

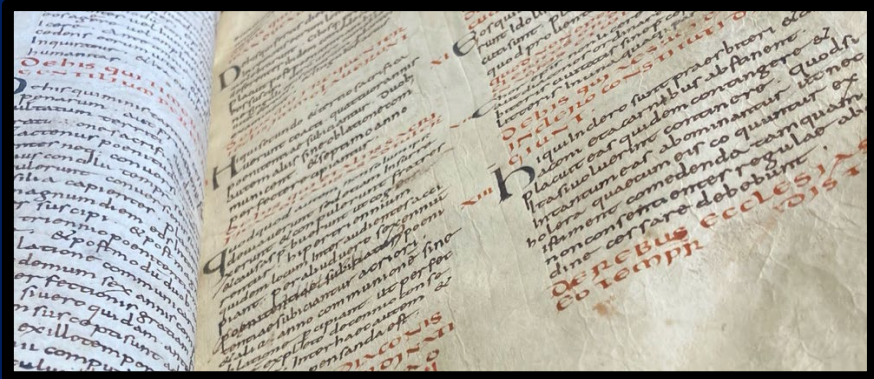
IMC Leeds 2022

# 'VISIONS OF AUTHORITY'

ESTABLISHING AND EXPRESSING AUTHORITY  
IN EARLY MEDIEVAL TEXTS AND BOOKS

*Sponsor:* Radboud Institute for Culture and History  
(RICH, Radboud University)

*Organizer:* Riccardo Macchioro  
(ERC PASSIM, *Patristic Sermons in the Middle Ages*;  
Università degli Studi di Milano)



Radboud University



The 'Visions of Authority' series investigates how medieval scribes and compilers manipulate the authority of their material. The focus is on genres connected to religious history, which are traditionally imbued with significant authority, but simultaneously exhibit strong instability and malleability in their transmission. This tension makes them interesting cases to study how authority is established, which practices can strengthen it, and how it influences the impact of a text.

The organized sessions (respectively on **Canon Law**, **Sermons**, and **Liturgy**) reflect several ongoing research projects and interests at the Radboud Institute for Culture and History and its international network.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Riccardo Macchioro ([riccardo.macchioro@ru.nl](mailto:riccardo.macchioro@ru.nl))

#### **SESSIONS**

##### **Canon Law**

IMC no. 1143 (Wednesday 6 July, 11.15-12.45)

##### **Sermons**

IMC no. 1343 (Wednesday 6 July, 16.30-18.00)

##### **Liturgy**

IMC no. 1604 (Thursday 7 July, 11.15-12.45)

***Visions of Authority I – Canon Law***  
***On the Borders of Religious Discipline and Spiritual Authority***

**IMC Session 1143**

**Wednesday 6 July, 11.15 – 12.45**

As a genre based on authority and explicitly adopting a position of authority, works of religious law display a great variety of strategies to express legal and spiritual authority. Such strategies include erroneous attributions of canonical statements, strategic juxtaposition, subtle editing techniques, creative use of script, etc. At the same time, references to erstwhile authorities could be suppressed, if their prestige was compromised. This session discusses a few of these sophisticated approaches to authority in early medieval works of canon law, ranging from erasing references to now inopportune royal support, tinkering with Biblical texts, to implying authoritative provenance when in reality there was little to go on.

**Chair – Shari Boodts (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen)**

**11.15 – Till Stüber (Freie Universität Berlin)**

*Damnatio memoriae in Early Medieval Canon Law Collections*

**11.35 – Roy Flechner (University College Dublin)**

*Adaptations of the Old Testament in early medieval normative texts: on whose authority?*

**11.55 – Sven Meeder (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen)**

*Authority Implied: the Presence and Absence of Authorities in 'Minor' Canonical Collections*

**12.15 - Discussion**

## ***Visions of Authority II – Latin Sermons Laying the Foundation for Long-lasting Authority***

**IMC session 1343**

**Wednesday 6 July, 16.30-18.00**

The vastness of the late antique and medieval sermons' *corpora*, their transmission through extensive manuscript collections of texts, their employment as educational tools, and their endless re-use in various historical milieux make for extremely frequent shifts in textual configurations, author attributions, and liturgical functions. In this session, we explore the processes and the cultural powers that shaped the authority of sermons and authors, and its perception in the medieval era. To this goal, we investigate the writing strategies that granted authority to sermons, the use of late antique textual material to compose medieval homilies, the codicological contexts of their circulation, and the impact of the work of renowned late medieval preachers.

**Chair – Riccardo Macchioro (ERC PASSIM – Università di Milano)**

**16.30 – Lina Hantel (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)**

*Shaping Authority through Processes of Education in the Sermons of Peter Chrysologus*

**16.45 – Nicolas Anders (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)**

*Caesarius of Arles: the Authority of the Patres at the Border between Tradition and Innovation*

**17.00 – Nicolas de Maeyer (KU Leuven)**

*Augustine of Hippo as Preacher, Pastor, and Bishop in the Middle Ages: the Medieval Transmission and Reception of the Sermones de diuersis (ss. 341-363)*

**17.20 – Pietro Delcorno (Università di Bologna – Alma Mater)**

*Three Portraits of Non-existing Friars: authority and authorship in Printed Sermons*

**17.40 – Discussion**

***Visions of Authorities III – Liturgy***  
***Looking for a Synthesis: Authoritative Traditions and Local Practices***

**IMC session 1604**

**Thursday 7 July, 11.15-12.45**

Medieval liturgical practices have always been deeply concerned with authoritative issues, suspended between keeping to well-established general traditions, and being influenced by historical circumstances and local usages. In the meanwhile, the compilers of liturgical instruments (calendars, hymns, and sermonaries) were confronted with the need to identify the sources able to grant authority to their production. In this session, we explore the cultural processes that led them to achieve a synthesis: from the selection of the most suitable chants to celebrate local saints in the Ottonian age, via the need for adapting the readings of the Church Fathers by removing anti-Jewish statements in Paul the Deacon's *Homiliary*, to the accomplishment of an unprecedented balance between Arabic, Jewish, and Christian heritages in a Mozarabic Calendar.

**Chair – Sarah Hamilton (University of Exeter)**

**11.15 – Zachary Guiliano (St. Edmund's Hall, Oxford)**

*Tracing the border of authority: Paul the Deacon's homiliary and the performance of orthodoxy*

**11.35 – Cathrien Hojinck (Radboud University Nijmegen)**

*Cultural Hybridity in the Cordoban Calendar at the border between Christian, Islamic and Jewish traditions*

**11.55 – Lenneke van Raaij (Radboud University Nijmegen)**

*Singing with authority. Liturgical booklets and visions of authority in tenth-century chants*

**12.15 – Discussion**