*
- 9:30 Ashton Lazarus (Kyushu University)  
*Scholars and performers in Heian Japan: Addressing commoners in Fujiwara no Akihira's writings*
- 10:00 Milan Vukašinović (ANAMED, Koç University)  
*Style, identity or legal argument? Classicising learning in the writings of thirteenth-century Epirote bishops*
- 10:30 Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee

**10. Classicising learning and elite formation**

Chair Eduardo Manzano Moreno (St Andrews/CSIC Madrid)

- 11:30 Griet Vankeerberghen (McGill University)  
*The Ban family of western and eastern Han and the performance of classicising learning*
- 12:00 Takeshi Inomata (University of Arizona)  
*Elite performance and power in Classic Maya society*
- 12:30 Discussion
- 12:45 Lunch

**11. Enacting classicising learning**

Chair Lucy Grig (University of Edinburgh)

- 14:00 Elena Gittleman (Bryn Mawr College)  
*Holy actors: Christian learning and the ancient theatre in the Menologion of Basil II*
- 14:30 Stephen West (Arizona State University)  
*Classicisation and humour: Upending classicism in quotidian texts in the Song*
- 15:00 Ariel Stilerman (Stanford University)  
*Classical poetry across the spatial and social expansion of court culture in early medieval Japan*

15:30 Discussion

16:00 Tea

**12. Classicising learning in law and diplomacy**

*Chair* Niels Gaul (University of Edinburgh)

16:30 Jonathan Skaff (Shippensburg University)  
*Sui-Tang diplomatic protocol as Eurasian ritual performance*

17:00 Daphne Penna (University of Groningen)  
*Classical literature in Byzantine legal sources*

17:30 Discussion

17:45 Closing remarks  
Foteini Spingou and Michael Höckelmann

18:00 Farewell reception  
*McMillan Room, William Robertson Wing/Doorway 4, Old Medical School – first floor*