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SOCIAL WORLDS OF LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES

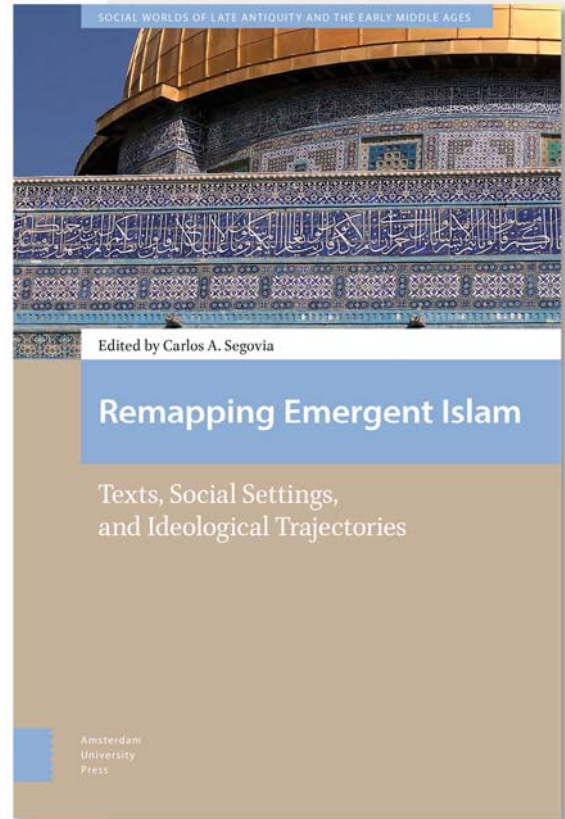
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Edited by Carlos A. Segovia

Remapping Emergent Islam

Texts, Social Settings, and Ideological Trajectories

This multidisciplinary collective volume advances the scholarly discussion on the origins of Islam. It simultaneously focuses on three domains: texts, social contexts, and ideological developments relevant for the study Islam's beginnings - taking the latter expression in its broadest possible sense. The intersections of these domains need to be examined afresh in order to obtain a clear picture of the concurrent phenomena that collectively enabled both the gradual emergence of a new religious identity and also the progressive delimitation of its initially fuzzy boundaries.



Carlos A. Segovia, PhD, is Lecturer in Qur'anic and Religious Studies at Saint Louis University-Madrid and founding Co-Director of the Early Islamic Studies Seminar: International Scholarship on the Qur'an and Islamic Origins.

Social Worlds of Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages

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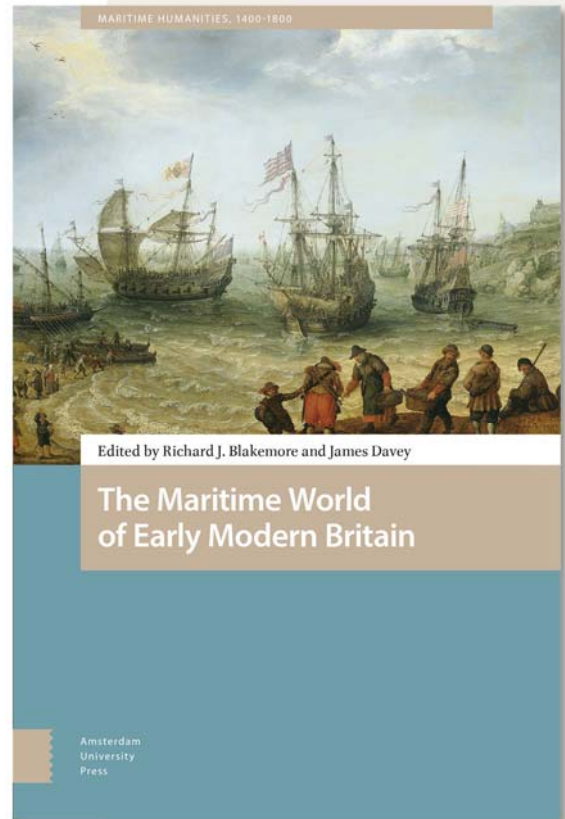
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Edited by Richard J. Blakemore and James Davey

The Maritime World of Early Modern Britain

Britain's emergence as one of Europe's major maritime powers has all too frequently been subsumed by nationalistic narratives that focus on operations and technology. This volume, by contrast, offers a daring new take on Britain's maritime past. It brings together scholars from a range of disciplines to explore the manifold ways in which the sea shaped British history, demonstrating the number of approaches that now have a stake in defining the discipline of maritime history. The chapters analyse the economic, social, and cultural contexts in which English maritime endeavour existed, as well as discussing representations of the sea. The contributors show how people from across the British Isles increasingly engaged with the maritime world, whether through their own lived experiences or through material culture. The volume also includes essays that investigate encounters between English voyagers and indigenous peoples in Africa, and the intellectual foundations of imperial ambition.



Richard Blakemore is a Lecturer in the History of the Atlantic World at the University of Reading.

James Davey is Lecturer in Naval and Maritime history at the University of Exeter.

Maritime Humanities, 1400-1800

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Edited by Sven Dupré, Anna Harris, Patricia Lulof, Julia Kursell, and Maartje Stols-Witlox

Reconstruction, Replication and Re-enactment in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Performative methods are playing an increasingly prominent role in research into historical production processes, materials, and bodily knowledge and sensory skills, and in forms of education and public engagement in classrooms and museums. This book offers, for the first time, sustained, interdisciplinary reflections on performative methods, variously known as Reconstruction, Re-enactment, Replication, Reproduction and Reworking (RRR) practices across the fields of history of science, archaeology, art history, conservation, musicology and anthropology. Each of these fields has distinct histories, approaches, tools and research questions. Researchers in the historical disciplines have used reconstructions to learn about the materials and practices of the past, while anthropologists and ethnographers have more often studied the re-enactments themselves, participating in these performances as engaged observers. In this book, an interdisciplinary group of authors bring their experiences of RRR practices within their discipline into conversation with RRR practices in other disciplines, providing a basis for interdisciplinary cross-fertilization.



Sven Dupré is Professor of History of Art, Science and Technology at Utrecht University.

Anna Harris is Assistant Professor of Technology and Society Studies at Maastricht University.

Julia Kursell is Professor of Musicology at the University of Amsterdam.

Patricia Lulof is Associate Professor of Mediterranean Archaeology at the University of Amsterdam.

Maartje Stols-Witlox is Assistant Professor Conservation and Restoration at the University of Amsterdam.

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Allie Terry-Fritsch

Somaesthetic Experience and the Viewer in Medicean Florence

Renaissance Art and Political Persuasion, 1459-1580

Viewers in the Middle Ages and Renaissance were encouraged to forge connections between their physical and affective states when they experienced works of art. They believed that their bodies served a critical function in coming to know and make sense of the world around them, and intimately engaged themselves with works of art and architecture on a daily basis. This book examines how viewers in Medicean Florence were self-consciously cultivated to enhance their sensory appreciation of works of art and creatively self-fashion through somaesthetic experience. Mobilized as a technology for the production of knowledge with and through their bodies, viewers contributed to the essential meaning of Renaissance art and, in the process, bound them to others. By investigating the framework and practice of somaesthetic viewing of works by Benozzo Gozzoli, Donatello, Benedetto Buglioni, Giorgio Vasari, and others in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century Florence, the book approaches the viewer as a powerful tool that was used by patrons to shape identity and power in the Renaissance.



Allie Terry-Fritsch is Associate Professor of Italian Renaissance Art History at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

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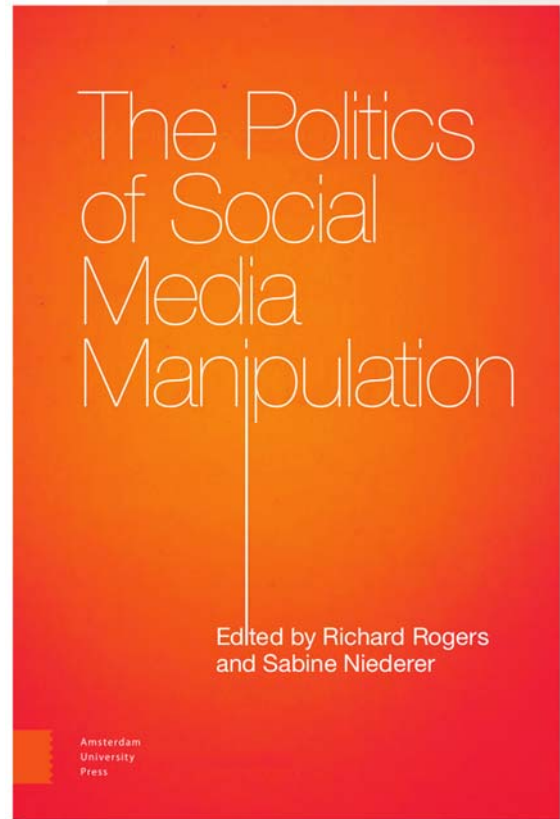
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Edited by Richard Rogers and Sabine Niederer

The Politics of Social Media Manipulation

Disinformation and so-called fake news are contemporary phenomena with rich histories. Disinformation, or the willful introduction of false information for the purposes of causing harm, recalls infamous foreign interference operations in national media systems. Outcries over fake news, or dubious stories with the trappings of news, have coincided with the introduction of new media technologies that disrupt the publication, distribution and consumption of news -- from the so-called rumour-mongering broadsheets centuries ago to the blogosphere recently. Designating a news organization as fake, or der Lügenpresse, has a darker history, associated with authoritarian regimes or populist bombast diminishing the reputation of 'elite media' and the value of inconvenient truths.

In a series of empirical studies, using digital methods and data journalism, we inquire into the extent to which social media have enabled the penetration of foreign disinformation operations, the widespread publication and spread of dubious content as well as extreme commentators with considerable followings attacking mainstream media as fake.



Richard Rogers is Professor of New Media & Digital Culture at the University of Amsterdam and Director of the Digital Methods Initiative, the group responsible for social media research tools.

Sabine Niederer is Professor of Visual Methodologies at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences.

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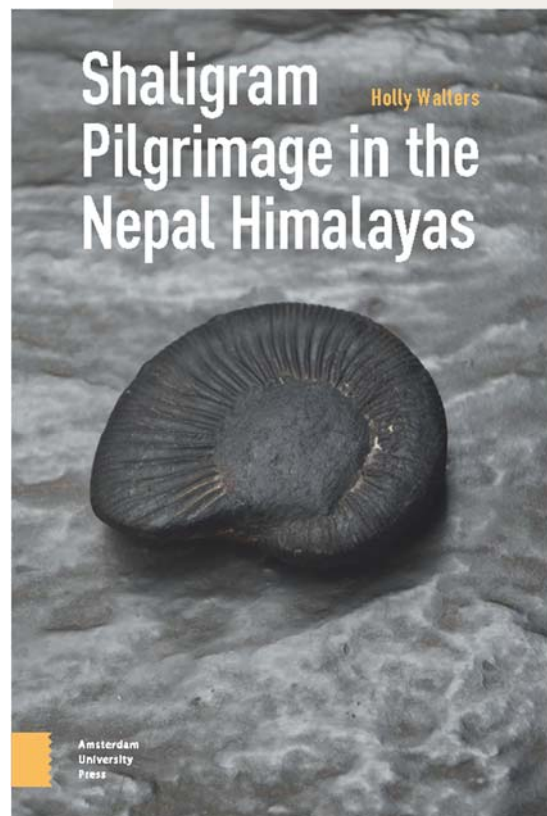
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Holly Walters

Shaligram Pilgrimage in the Nepal Himalayas

For roughly two thousand years, the veneration of sacred fossil ammonites, called Shaligrams has been an important part of Hindu and Buddhist ritual practice throughout South Asia and among the global Diaspora. Originating from a single remote region of Himalayan Nepal, called Mustang, Shaligrams are all at once fossils, divine beings, and intimate kin with families and worshippers. Through their lives, movements, and materiality, Shaligrams then reveal fascinating new dimensions of religious practice, pilgrimage, and politics. But as social, environmental, and national conflicts in the politically-contentious region of Mustang continue to escalate, the geologic, mythic, and religious movements of Shaligrams have come to act as parallels to the mobility of people through both space and time. Shaligram mobility therefore traverses through multiple social worlds, multiple religions, and multiple nations revealing Shaligram practitioners as a distinct, alternative, community struggling for a place in a world on the edge.



Dr. Holly Walters is a cultural anthropologist (Brandeis University) whose work focuses on sacred objects, ritual practices, pilgrimage, and mobility in South Asia.

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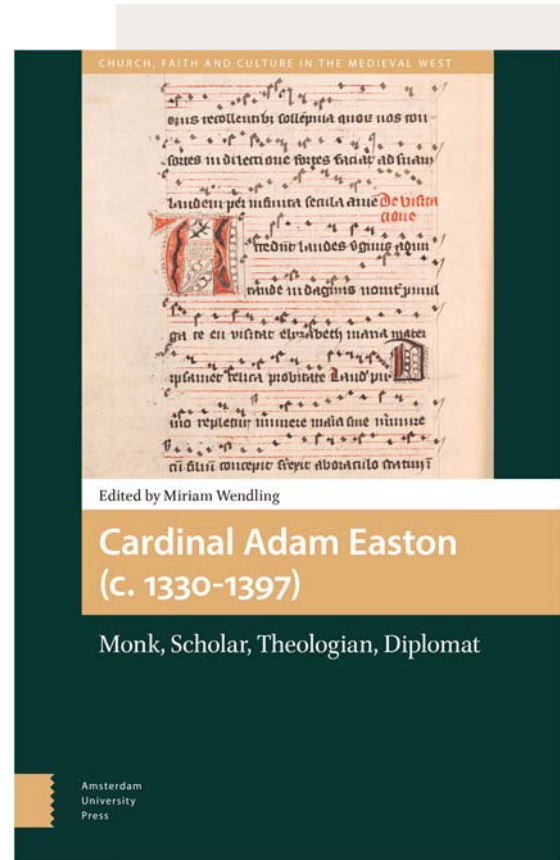
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Edited by Miriam Wendling

Cardinal Adam Easton (c. 1330-1397)

Monk, Scholar, Theologian, Diplomat

The varied career of Adam Easton (c. 1330-1397) led him from Norwich Cathedral Priory to Oxford, Avignon and Rome. Not only a monk of the Benedictine Order, he was also a scholar, theologian, diplomat and cardinal, and his work reflects the breadth of this multifaceted background. This volume presents recent research on Easton's oeuvre, his diplomacy, and the books that accompanied him on his travels. Amongst the works addressed in this volume are Easton's *Defensorium ecclesiastice potestatis*, his *Defensorium S. Birgittae* and his Office for the Feast of the Visitation. Further new evidence is also offered on his testimony during the Great Schism, on the dating of his copy of *De pauperie Salvatoris*, while two reassessments are made of his likeness, including his sepulchral monument at S. Cecilia in Rome and the Lutterwork wall painting. Finally, a catalogue of Easton's important manuscript collection is also provided.



Miriam Wendling is a research associate in the Early Music Research Group at KU Leuven.

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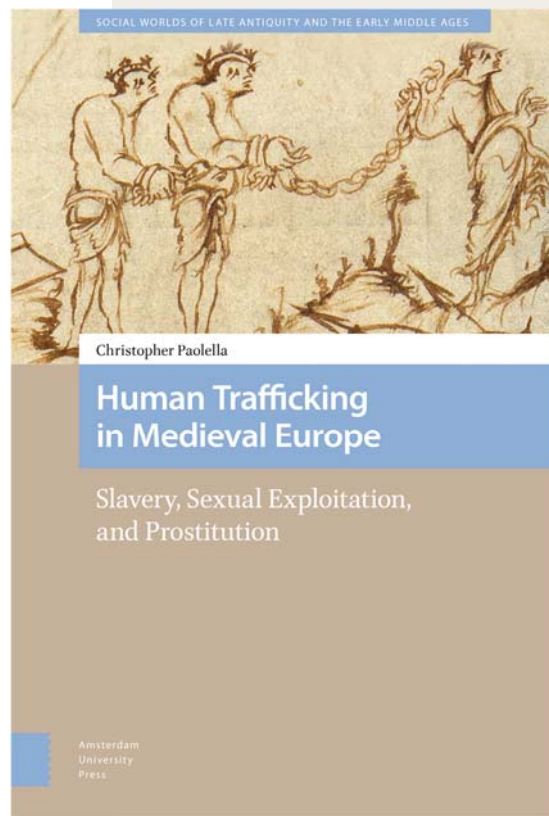
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Christopher Paoella

Human Trafficking in Medieval Europe

Slavery, Sexual Exploitation, and Prostitution

Human trafficking has become a global concern over the last 20 years, but its violence has terrorized and traumatized its victims and survivors for millennia. This study examines the deep history of human trafficking from Late Antiquity to the Early Modern Period. It traces the evolution of trafficking patterns: the growth and decline of trafficking routes, the ever-changing relationships between traffickers and authorities, and it examines the underlying causes that lead to vulnerability and thus to exploitation. As the reader will discover, the conditions that lead to human trafficking in the modern world, such as poverty, attitudes of entitlement, corruption, and violence, have a long and storied past. When we understand that past, we can better anticipate human trafficking's future, and then we are better able to fight it.



Christopher Paoella earned his Doctorate at the University of Missouri in 2019 under the direction of Dr. Lois Huneycutt. He now teaches ancient and medieval history at Valencia College in Orlando, Florida.

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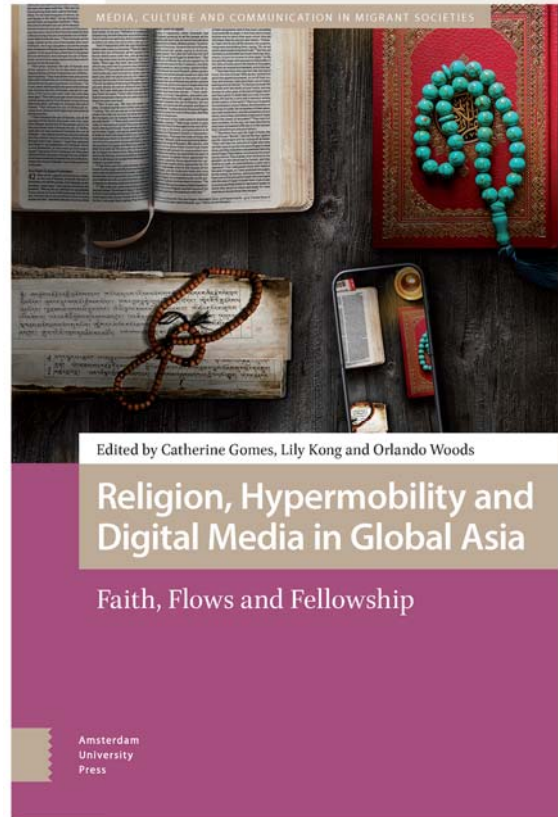
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Orlando Woods

Religion, Hypermobility and Digital Media in Global Asia

Faith, Flows and Fellowship

Digital media is changing the ways in which religion is practiced, understood, proselytised and countered. Religious institutions and leaders use digital media to engage with their congregations who now are not confined to single locations and physical structures. The faithful are part of online communities which allow them a space to worship and to find fellowship. Migrant and mobile subjects thus are able to be connected to their faith - whether home grown or emerging - wherever they may be; thus providing them with an anchor in unfamiliar physical and cultural surroundings. As Asia rises, mobilities associated with Asian populations have escalated. The notion of 'Global Asia' is a reflection of this increased mobility, where Asia includes not only Asian countries as sites of political independence, but also the transnational networks of Asian trans/migrants, and the diasporic settlements of Asian peoples all over the world. This collection features cutting edge research by scholars across disciplines seeking to understand the role and significance of religion among transnational mobile subjects in this age of digital media, and in particular, as experienced in Global Asia.



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Edited by Jaap Verheul

The Cultural Life of James Bond

Specters of 007

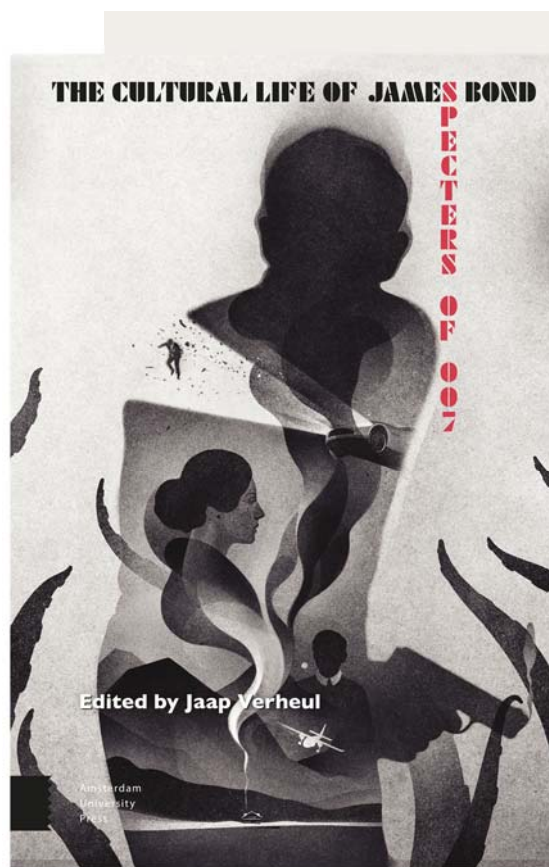
The release of *No Time To Die* in 2020 heralds the arrival of the twenty-fifth installment in the James Bond film series. Since the release of *Dr. No* in 1962, the cinematic James Bond has expedited the transformation of Ian Fleming's literary creation into an icon of western popular culture that has captivated audiences across the globe by transcending barriers of ideology, nation, empire, gender, race, ethnicity, and generation. *The Cultural Life of James Bond: Specters of 007* untangles the seemingly perpetual allure of the Bond phenomenon by looking at the non-canonical texts and contexts that encompass the cultural life of James Bond. Chronicling the evolution of the British secret agent over half a century of political, social, and cultural permutations, the fifteen chapters examine the Bond-brand beyond the film series and across media platforms while understanding these ancillary texts and contexts as sites of negotiation with the Eon franchise.

"Situating the films in a range of new contexts, this trove of essays uncovers previously ignored and even unexpected connections between Bond and such phenomena as black casting and performance, postfeminism, modernism, transnational geographies and taste cultures, and the development of film, television, video game, and music industries across the globe. This book doesn't just remind us that Bond matters. It reminds us that Bond scholarship matters."

Colin Burnett, Washington University in St. Louis, author of *The Invention of Robert Bresson: The Auteur and His Market* (2017)

"This book brings together a supremely talented group of scholars to interrogate 007 in new and innovative ways. The result is a fresh and timely re-examination of the James Bond phenomenon's complicated relationship with popular culture, global media, and transnational geopolitics. The Cultural Life of James Bond is a must-read for 007 scholars and fans alike."

Professor Christoph Lindner, University College London



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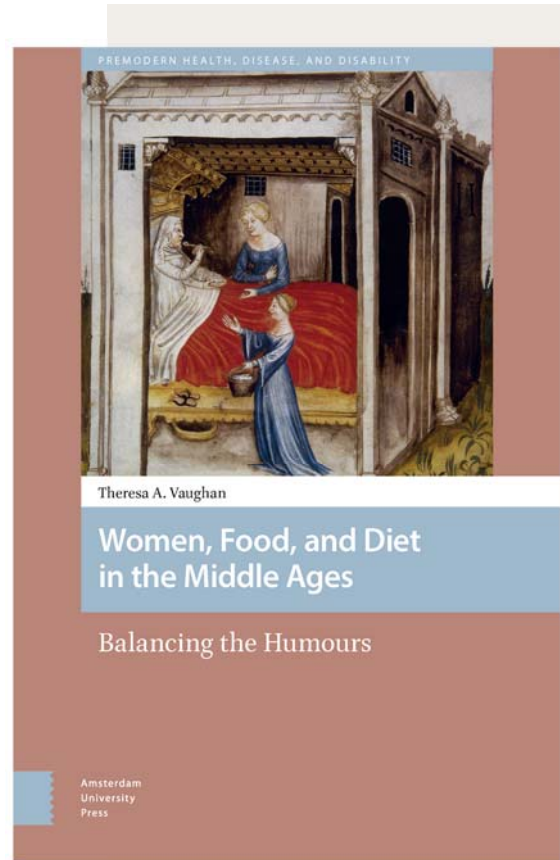
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Theresa A. Vaughan

Women, Food, and Diet in the Middle Ages

Balancing the Humours

What can anthropological and folkloristic approaches to food, gender, and medicine tell us about these topics in the Middle Ages beyond the textual evidence itself? *Women, Food, and Diet in the Middle Ages: Balancing the Humours* uses these approaches to look at the textual traditions of dietary recommendations for women's health, placed within the context of the larger cultural concerns of gender roles and Church teachings about women. Women are expected to be nurturers, healers, and the primary locus of food provisioning for families, especially when considering the lower social classes which are typically overlooked in the written record. What can we know about women, food, medicine, and diet in the Middle Ages and how does the written medical tradition interact with folk medicine and other cultural factors in both understanding women's bodies and their roles as healers and food providers.



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CHINA: FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM

A
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Yi Guo

Freedom of the Press in China

A Conceptual History, 1831-1949

Western commentators have often criticized the state of press freedom in China, arguing that individual speech still suffers from arbitrary restrictions and that its mass media remains under an authoritarian mode. Yet the history of press freedom in the Chinese context has received little examination. Unlike conventional historical accounts which narrate the institutional development of censorship and people's resistance to arbitrary repression, this book is the first comprehensive study presenting the intellectual trajectory of press freedom. It sheds light on the transcultural transference and localization of the concept in modern Chinese history, spanning from its initial introduction in 1831 to the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. By examining intellectuals' thoughts, common people's attitudes, and official opinions, along with the social-cultural factors that were involved in negotiating Chinese interpretations and practices in history, this book uncovers the dynamic and changing meanings of press freedom in modern China.



Dr. Yi Guo is an Assistant Professor in the School of Journalism and Communication at Chongqing University. He is also affiliated with the Centre for Media History at Macquarie University as an honorary member. He was formerly a journalist for the Xinhua News Agency.

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