

## Session at ICMS (Kalamazoo, 7–10 May 2020)

Kalamazoo, Western Michigan University, ICMS, May 7–10, 2020

Deadline: Sep 15, 2019

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55th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo

Ovid in the Middle Ages

The Societas Ovidiana welcomes abstracts for three sessions of 20-minute papers to be held at the 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, 7–10 May 2020). We are keen to solicit submissions from art historians whose work casts light on the reception of Ovid (in particular for the first panel below). Please direct working titles and proposals of ca. 100–250 words to William Little (little.447@osu.edu) by 15 September 2019, together with a completed Participant Information Form (available at <https://wmich.edu/medievalcongress/submissions>).

### 1) Ovid's Transformations in the Middle Ages

This session aims to attract papers that deal with the knowledge and use of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* in medieval literature, thought, art, and education. While the influence of the *Metamorphoses*, especially in the later Middle Ages, is widely acknowledged, the research done on its reception is often siloed on the basis of discipline and language. This session intends to help remedy the situation by soliciting papers from classicists, Neo-Latinists, art historians, and scholars of the various vernacular literary traditions alike in order, through a diversity of perspectives, to come to a better overall understanding of the presence of the *Metamorphoses* in the Middle Ages.

### 2) Medieval Commentaries on Ovid

Commentaries on classical authors constitute a relatively neglected source for medieval literary culture owing to their protean nature and the special difficulties often involved in consulting and working with them. Recent work has, however, increasingly recognized the role that such commentaries played in the common intellectual armature of the Middle Ages. This session will seek to explore both the Latin commentaries on Ovid themselves and the ways in which those commentaries mediated medieval readers' understanding of classical literature and so influenced medieval Latin and vernacular literary productions.

### 3) Ovid and his Heirs at Court (co-sponsored with the International Courtly Literature Society, North American Branch)

This proposed session, which is co-sponsored by the International Courtly Literature Society and the Societas Ovidiana, will examine the way the Ovidian amatory discourse of the *Amores*, *Ars*

Amatoria, Heroides, and Metamorphoses, as well as poems by imitators of Ovid, influence courtly literature. Besides the influence of Ovid on courtly poetry, session papers could also consider the way that moralizing Ovid commentaries and poems, such as Pierre Bersuire's *Ovidius moralizatus* and the anonymous *Ovide moralisé*, relate to courtly literature. This session will build on the dialogue begun in the "What is Courtly Love?" session sponsored by the ICLS-NAB at the 2018 Medieval Congress, which, among other themes, discussed Ovid's influence on the ideas of Andreas Capellanus and other medieval writers on love.

Nota bene for the panel on "Ovid and his Heirs at Court": Those who are not currently members of the International Courtly Literature Society are welcome to submit to sessions sponsored by the ICLS, but are expected to become members upon acceptance. Any submission by an underfunded scholar or graduate student is eligible for the ICLS-NAB Emerging Scholar Grant, which covers the early registration fee plus \$200 for domestic travel/\$500 for overseas travel. Please note in your cover letter if you want to be considered for this grant.

Reference:

CFP: Session at ICMS (Kalamazoo, 7-10 May 20). In: ArtHist.net, Sep 9, 2019 (accessed Jan 9, 2026),  
<<https://arthist.net/archive/21507>>.