ARCL0086 Medieval Archaeology: Select Topics and Current Problems

2023 Term 1

MA/MSc module

15 credits

Co-ordinator: Professor Andrew Reynolds

a.reynolds@ucl.ac.uk

Room 205

Office hours 1-2pm Tuesdays

1.   MODULE OVERVIEW

Module description

This module considers a number of key topics relating to the study of early medieval (Anglo-Saxon) England and its neighbours, focusing on the period AD 400–1100. The module takes a broad chronological approach addressing key themes in the development of settlement and society from the post-Roman period to the Domesday Survey of 1086, such as: changes in landscape and rural settlement; material culture and the impact of the Vikings trade and the emergence of towns; burial and religion including the conversion to Christianity and its effect on the archaeological record; warfare and social organization. Each student will be expected to prepare and deliver seminar papers on relevant subjects of their choice. Particular emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary approaches to the medieval period using place-names, documents and archaeology.

Module Aims

This module seeks to introduce students to aspects of the archaeology of early medieval Britain during the period AD 400–1100. The introductory sessions will provide a critical interdisciplinary overview of the period in question introducing the main contemporary topics and debates. Students will then examine a series of key topics in detail to provide them with an advanced knowledge of the period. Students will develop key skills in the interdisciplinary study of the past, while the period itself provides a well-defined case study of the emergence of social complexity in post-Empire societies

On successful completion of this module a student should have an overview of the development of the English landscape over a long and complex period. Students should understand the nature of documentary evidence and its role in medieval archaeology and be able to critically assess aspects of historical narrative using archaeological evidence. Students should be able to apply a wide range of source materials and techniques to approach individual topics and themes and be familiar with the principal research resources for the period.

Learning Outcomes
Learning outcomes On successful completion of the module students should be able to demonstrate/have developed the ability to identify and examine specific problems using varied evidence. Preparation and delivery of individual student presentations should ensure the application of acquired knowledge and the development of oral presentation skills, whilst participation in both staff and student led seminars will enhance critical observation and reflection.

Methods of Assessment

One formative assessment of 1000 words (33% of total mark) and one essay of 2000 words (67% of total mark)

Communications

Moodle is the main hub for this course.

Important information will be posted by staff in the Announcements section of the Moodle page and you will automatically receive an email notification for these.

Please send any general queries relating to module content, assessments and administration by email to the Course Co-ordinator.

For personal queries, please contact the Course Co-co-ordinator

Week-by-week summary

Week	Date	Topic	Lecturers
1	3 Oct	Introduction to the Study of Medieval Archaeology	AR
2	10 Oct	Early Medieval Rural Settlement	AR
3	17 Oct	Debating Urbanism: Early Medieval Towns	AR
4	24 Oct	British Museum Visit	SB
5	31 Oct	Landscapes of Governance and Social Organisation	AR
6		READING WEEK	
7	14 Nov	Archaeological Science in Early Medieval Archaeology	JB
8	21 Nov	The burial record c 420 – c 700: changing configurations of social identity, power and belief	CS
9	28 Nov	Early Medieval Warfare: Archaeology, Landscape and Text	TW
10	5 Dec	The Anglo-Saxon Church. Anglo-Saxon buildings: churches, halls, social meaning and symbolism	MS
11	12 Dec	Student presentations	Class members

Lecturers (or other contributors)

Dr Justine Bayley (JB), Dr Sue Brunning (SB), Professor Andrew Reynolds (AR), Professor Chris Scull (CS), Dr Michael Shapland (MS) and Dr Tom Williams (TW)

Weekly Module Plan

The module is taught through presentations with in-class discussions. Students will be required to undertake set readings to be able to actively participate in discussion each week and to prepare a Powerpoint presentation for individual student presentations in Week 11. Classes will take place on **Thursdays 4-6pm in Room B13** in the basement of the Institute of Archaeology, **with the exception of the British Museum visit in Week 4** (24 Oct), where we will assemble by the early medieval Ogam stone to be found on the east side of the Museum's Great Court at 4pm.

Workload

This is a 15-credit module which equates to 150 hours of learning time including session preparation, background reading, and researching and writing your assignments. With that in mind you should expect to organise your time in roughly this way:

20 hours	*Staff-led teaching sessions (lectures and seminars)*
70 hours	*Self-guided session preparation (reading, listening, note-taking and online activities), about 6 hours a week*

15 hours	Reading for, and writing, formative essay
5 hours	Preparation of Week 11 individual student presentation
40 hours	Reading for, and writing, the standard essay

2.   ASSESSMENT

Each assignment and possible approaches to it will be discussed in class, in advance of the submission deadline. If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should discuss this with the module co-ordinator in advance (via office hours or class Moodle forum). You will receive feedback on your written coursework via Moodle, and have the opportunity to discuss your marks and feedback with the co-ordinator in their office hours.

<mark>PLEASE NOTE:</mark> **The use of software to generate content is <u>not allowed for either assessment</u> for this course and will be penalised; the use of software for language and writing review and improvement is permitted, and the software and the way it has been used must be indicated in the relevant boxes on the coursework coversheet. UCL defines language and writing review as checking "areas of academic writing such as structure, fluency, presentation, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and language translation**

For more details see the 'Assessment' section on Moodle. The coursework coversheet is available on the course Moodle pages and here: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students under "Policies, Forms and Guidelines".

Please make sure you enter your five-digit candidate code on the coversheet and in the subject line when you upload your work in Moodle.

Please use your five-digit candidate code as the name of the file you submit.

The IoA marking criteria can be found in the IoA Student Handbook (Section 13: Information on assessment). The IoA Study Skills Guide provides useful guidance on writing different types of assignment.

Please note that **late submission, exceeding the maximum word count** and **academic mis-conduct (unacknowledged use of text generation software** and **plagiarism)** will be penalized and can significantly reduce the mark awarded for the assignment and/or overall module result. Please do consult
- https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students/ioa-student-handbook/13-information-assessment with sections 13.7–13.8: coursework submission, 13.10: word count, 13.12–14: academic integrity
- https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/exams-and-assessments/academic-integrity   for   UCL's guidance on academic integrity
- https://library-guides.ucl.ac.uk/referencing-plagiarism/acknowledging-AI for UCL's guidance on how to acknowledge the use of text generation software.

Assessment 1 (Formative Essay 1) DEADLINE 26 Nov 2023

The first assessment for this course comprises a 1000-word book review of a volume to be identified, ideally by the student, and agreed with the course co-ordinator. The topic of the volume to be reviewed can be on any subject within the field of medieval archaeology. It can be either a single author work, or a multi-author collection of essays, or an excavation report. The art of writing a good book review is not simply to criticise the work and identify a

list of minor errors of punctuation and style, but instead to summarize the nature of the work, its key findings, its intellectual thrust and its contribution to wider debates in crisp prose. An excellent book review provides additions to the content and conclusions of the reviewed work in a constructive way. Whilst many book reviews do not include bibliographic citations to other works, good ones often do, perhaps to three or four works to which volume under review specifically relates. Please discuss your thoughts on an appropriate volume for you to review for your assessment with the course -co-ordinator at your earliest opportunity, bearing in mind that you ought to select an item published in 2022 or 2023. For starters, take a look at the many reviews published annually in the *Antiquaries Journal* [INST ARCH PERS; available online], to give you a sense of the range and nature of book reviews.

Assessment 2 (Standard essay) DEADLINE 21 Jan 2024
The second assessment for this course comprises a 2000 word essay on a topic to be agreed between the student and the course co-ordinator. If you are new to medieval archaeology, then this may be a more general topic, or if you have a background in the subject then your essay might drill down on a more specific theme. Your mark will not be affected by choosing either route. You are encouraged to enter into interdisciplinary enquiry, as long as archaeological evidence remains central to your piece. You are strongly encouraged to use illustrations. Please make sure that you discuss the topic of your essay with the course at your earliest convenience.

3. RESOURCES AND PREPARATION FOR CLASS

Preparation for class

You are expected to read the **Essential Readings** each week. Completing the readings is essential for your effective participation in discussions and it will greatly enhance your understanding of the material covered. **Further readings are provided via the Online Reading List** for you to get a sense of the range of current work on a given topic and for you to draw upon for your assessments. The online reading list is accessible here: *Add in LINK*

Recommended basic texts and online resources
Blair, J. 2018 Building Anglo-Saxon England. Princeton: Princeton University Press [INST ARCH DAA 190 Qto BLA; available online]

Carver, M. 2019 *Formative Britain*. London: Routledge [INST ARCH DAA 180 CAR; available online]

A. Reynolds, 1999 *Later Anglo-Saxon England: Life & Landscape* (1999) [DAA 180 REY]

3.   SYLLABUS

The following is an outline for the module as a whole, and identifies essential and supplementary readings relevant to each session.

1. Introduction to the Study of Medieval Archaeology (Andrew Reynolds)
This session outlines the structure and organisation of the module and the nature of the written work required for its successful completion. You might find it useful to gain an

insight into the development of medieval archaeology as a discipline by reference to the following publications, each of which provides a broad reflection on the priorities of the subject at the time they were published.

The session then moves on to explores the relationship between written sources and archaeological evidence through a series of case studies. Written sources to be considered include Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, *Beowulf* and Anglo-Saxon charters. Medieval archaeology has been criticised for its over-reliance on written sources to provide an explanatory framework for the period and the session also examines the tensions between historians and archaeologists.

Essential readings for the development of medieval archaeology
Carver, M. 2019 *Formative Britain*. London: Routledge [INST ARCH DAA 180 CAR; available online] - especially the introductory chapters
C. Gerrard 2003 *Medieval Archaeology: Understanding Traditions and Contemporary Approaches*. London: Routledge [INST ARCH DAA 190 GER]
R. Gilchrist and A. Reynolds (eds) 2009 *Reflections: 50 Years of Medieval Archaeology, 1957-2007*. London: Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph 30 (wide selection of Europe-wide overviews) [INST ARCH DA 190 GIL]

Further reading
D. Austin and L. Alcock (eds) 1990 *From the Baltic to the Black Sea: Studies in Medieval Archaeology*. London: Routledge (esp. Ch. 1 by D. Austin) [INST ARCH DA 190 AUS]
D. Hinton (ed.), 1983 *25 Years of Medieval Archaeology*. Sheffield: University of Sheffield [INST ARCH DAA 190 HIN]
D. Hinton 1987 'Archaeology and the Middle Ages. Recommendations by the Society for Medieval Archaeology to the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England', *Medieval Archaeology* 31, 1-12 [INST ARCH PERS]

Essential reading relating to the relationships between archaeology and text
J. Moreland 2001 *Archaeology and Text*. London: Duckworth. [INST ARCH AH MOR]

Texts
M. Alexander 1981 *Beowulf: a verse translation.* [MAIN LITERATURE F 21:40 BEO]
S. Bradley 1995 *Anglo-Saxon Poetry*. London: J.M. Dent. [INST ARCH DAA 180 BRA; MAIN ENGLISH D20 BRA]
B. Colgrave and R. Mynors (eds) 1969 *Bede's Ecclesiatical History of the English People*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.[MAIN HISTORY 27 h BED]
D. Douglas and G. Greenaway (eds) 1981 *English Historical Documents Volume 2, 1042-1189*. Oxford: Eyre Methuen. [MAIN HISTORY 5 a ENG 2]
M. Godden and M. Lapidge (eds) 1991 *The Cambridge Companion to Old English Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [MAIN ENGLISH D 5 GOD]
P. Sawyer 1968 *Anglo-Saxon Charters: An Annotated List and Bibliography*. London: Royal Historical Society. [INST ARCH DAA 180 SAW]
M. Swanton (ed.) 2000 *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles*. London: J.M. Dent. [HISTORY 6 d SAW]
D. Whitelock 1979 *English Historical Documents Volume 1, c.500-1042*. Oxford: Eyre Methuen.[INST ARCH DAA 180 SAW; MAIN ENGLISH D 140 SAW]

Case studies

R. Cramp 'Beowulf and Archaeology', *Medieval Archaeology* 1, 57-78 [INST ARCH PERS]
E. Leeds 1936 *Early Anglo-Saxon Art and Archaeology*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. (esp. Chapters 1 and 2) [INST ARCH DAA 180 LEE]
A. Reynolds 'Burials, boundaries and charters in Anglo-Saxon England: A Reassessment', in S. Lucy and A. Reynolds (eds), *Burial in Early Medieval England and Wales*. London: Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph 17, 171-94. [INST ARCH DAA 180 LUC]-

Do follow up any references or topics you think might be of value to the seminar – you will be expected to contribute fully at each meeting.

2. Early Medieval Rural Settlement (Andrew Reynolds)
This session examines the archaeological evidence for the development of rural settlement in England between the 5th to the 11th centuries. The range of building types and traditions is examined, along with settlement morphology and settlement patterns. This session also considers the emergence of the landscape of the Domesday Survey and the pattern of settlement that determines the modern landscape. Particular issues for discussion include the origins of territorial units (estates, hundreds etc) and of the manor, and whether the process of settlement during this period is best understood using simple or complex models.

Essential reading
H. Hamerow 2012 *Rural Settlements and Society in Anglo-Saxon England*. Oxford: OUP (available online)[INST ARCH DAA 180 HAM]
A. Reynolds, 1999 *Later Anglo-Saxon England: Life & Landscape* (1999) [DAA 180 REY]

Some Key Studies and Sites for the 5th to 9th centuries
M. Bell 1977 'Excavations at Bishopstone in Sussex: the Anglo-Saxon period', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 115, 193-241 [INST ARCH PERS]
J. Blair, *Building Anglo-Saxon England* (2018), Chapter 4 [INST ARCH DAA 190 Qto BLA; available online]
R. Chambers and E. McAdam 2007 *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire, 1983-5. Volume 2: the Romano-British Cemetery and Anglo-Saxon Settlement*. Oxford: Oxford Archaeology [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto CHA]
R. Cowie and L. Blackmore 2008, *Early and Middle Saxon Rural Settlement in the London Region*. London: MoLAS [INST ARCH DAA 416 Qto COW]
P. Crabtree 2012 *Middle Saxon Animal Husbandry in East Anglia*. East Anglian Archaeology Report 143. Especially Chapters 2, 4 and 6 [INST ARCH DAA Qto Series EAA 143; available online]
P. Fowler 2002 *Farming in the First Millennium AD: British Agriculture between Julius Caesar and William the Conqueror.* Cambridge: CUP [INST ARCH DAA 100 FOW]
H. Hamerow 1993 *Excavations at Mucking, Vol. 2: The Anglo-Saxon Settlement.* London: English Heritage [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto CLA]
H. Hamerow 2006 '"Special deposits" in Anglo-Saxon settlements', *Medieval Archaeology* 50, 1-30 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]
S. James, A. Marshall and M. Millett 1984 'An early medieval building tradition', *Archaeological Journal*, 141, 182-215 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]
S. Losco-Bradley and G. Kinsley 2002 *Catholme: an Anglo-Saxon Settlement on the Trent Gravels in Staffordshire*. Nottingham: Nottingham University [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto LOS]

S. Lucy, J. Tipper and A. Dickens 2009 *The Anglo-Saxon Settlement and Cemetery at Bloodmoor Hill, Carlton Colville, Suffolk.* East Anglian Archaeology Report 131 [INST ARCH DAA Qto Series EAA 131; available online]

M. Millett and S. James 1983 'Excavations at Cowdery's Down, Basingstoke, Hampshire 1978–81', *Archaeological Journal* 140, 151-279 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]

F. Minter, J. Plouviez and C Scull 2014 'Rendlesham rediscovered', British Archaeology 137, 50-5 [available online]INST ARCH PERS

J. Morris and B. Jervis 2011 'What's so special? A reinterpretation of Anglo-Saxon "special deposits"', *Medieval Archaeology* 55, 66-81 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]

Powlesland, D. 1997 'Early Anglo-Saxon settlements, structures, form and layout' in J. Hines (ed) *The Anglo-Saxons from the Migration period to the Eighth Century: an Ethnographic Perspective*, 101-124. Woodbridge: Boydell [INST ARCH DAA 180 HIN; ISSUE DESK IOA HIN 4]

A. Reynolds 2003 'Boundaries and settlements in later sixth to eleventh century England', *Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology and History* 12, 98-136 [INST ARCH DAA 180 ANG]

G. Thomas 2013 'Life before the minster: the social dynamics of monastic foundation at Lyminge, Kent', *Antiquaries Journal* 93, 109-146 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]

J. Tipper 2004 *The Grubenhaus in Anglo-Saxon England.* Yedingham: Landscape Research Centre [INST ARCH DAA 180 Qto TIP]

S. West 1985 *West Stow: The Anglo-Saxon Village.* East Anglian Archaeology Report 24 [INST ARCH DAA Qto Series EAA 24; available online]

B. Hope-Taylor 1977 *Yeavering: An Anglo-British Centre of Early Northumbria*. London: HMSO [INST ARCH DAA 410 N. 7 HOP]

Essential reading for 9th-11th century settlements and landscapes

G. Beresford 1987 *Goltho: The Development of an Early Medieval Manor c.850-1150* [ISSUE DESK IOA BER 1; INST ARCH DAA 410 L.6 BER]

D. Hooke 1998 The Landscape of Anglo-Saxon England. (Chapter 3) INST ARCH DAA 180 HOO

Blair, J. 2018 Building Anglo-Saxon England. Princeton: Princeton University Press [INST ARCH DAA 190 Qto BLA; available online]

A. Reynolds 1999 *Later Anglo-Saxon England: Life & Landscape* (chapter 4, 111-157) [ISSUE DESK IOA DAA 180 REY; INST ARCH DAA 180 REY]

G. Thomas 2010 *The later Anglo-Saxon settlement at Bishopstone: a downland manor in the making [*INST ARCH DAA Qto Series COU 163; available online]

Recommended reading for 9th-11th century settlements and landscapes

J. Blair 1993 'Hall and chamber: English domestic planning 1000-1250', in G. Meirion-Jones & M. Jones, *Manorial Domestic Buildings in England and Northern France* [INST ARCH DAA 300 MEI]

J. Blair 1996 'Palaces or Minsters? Northampton and Cheddar reconsidered', *Anglo-Saxon England* 25, 97-121 [INST ARCH PERS]

B.K. Davison 1977 'Excavations at Sulgrave, Northamptonshire, 1960-76', *Archaeological Journal* 134, 105-14 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]

D. Hooke 1988 *Anglo-Saxon Settlements* (esp. Introduction, 1-8) [ISSUE DESK IOA HOO 1]

C. Lewis, P. Mitchell-Fox and C. Dyer 1997 *Village, hamlet and field* [INST ARCH DAA 190 LEW]

C. Loveluck 1998 'A high-status Anglo-Saxon settlement at Flixborough, Lincolnshire', *Antiquity* 72, 146-61 [INST ARCH PERS; available online]

P.A. Rahtz 1976 *The Saxon and Medieval palaces at Cheddar* [INST ARCH DAA QTO SERIES BRI 65]

A. Reynolds 2002 Boundaries and settlements in later 6th to 11th century England, *Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology and History* 12, 97-136 [INST ARCH DAA 180 ANG]

A. Williams 1986 "A bell-house and burhgeat": lordly residence in England before the Norman Conquest, in C. Harper-Bill & R. Harvey, *The Ideals and Practice of Medieval Knighthood*, 221-40 [HISTORY 82 cu IDE]

B. Yorke 1995 *Wessex in the Early Middle Ages* (esp. 243-55) [INST ARCH DAA 180 YOR; ISSUE DESK IOA YOR]

3. Debating Urbanism: Early Medieval Towns (Andrew Reynolds)

This session considers how and why different forms of settlement can inform archaeologists about social change and development. We will also discuss the relationship and tensions between archaeology and other social sciences in their different approaches to the study of past and present human behaviour. To prepare for this seminar you are expected to research one or two case studies of urban archaeological sites to discuss the types of archaeological evidence found at different places and how the available archaeological evidence might correspond or clash with historical evidence relating to the same settlement. A key question that we will consider is when the fully blown urban phenomenon became a feature of settlement in early medieval Britain.

Essential reading

Childe, V. G., 1950. The Urban Revolution. *The Town Planning Review* 21, 3-19 [available online]

Christophersen, A., 2015. Performing towns. Steps towards an understanding of medieval urban communities as social practice. *Archaeological Dialogues* 22, 109-132 (online reading)

Historic England, 2010. *A Thematic Research Strategy for the urban historic environment*. https://content.historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/research/draft-urban-strategy.pdf

Reynolds, A., 2019. Spatial Configurations of Power in Anglo-Saxon England: Sidelights on the Relationships between Boroughs, Royal Vills and Hundreds. In *Power and Place in Europe in the First Millennium AD*, Carroll, J., Reynolds, A. and Yorke, B. (eds) Power and Place in Early Medieval Europe. London: Proceedings of the British Academy 224 [online reading]

Further reading

Anderton, M. (ed), 1999. *Anglo-Saxon Trading Centres: Beyond the Emporia*. Glasgow: Cruithne Press [INST ARCH DAA 180 AND]

Astill, G. 2009, Medieval Towns and Urbanization. In *Reflections: 50 Years of Medieval Archaeology, 1957–2007*, R. Gilchrist and A. Reynolds (eds), 255–270. Leeds: Maney Publishing [INST ARCH DA 190 GIL]

Blair, J., 2018. *Building Anglo-Saxon England*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 164-178, chapter 7, 337-353, chapter 11 [AVAILABLE ONLINE]

Christophersen, H., 2015. *Performing Towns. Steps towards an understanding of medieval urban communities as social practice*. Archaeological Dialogues 2, 109-132 [AVAILABLE ONLINE]

Clarke, H. and Ambrosiani, B., 1991. *Towns in the Viking Age*. Leicester: Leicester University Press [INST ARCH DA 181 CLA]

Hill, D. and Cowie, R., 2001. *Wics: the early medieval trading centres of northern Europe*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press. [INST ARCH DA Qto HIL]

Hill, D. and Rumble, A. R. (eds), 1996. *The defense of Wessex: the Burghal Hidage and Anglo-Saxon fortifications*. New York: Manchester University Press [INST ARCH DAA 180 HIL]

Hodges, R., 2010. *Adriatic Sea trade in a European perspective*. Scottish Archaeological Journal 32, 95-119 [AVAILABLE ONLINE]

Pirenne, H., 1925. *Medieval cities: their origins and the revival of trade*. Trans. F. Halsey (1969). Princeton: Princeton University Press [STORE 15-0706/126]

Case studies

Brink, S. and Price, N. (eds), 2008. *The Viking World*. London: Routledge chapters on Ribe, Kaupang, Hedeby and Birka [INST ARCH DA 181 BRI and AVAILABLE ONLINE]

Cowie, R., L. Blackmore, A. Davis, J. Keily, and K. Rielly. 2012. *Lundenwic: Excavations in Middle Saxon London, 1987–2000*. MOLA Monogr. 63. London: Museum of London Archaeology [INST ARCH DAA 416 Qto COW]

Düring, B. S., 2007. Reconsidering the Catalhöyük Community: From Households to Settlement Systems. *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 20, 155-182 (online reading)

Orton, C., Reynolds, A. and Hather, J., 1998. Medieval Novgorod: epitome of early urban life in northern Europe. *Archaeology International* 2, 31-38 (online reading)

Reynolds, A. 2022 'London in the Age of Cnut: an archaeological perspective', in R. North, E. Goeres and A. Finlay (eds), *Anglo-Danish Empire: A Companion to the Reign of King Cnut the Great.* Minnesota: Medieval Institute Publications, 21-64

Vince, A. 1990. Saxon London: An Archaeological Investigation. London: Seaby [INST ARCH DAA 416 VIN and ISSUE DESK IOA VIN]

4. Study visit to the British Museum (Sue Brunning)

Sue Brunning is Curator of European Early Medieval and Sutton Hoo Collections at the British Museum and she will lead a hands-on session focussing on objects indicative of international connections across the early medieval world behind-the-scenes at the museum. Beforehand, you should familiarise yourself with the British Museum's early medieval material (including the Sutton Hoo finds) on public display in Room 41.

5. Landscapes of Governance and Social Organisation (Andrew Reynolds)

This session considers how an interdisciplinary approach can be taken to reconstructing governance and authority in the Anglo-Saxon Landscape. Themes covered include law, justice and civil defence.

Essential

A. Reynolds 1999 *Later Anglo-Saxon England: Life & Landscape* (chapter 3, 65-110) [ISSUE DESK IOA DAA 180 REY; INST ARCH DAA 180 REY]

Case studies

J. Baker and S. Brookes 2013 *Beyond the Burghal Hidage: Anglo-Saxon Civil Defence in the Viking Age*. INST ARCH DAA 180 BAK

S. Driscoll and M. Nieke (eds) 1988 *Power and Politics in Early Medieval Britain and Ireland* (good topical case studies). INST ARCH DAA 180 DRI; CELTIC A 45 DRI

D. Hill and A. Rumble (eds) 1996 *The Defence of Wessex: The Burghal Hidage and Anglo-Saxon Fortifications*. INST ARCH DAA 180 HIL

A. Reynolds 2009 *Anglo-Saxon Deviant Burial Customs* (esp. chapters 4, 5 and 6)(available online). INST ARCH DAA 180 REY

A. Reynolds and S. Brookes 2013 'Anglo-Saxon Civil Defence in the Localities: A Case-Study of the Avebury Region', in A. Reynolds and L. Webster (eds), *Early Medieval Art and Archaeology in the Northern World: Studies in Honour of James Graham-Campbell*, 561-606 INST ARCH DA 180 REY
S. Semple and A. Pantos (eds) 2004 *Assembly Places and Practices in Early Medieval Europe* (good comparative case-studies). INST ARCH DA 180 PAN
S. Semple, A. Sanmark, F. Iversen and N. Mehler 2020 *Negotiating the North: meeting-places in the Middle Ages in the North Sea Zone*. Abingdon: Taylor and Francis [Online reading]

7. Archaeological science and medieval archaeology (Justine Bayley)

8. The burial record c 420 – c 700: changing configurations of social identity, power and belief (Chris Scull)

The distinctive funerary practices of lowland ("Anglo-Saxon") England in the 5th to 7th centuries are an important source for our understanding of individual and group identities, and for broader structures of communmity, social organisation, the articulation of power, and the expression of belief. They also provide an important insight into the material world, and provide the basis for a fine material culture chronology.
          Cremation was widely practiced in eastern England in the 5th century while inhumation, the main practice in England south of the Thames, became the predominant – though not exclusive – practice in all areas by the beginning of the 6th century. Artefacts and other offerings linked to their social roles and identities were deposited with the dead in both cremations and inhumations. Changes in burial practice during the later 6th and 7th centuries, attributed to a range of causes including conversion to Christianity and cultural alignment with the Merovingian Continent, culminated in the abandonment of formal furnished inhumation by *c* 680. The so-called 'princely' burials of the late 6th and earlier 7th centuries point to the emergence of a new social and political elite linked to the earliest regional kingdoms.
          In this session we review the archaeological evidence over the 5th to 7th centuries, considering the underlying social meanings expressed through mortuary practice, how they changed over time, and what this means for our understanding of these societies.

Essential Reading
Carver, M 2017. *The Sutton Hoo Story. Encounters with Early England,* Woodbridge: Boydell [Online reading]
Halsall, G 1995. *Early Medieval Cemeteries: an Introduction to Burial Archaeology in the Post-Roman West*, Glasgow: Cruithne Press [DA 180 HAL]
Hirst, S and Scull, C 2019. *The Anglo-Saxon Princely Burial at Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea*, London: MoLA and Southend Museums [INST ARCH DAA 410 E.7 HIR]
Lucy, S 2000. *The Anglo-Saxon Way of Death*, Stroud: Sutton [DAA 180 LUC]
Sayer, D 2020. *Early Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries. Kinship, Community and Identity*, Manchester: Manchester University Press [online reading]
Scull, C 2015. 'Chronology, burial and conversion: the case of England in the 7th century', In C Ruhmann and V Brieske (eds), *Dying Gods—Religious Beliefs in Northern and Eastern Europe in the Time of Christianisation*, 73– 83. Hanover: Neue Studien zur Sachsenforschung 5 [https://cardiff.academia.edu/ChristopherScull]
Williams, H 2006. *Death and Memory in Early Medieval Britain*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press [INST ARCH DAA 180 WIL]

Williams, H 2011. 'Mortuary practices in Early Anglo-Saxon England', in H Hamerow, D Hinton and S Crawford, *The Oxford Handbook of Anglo-Saxon Archaeology*, 238–65, Oxford: Oxford University Press [INST ARCH DAA 180 HAM]

Some Key Studies

Brownlee, E 2022.'Bed burials in early medieval Europe', *Medieval Archaeology* 66/1, 1– 29 [online reading]

Geake, H 1997. *The Use of Grave-Goods in Conversion-Period England, c.600–c.850*, Oxford: BAR Brit. Ser. 261 [DAA Quarto Series BRI 261]

Härke, H 1997. 'Early Anglo-Saxon social structure', in J Hines (ed), *The Anglo-Saxons from the Migration Period to the Eighth Century: an Ethnographic Perspective*, 125–70, Woodbridge: Boydell [INST ARCH DAA 180 HIN]

Härke, H 1992. *Angelsächsische Waffengräber des 5. bis 7. Jahrhunderts*, Cologne: Rheinland-Verlag [DAA 180 Quarto HAR]

Hamerow, H 2016. 'Furnished female burial in seventh-century England: gender and sacral authority in the Conversion Period', *Early Medieval Europe* 24/4, 423–47

Hills, C and Lucy, S 2013. *Spong Hill. Part IX: Chronology and Synthesis*, Cambridge: McDonald Institute [online reading]

Hines, J and Bayliss, A (eds) 2013. *Anglo-Saxon Graves and Grave Goods of the 6th and 7th centuries AD: a Chronological Framework*, London: Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph 33 [INST ARCH DAA 180 Qto BAY; online reading]

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Sherlock, S 2012. *A Royal Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Street House, Loftus, North Yorkshire*, Tees Archaeology Monograph 6 [online reading]

9. Early Medieval Warfare: Archaeology, Landscape and Text (Tom Williams)
The historical record of early medieval Britain is dominated by warfare. Key written sources – the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, the *Historia Brittonum* – emphasize armed conflict as the major engine of political change. And yet the warfare of the period is practically invisible from an archaeological perspective. This session will consider the reasons for this, and explore what approaches the archaeologist can take to a largely intangible subject.

The study of early medieval conflict landscapes has largely been driven by the traditional research agendas of military historians and battlefield archaeologists who have sought to precisely locate battlefields and reconstruct narratives of engagement, an outgrowth of a wider tendency to describe all 'western' warfare in materialist and utilitarian terms. That framing has typically overlooked the abundant evidence for the deep interpenetration of magico-religious and military spheres of action in the early medieval period (Neil Price's work stands apart as a paradigm-shifting exception in the field of Viking Studies). As a result, conflict landscapes have generally been neglected as a source for understanding the symbolic and ritualized dimensions of warfare and the world-view of its practitioners within what were undoubtedly deeply militarized societies.

We will address the tension between functionalist approaches to military history, the potential of battlefield archaeology to uncover new evidence and the influence of anthropology and phenomenology on the study of conflict landscapes. Evidence consists of place-names, historical accounts, wider consideration of the historic environment and the circumstantial evidence for conflict, including military equipment, mass graves and weapon trauma.

Essential reading:
G. Halsall, *Warfare and Society in the Barbarian West, 450-900* (2003), esp. pp. 134 - 162 and 177 – 214. HISTORY 41 FA HALR
R. Lavelle, *Alfred's Wars: Sources and Interpretations of Anglo-Saxon Warfare in the Viking Age* (2011), esp. 264 – 314. INST ARCH DAA 180 LAV
A. Reynolds, 'Archaeological Correlates for Anglo-Saxon Military Activity in Comparative Perspective', in J. Baker, S. Brookes and A. Reynolds (eds), *Landscapes of Defence in Early Medieval Europe* (2013), pp. 1-38 INST ARCH DA 180 BAK
M. Strickland, ''Undying Glory by the Sword's Edge': Writing and Remembering Battle in Anglo-Saxon England' in Rory Naismith, Máire Ní Mhaonaigh and Elizabeth Ashman Rowe (eds.), *Writing Battles New Perspectives on Warfare and Memory in Medieval Europe* (Bloomsbury, 2020) [online reading]
T. J. T. Williams 2015 'Landscape and Warfare in Anglo-Saxon England and the Viking Campaign of 1006', *Early Medieval Europe* 23.3 (2015) [online reading]

Writing Warfare
R. Bartlett, 'Battle Names in the Middle Ages' in Rory Naismith, Máire Ní Mhaonaigh and Elizabeth Ashman Rowe (eds.), *Writing Battles New Perspectives on Warfare and Memory in Medieval Europe* (Bloomsbury 2020) [online reading]
R. Lavelle, *Places of Contested Power: Conflict and Rebellion in England and France, 830-1150* (Boydell, 2020) [online reading]
P. Morgan, 'The Naming of Medieval Battlefields' in D. Dunn (ed.), *War and Society in Medieval and Early Modern Britain* (2000)*, pp. 34-52 [HISTORY 36 A DUN]

Ritual Warfare

A. Andrén, 'A World of Stone: Warrior Culture, Hybridity, and Old Norse Cosmology', in A. Andrén, K. Jennbert and C. Raudvere (eds), *Old Norse Religion in Long-term Perspectives* (2006), 33-8 [INST ARCH DAM 100 Qto AND]

N. Price, *The Viking Way* (Oxbow Books, 2019 [2nd edition]) [online reading]

S. Semple, 2013 *Perceptions of the Prehistoric in Anglo-Saxon England: Religion, Ritual, and Rulership in the Landscape,* 74-99 [INST ARCH DAA 180 SEM]

Archaeology of warfare and mass violence:

G. Foard and R. Morris, 2012 *The Archaeology of English Battlefields: Conflict in the Pre-Industrial Landscape*, CBA Research Report 168 (esp. 45-51) [INST ARCH DAA Qto Series COU 168; online reading]

L. Loe, A. Boyle, H. Webb and D. Score 2014 *'Given to the Ground': A Viking Age Mass Grave on Ridgeway Hill, Weymouth* [INST ARCH DAA 180 LAV]

D. J. P. Mason, *The Heronbridge Research Project: Third Interim Report on Archaeological Investigations at Heronbridge, Chester, Cheshire. Excavations and Survey 2004* (Chester Archaeological Society, 2004) - see also C. Tolley, 'Æthelfrith and the Battle of Chester', *Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society* 88 (2016), pp. 51–96 [INST ARCH PERS]

V. Fiorato, A. Boylston, K. Knüsel (eds.), *Blood Red Roses: The Archaeology of a Mass Grave from the Battle of Towton AD 1461* (Oxbow, 2000) [online reading]

Warfare and the built environment

M. Shapland, *Anglo-Saxon Towers of Lordship* (Oxford University Press, 2019)[online reading]

J. Carroll, A. Reynolds, and B. Yorke (eds.), *Power and Place in Europe in the Early Middle Ages* (British Academy/Oxford University Press, 2019) [MULTIPLE CHAPTERS][online reading]

J. Baker and S. Brookes, *Beyond the Burghal Hideage: Anglo-Saxon Civil Defence in the Viking Age* (Brill, 2013) [online reading]

Theory and Warfare

J. Carman, *Archaeologies of Conflict,* Debates in Archaeology (2013)

J. Haas (ed.), *The Anthropology of War* (Cambridge University Press, 1990)

T. Otto, H. Thrane and H. Vandkilde (eds.), *Warfare and Society: Archaeological and Social Anthropological Perspectives* (Aarhus University Press, 2006)

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E. Bennett, G.M. Berndt, S. Esders and L. Sarti (eds.), *Early Medieval Militarisation* (Manchester University Press, 2021)[online reading]

G. Halsall, 'Anthropology and the Study of Pre-Conquest Warfare and Society', in S.C. Hawkes (ed.) *Weapons and Warfare in Anglo-Saxon England* (1989)*,* 155-178 [INST ARCH HJ HAW]

R. Lavelle and S. Roffey (eds.), *Danes in Wessex: The Scandinavian Impact on Southern England, c.800-c.1100* (Oxbow, 2016). INST ARCH DAA 181 LAV [MULTIPLE CHAPTERS][online reading]

Rory Naismith, Máire Ní Mhaonaigh and Elizabeth Ashman Rowe (eds.), *Writing Battles New Perspectives on Warfare and Memory in Medieval Europe* (Bloomsbury 2020) [MULTIPLE CHAPTERS][online reading]

B. Raffield, [online reading] ''A River of Knives and Swords': Ritually Deposited Weapons in English Watercourses and Wetlands During the Viking Age', *European Journal of Archaeology* 17 (4), 634-55. [online reading]

T. J. T. Williams, 'For the Sake of Bravado in the Wilderness: Confronting the Bestial on the Anglo-Saxon Battlefield' in M.D.J. Bintley and T.J.T.Williams (eds.) *Representing Beasts in Early Medieval England and Scandinavia* (Boydell, 2015) [INST ARCH DAA 180 BIN; online reading]

10. The Anglo-Saxon Church. Anglo-Saxon buildings: churches, halls, social meaning and symbolism (Michael Shapland)

This lecture traces the development of the Anglo-Saxon church from the fall of Rome to the Norman Conquest. It surveys the archaeological and architectural evidence for minsters in the Middle Saxon landscape, and traces their subsequent demise in importance in the wake of the emergence of the local parish church during the Late Saxon period. It also reviews the evidence for early monastic sites across Britain, and the impact of the reforms of later centuries.

The lecture then takes the narrative presented in the first lecture and shows how we can start asking some more interesting questions about the buildings themselves. What is the relationship between the form of secular halls and churches? What can the materials that halls and churches were made of tell us about what they may have meant to people in the past? Were buildings simply containers for domestic and cult activity, or were they perceived as active members of early medieval communities? It is hoped that the ideas outlined here will be relevant to how we can begin to think differently about buildings from other societies and periods.

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Shapland, M. G., 2015. 'The Cuckoo and the Magpie: the Building Culture of the Anglo-Saxon Church', in M. Clegg Hyer and G. R. Owen-Crocker (eds), *The Material Culture of the Built Environment in Anglo-Saxon England*, 92-116. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press. [INST ARCH DAA 180 OWE] [online via library catalogue]

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T. Bell, 'Churches on Roman buildings: Christian associations and roman masonry in Anglo-Saxon England', in *Medieval Archaeology* 42 (1998), 1-18 [online via library catalogue]

J. Blair, Introduction: from minster to parish church, in J. Blair, *Minster and Parish Churches, the Local Church in Transition 9501200* (1988), 120. [INST ARCH DAA 398 BLA]

J. Blair, *The Church in Anglo-Saxon Society* (2005) [INST ARCH DAA 180 BLA; HISTORY 27e BLA] [online via library catalogue]

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190 EDW]

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Home, Housing and Household in Medieval England*, 37-65. Cambridge: Cambridge
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Archbishop Ceolnoth´, *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* 146, 1993, 2966
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R. Gem, ´Tenth-century architecture in England´, *Settimane di studio del Centro italiano di
studi sull´alto medioevo* 38, 1991, 80336.[HISTORY PERIODICALS]

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R. Morris, *Churches in the Landscape* (1989). [DAA 190 MOR]

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Shapland, M. G., *Anglo-Saxon Towers of Lordship* [online via library catalogue]

H. & J. Taylor *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* (3 vols 1965/1978) [INST ARCH DAA398 TAY]

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Journal* 50, 277-326. [online via library catalogue]

K. Blockley, M. Sparks & T. Tatton-Brown(1997). *Canterbury Cathedral Nave: Archaeology,
History and Architecture* [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto BLO]

M. Carver, 'An Iona of the East: The Early-medieval Monastery at Portmahomack, Tarbat
Ness', *Medieval Archaeology* 48 (2004), 1-30. [online via library catalogue]

R. Cramp, Wearmouth and Jarrow Monastic Sites (2005) [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto CRA

R. Cramp, (1994) Monkwearmouth and Jarrow in their European Context, in K. Painter,
Churches Built in Ancient Times, 27994. [YATES A47 PAI]

R. Daniels, The AngloSaxon Monastery at Church Close, Hartlepool, Cleveland,
Archaeological Journal 145, 1988, 158210. [online via library catalogue]

R. Gem (ed.), *St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury*, 90-122. London: B. T. Batsford. [INST ARCH
DAA 410 K.2 GEM]

Roberta Gilchrist and Cheryl Green, *Glastonbury Abbey: archaeological investigations 1904–79* [online via library catalogue]

A. Hardy, A. Dodd & G. Keevill *Ælfric's Abbey: Excavations at Eynsham Abbey, Oxfordshire 1989-92* (2003) [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto HAR]

C. Heighway & R. Bryant (1999). *The Golden Minster: St Oswald at Gloucester.* CBA Research Report 117 [INST ARCH DAA Qto Series COU 117]

P. Hill, *Whithorn and St Ninian: Excavations of a Monastic Town* (1997), esp. chapter 4. [DAA 510 QTO HIL]

Parsons, D. & Sutherland, D., 2013. *The Anglo-Saxon church of All Saints, Brixworth, Northamptonshire : survey, excavation and analysis, 1972-2010* [INST ARCH DAA 410 Qto PAR] [online via library catalogue]

Philip Rahtz & Lorna Watts, 1997. *St. Mary's Church, Deerhurst, Gloucestershire : fieldwork, excavations, and structural analysis, 1971-1984.* [INST ARCH DAA 410 G.4 RAH]

A. Ritchie *Iona* (1997) [IA DAA 510 RIT]

Thomas, G., 2023. *In the Shadow of Saints : the Long Durée of Lyminge, Kent, as a Sacred Christian Landscape* [online via library catalogue]

David J. Wilkinson and Alan D. McWhirr, 1998. *Cirencester Anglo-Saxon Church and Medieval Abbey* [STORE 14-0305]