

DAAD-University of Cambridge Research Hub for German Studies
Postgraduate Workshop in Medieval German Literature
Cambridge, 16–18 July 2026

Conveners: Mark Chinca (Cambridge); Henrike Manuwald (Göttingen); Michael Stolz (Bern); Sean Curran (Cambridge); Doriane Zerka (Cambridge). **Special guest:** Nicolette Zeeman (Cambridge)

Doctoral students (including recent PhD recipients) at any university in Germany who are working in the field of medieval German literature are invited to take part in the ninth annual workshop in medieval German literature to be held in **Cambridge on 16–18 July 2026**.

The workshop brings together early career and more established researchers from the German- and English-speaking worlds in three days of discussion and exchange. Up to six places for applicants from Germany will be available. Travel, accommodation, and meals will be paid for by the DAAD-University of Cambridge Research Hub for German Studies.

Each participant will give a short (15-minute) presentation in English about their research, so as to allow plenty of time for discussion and feedback. Presentations should foreground those aspects of the research that are relevant to medieval studies at large, for example (but not necessarily only) questions of approach and method, representativeness of the particular subject matter, interdisciplinary dimensions.

Every year the workshop invites a distinguished scholar in a discipline other than German studies to take part in its discussions. Previous guests have included Sarah Kay (NYU), Brigitte Miriam Bedos-Rezak (NYU), Ardis Butterfield (Yale), Rita Copeland (Pennsylvania). We are excited to announce that in 2026 our guest will be **Nicolette Zeeman**, Professor Emerita of Medieval and Renaissance English at the University of Cambridge. Her research and publications cover Middle English literature more broadly, medieval devotional and philosophical writing, literary forms and literary theory, with particular expertise in the poem *Piers Plowman*, which is the subject of her prize-winning monograph *The Arts of Disruption. Allegory and Piers Plowman* (Oxford University Press, 2020) and *Piers Plowman and the Medieval Discourse of Desire* (Cambridge University Press, 2006). She is currently working on various projects: a monograph on philosophical relativism, prosopopoeia and dialogism; a co-edited volume and essay on late-medieval conscience; and a series of essays on the figure of paradiastole, the Gawain Poet, competition in Malory and Chaucerian comedy.

Applications should be sent to Doriane Zerka (dz269@cam.ac.uk) by **13 February 2026**. They should consist of a **one-page abstract**, in **English**, describing your research and emphasizing the aspects of it that are generalizable across the field of medieval studies, and a **curriculum vitae**, in German or English, which should contain a statement of the status of your project (e.g. whether dissertation is in progress / completed / accepted etc.) and the number of years of doctoral research you have completed to date.