

Dr Thomas W. Smith FRHistS FRAS

Keeper of the Scholars and Head of Oxbridge (Arts and Humanities)
Senior Common Room, Rugby School, 20 Horton Crescent, Rugby, CV22 5DJ
tws@rugbyschool.net

Positions Held

- 2021– Keeper of the Scholars and Head of Oxbridge (Arts and Humanities), Rugby School.
2021– Honorary Researcher in the School of History, University of Kent.
2021 Elected Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society.
2020– Honorary Research Associate, Royal Holloway, University of London.
2020– Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Brookes University.
2019–20 Visiting Research Fellow, University of Leeds.
2019– Teacher of History, Rugby School.
2017–19 Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, University of Leeds.
2017 Elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.
2015–17 Lecturer in Medieval History, Trinity College, Dublin (+ Director of MPhil Medieval History, 2016–17).
2013–15 Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellow, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich.
2012–13 Scouloudi Junior Research Fellow, Institute of Historical Research, London.

Publications

Books

Monographs and Critical Textual Editions

News in the Middle Ages (co-authored with Helen Birkett, Igor Fillipov, Adam Franklin-Lyons, Chris Given-Wilson, Wendy Scase, D. G. Shaw and Valentina Sidorova) (under consideration with Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming).

Gesta Francorum Ierusalem expugnantium: The Deeds of the Franks who Conquered Jerusalem, 1095–1106 (ed. and trans. with Susan B. Edgington), Oxford Medieval Texts (all 72 chapters edited and translated, currently preparing introduction; under contract with Oxford University Press for delivery 31 December 2023).

The Epistolary Culture of the First Crusade (Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, under contract for delivery 1 September 2023; 90,711 words written).

Peer review of sample chapters: ‘a book of major importance [... that] promises to advance the subject in exciting new ways ... [it] will be a contribution of great significance, and essential reading for all scholars and ... students.’

Curia and Crusade: Pope Honorius III and the Recovery of the Holy Land, 1216–1227 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2017), xii + 393 pp.

Highly Commended in the British Records Association Janette Harley Prize 2018

Reviews: ‘insightful, highly detailed and much needed ... [a] splendid work’

[Reviews in History](#); ‘a valuable addition to the literature’ [Church History](#) 90 (2021), 181–2;

‘Die Studie verbindet die Analyse teils unedierter Quellen mit einer profunden Diskussion internationaler – auch deutscher – Forschung, was deutlich über das hinausgeht, was Dissertationen aus dem englischen Sprachraum sonst bieten.’ [Deutsches Archiv](#) 76 (2020);

‘brille par son originalité’, ‘grande finesse d’analyse’, ‘grande méticulosité’ [Le Moyen Age](#)

127 (2019), 664–5; ‘energetically opens new avenues for research’ [Al-Masāq](#) 31 (2019);

[QFIAB](#) 99 (2019), 621–3; [MIÖG](#) 127 (2019), 258–61; [Crusades](#) 18 (2019), 240–1; [Sehepunkte](#)

18 (2018); [Archivum Franciscanum historicum](#) 111 (2018), 561–3; [Francia recensio](#) (2017).

Edited Collections

Communicating Papal Authority in the Middle Ages (ed. with Minoru Ozawa and Georg Strack) (London: Routledge, 2023) xiv + 208pp., + ‘Introduction’.

Chronicle, Crusade, and the Latin East: Essays in Honour of Susan B. Edgington (ed. with Andrew D. Buck) (Turnhout: Brepols, 2022), 354pp., + 'Introduction'.

Authority and Power in the Medieval Church, c.1000–c.1500 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2020), 409 pp., + 'Introduction'.

Remembering the Crusades in Medieval Texts and Songs (ed. with Andrew D. Buck) (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2019), xii + 119pp.

Petitions and Strategies of Persuasion in the Middle Ages: The English Crown and the Church, c.1200–c.1550 (ed. with Helen Killick) (York: York Medieval Press, 2018), xiv + 220 pp., + 'Introduction'.

The Fifth Crusade in Context: The Crusading Movement in the Early Thirteenth Century (ed. with E. J. Mylod, Guy Perry and Jan Vandeburie) (London: Routledge, 2017), xxiv + 240 pp., + 'Introduction'.

George Whitefield Tercentenary Essays (ed. with William Gibson) (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2015), x + 124 pp.

Articles and Chapters

Journal Articles

'Not Sharing the Holy Land: Attitudes towards Sacred Space in Papal Crusade Calls, 1095–1234', *Al-Masāq: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean*, 34 (2022), 140–61.

'A Late Medieval Bible in Rugby School Archives', *Manuscripta*, 64.1 (2020), 117–26.

'First Crusade Letters and Medieval Monastic Scribal Cultures', *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, 71 (2020), 484–501.

'*Audita tremendi* and the Call for the Third Crusade Reconsidered, 1187–1188', *Viator*, 49.3 (2020 for 2018), 63–101.

'Framing the Narrative of the First Crusade: The Letter given at Laodicea in September 1099', *Journal of Religious History, Literature and Culture*, 5 (2019), 17–33.

'How to Craft a Crusade Call: Pope Innocent III and *Quia maior* (1213)', *Historical Research*, 92 (2019), 2–23.

'The Dynamism of a Crusade Encyclical: Pope Honorius III and *Iustus Dominus* (1223)', *Deutsches Archiv für Erforschung des Mittelalters*, 74 (2018), 111–42.

'Scribal Crusading: Three New Manuscript Witnesses to the Regional Reception and Transmission of First Crusade Letters', *Traditio*, 72 (2017), 133–69.

'Oliver of Cologne's *Historia Damiatina*: A New Manuscript Witness in Dublin, Trinity College Library MS 496', *Hermathena*, 194 (2017 for 2013), 37–68.

'The First Crusade Letter Written at Laodicea in 1099: Two Previously Unpublished Versions from Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Clm 23390 and 28195', *Crusades*, 15 (2016), 1–25.

'Papal Executors and the Veracity of Petitions from Thirteenth-Century England', *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique*, 110 (2015), 662–83.

'The Authorship of the Register of Bassus *notarius*', *Manuscripta*, 59 (2015), 243–63.

'The Development of Papal Provisions in Medieval Europe', *History Compass*, 13 (2015), 110–21.

'Between Two Kings: Pope Honorius III and the Seizure of the Kingdom of Jerusalem by Frederick II in 1225', *Journal of Medieval History*, 41 (2015), 41–59.

'Authority and Liberty: John Wesley's View of Medieval England', *Wesley and Methodist Studies*, 7 (2015), 1–26.

'The College of Cardinals under Honorius III: A Nepotistic Household?', *Studies in Church History*, 50 (2014), 74–85.

'English Episcopal *Acta* and Thirteenth-Century Petitions to the Pope', *Archives*, 40 (2014), 16–22.

'Honorius III and the Crusade: Responsive Papal Government versus the Memory of his Predecessors', *Studies in Church History*, 49 (2013), 99–109.

Book Chapters

'The Dissemination of Crusade Ideas in Epistolary Form', in *The Routledge Handbook of Crusade Texts, Images and Artefacts*, ed. Simon Thomas Parsons and Linda Paterson (London: Routledge, invited) (c. 8,000 words).

'The Imprint of the Third Crusade in the Manuscript Traditions of Western Europe' (co-authored with Stephen J. Spencer), in *The Third Crusade (1189–1192): New Interpretations*, ed. Stephen Bennett and John D. Hosler (Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, invited) (c. 8,000 words).

'Documentary Sources for the Crusades' (co-authored with Jan Vandeburie), in *The Cambridge History of the Crusades*, gen. ed. Jonathan Phillips (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, under contract) (c. 12,000 words).

'The Papacy and the Crusading Movement in Later Medieval Britain', in *The New Cambridge History of Britain, Vol. II: 1100–1500*, ed. Peter Crooks (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, submitted, forthcoming) (9,082 words).

'History-Writing and Remembrance in Crusade Letters', in *Crusade, Settlement, and Historical Writing in the Latin East and Latin West*, ed. Andrew D. Buck, James H. Kane and Stephen J. Spencer (Woodbridge, The Boydell Press, submitted, forthcoming) (6,473 words).

'The Diplomatic of *Laudabiliter* Reconsidered', in *Invasion 1169: The Anglo-Norman Invasion of Ireland*, ed. Peter Crooks and Seán Duffy (Dublin: Four Courts Press, submitted, forthcoming) (6,783 words).

'The Letters of Pope Paschal II regarding the First Crusade: The Liberation of the Eastern Church versus Christocentric Devotion', in *Medieval Ecclesiastical History and Culture in Central Europe: Texts and Contexts*, ed. T. J. H. McCarthy, Christine Meek, and Patrick Healy (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, submitted, forthcoming) (9,996 words).

'The Registers of Pope Honorius III: A Quantitative Approach', in *Innocenz., Honorius III. und ihre Briefe*, ed. Andrea Sommerlechner and Herwig Weigl (in press 2023) (6,357 words).

'Papal Communication and the Fifth Crusade, 1217–1221', in *Communicating Papal Authority in the Middle Ages*, ed. Minoru Ozawa, Thomas W. Smith and Georg Strack (London: Routledge, 2023), 100–15.

'New Manuscript Witnesses to the *Gesta Francorum et aliorum Hierosolimitanorum*, the *Historia Ierosolimitana* of Albert of Aachen, and the *Historia Hierosolymitana* of Fulcher of Chartres: Preliminary Observations', in *Chronicle, Crusade, and the Latin East: Essays in Honour of Susan B. Edgington*, ed. Andrew D. Buck and Thomas W. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2022), 35–50.

'The Charters of the Fifth Crusade Revisited', in *Settlement and Crusade in the Thirteenth Century: Multidisciplinary Studies of the Latin East*, ed. Judith Bronstein, Gil Fishhof and Vardit Shotten-Hallel (London: Routledge, 2021), 197–208.

'The Italian Connection Reconsidered: Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England', in *Thirteenth Century England XVII*, ed. Andrew Spencer and Carl Watkins (Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, 2021), 147–62.

'Why were there so few Papal Provisions in Thirteenth-Century Dublin?', in *Medieval Dublin XVIII*, ed. Seán Duffy (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2020), 169–82.

'The Interface between Papal Authority and Heresy: The Legates of Honorius III in Languedoc, 1216–1227', in *Authority and Power in the Medieval Church, c.1000–c.1500*, ed. Thomas W. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2020), 135–44.

'English Episcopal Documents and Supplicatory Strategies at the Roman Curia in the Thirteenth Century', in *Stilus – usus – modus: Spielregeln der Konflikt- und Verhandlungsführung am Papstthof des Mittelalters – Rules of Negotiation and Conflict Resolution at the Papal Court in the Middle Ages*, ed. Georg Strack and Jessika Nowak (Turnhout: Brepols, 2019), 159–74.

'The Papacy, Petitioners and Benefices in Thirteenth-Century England', in *Petitions and Strategies of Persuasion in the Middle Ages: The English Crown and the Church, c.1200–c.1550*, ed. Thomas W. Smith and Helen Killick (York: York Medieval Press, 2018), 164–84.

'Conciliar Influence on *Ad liberandam*', in *The Fourth Lateran Council and the Crusade Movement: The Impact of the Council of 1215 on Latin Christendom and the East*, ed. Jessalynn L. Bird and Damian J. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2018), 219–39.

'Preambles to Crusading: The *Arengae* of Crusade Letters issued by Innocent III and Honorius III', in *Papacy, Crusade and Christian-Muslim Relations*, ed. Jessalynn L. Bird (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2018), 63–78.

'An Unknown Fragment of Peter von Dusburg's *Chronicon terrae Prussiae* in Dublin, Trinity College Library MS 516', in *W służbie zabytków* ['In the Service of Monuments'], ed. Janusz Hochleitner and Karol Polejowski (Marlboro: Muzeum Zamkowe w Malborku, 2017), 151–4.

'The Use of the Bible in the *Arengae* of Pope Gregory IX's Crusade Calls', in *The Uses of the Bible in Crusader Sources*, ed. Elisabeth Lapina and Nicholas Morton (Leiden: Brill, 2017), 206–35.

'The Role of Pope Honorius III in the Fifth Crusade', in *The Fifth Crusade in Context: The Crusading Movement in the Early Thirteenth Century*, ed. E. J. Mylod, Guy Perry, Thomas W. Smith and Jan Vandeburie (London: Routledge, 2017), 15–26.

'Pope Honorius III, the Military Orders and the Financing of the Fifth Crusade: A Culture of Papal Preference?', in *The Military Orders: Volume 6.1*, ed. Jochen Schenk and Mike Carr (London: Routledge, 2017), 54–61.

Encyclopedia Entries

'The Crusades', in *The Routledge Medieval Encyclopedia Online* ('Writing History: Methodology' section, ed. Samu Niskanen) (forthcoming 2023) (2,909 words).

Grant Capture: £290,962.16

Major Grants (£10,000+)

Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship, University of Leeds (May 2017–Apr 2020): **£162,131.16**. Project title: 'The Rise of Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England'.

Münchener Universitäts-gesellschaft Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for Advanced Studies, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Oct 2015–Sep 2016): **€31,700** (declined; took Lectureship at Trinity College, Dublin). Project title: 'The Rise of Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England'.

Leverhulme Trust Study Abroad Studentship (Postdoctoral), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Oct 2013–Sep 2015): **£36,000** plus research expenses. Project title: 'Reconstructing Lost Papal Supplications from England, c.1198–c.1304'.

Scouloudi Junior Research Fellowship, Institute of Historical Research (Oct 2012–Sep 2013): **£10,000**.

Reid Research Scholarship (AHRC equivalent), Royal Holloway College, University of London (Oct 2009–Sep 2012): **£50,352**.

Smaller Research Grants, Fellowships and Prizes

Early Career Researcher competitive research grants, School of History, University of Leeds, 2017–19 (**£850**).

Grace Lawless Lee Fund grant to support publication of images in monograph, 2016 (**€418**).

Royal Historical Society/Past & Present Society funding for individual conference, 2015 (**£436**).

Leverhulme Trust grant for publication of images, 2015 (**£506**).

Leverhulme Trust grant for two-week research trip to the Vatican Archives, Rome, 2014 (**£840**).

Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, 2013–14 (**£1,092**).

Ecclesiastical History Society: 2x full conference bursaries, 2011–12.

Church, Law and Society in the Middle Ages (AHRC research network): 3x full bursaries, 2010–11.

Royal Holloway: 4x competitive departmental small research grants, 2010–13 (total: **£1,050**).

University of Kent, Faculty Rotary Prize: 'Best Performance in Final Degree Examinations', 2008.

University of Kent, School of History Prize: 'Best Second Year Performance', 2007.

Teaching (select)

Teacher of History, Rugby School (Sep 2019–)

A-Level Courses (OCR)

The Crusades, 1095–1192 (2020–)

Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1035–1107 (2019–20).

Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th Centuries (2019–).

Coursework supervisor (2020–).

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) supervisor (2019–21).

IGCSE Courses (Edexcel)

A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–72 (2019–).

Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905–24 (2019–).

Weimar and Nazi Germany (2019–).

The Middle East: Conflict, Crisis and Change, 1917–2012 (2019–).

Year 9

Suffragettes; First World War; Apartheid in South Africa; Windrush Scandal and Historical Migration (2021–22).

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, University of Leeds (May 2017–Aug 2019)

2nd-year UG Courses

Jewish Communities in Medieval Europe (Oct–Dec 2018): 11 weeks, 9x one-hour seminars; 26 students.

MA PG Courses

Palaeography: Reading Medieval Manuscripts (Jan–Apr 2018; Jan–Apr 2019): 11 weeks, designed and delivered 6x two-hour seminars; 14 students.

Lecturer in Medieval History, Trinity College, Dublin (Sep 2015–Apr 2017)

1st-year UG Courses

Popes, Kings and Crusaders: Europe, c.1075–1250 (Sep–Dec 2015; Sep–Dec 2016): 12 weeks, 22x one-hour lectures, 6x one-hour tutorials; 126 UG and 30 extramural students. Designed, convened and taught.

Europe 1215–1517: Religion, Death and Culture (Jan–April 2016; Jan–April 2017): 12 weeks, 4x one-hour tutorials; 50 students.

2nd-year UG Courses

Group Project: Chivalry, War and Violence strand (Sep 2016–Apr 2017): Year-long mentor for 3x groups of 6 students (total 18 students) producing 25-minute presentations, individual essays and group portfolios on independent research projects.

Writing History in the Middle Ages (Jan–Apr 2016): 12 weeks, 11x one-hour tutorials; 11 students. Co-taught.

3rd- and 4th-year UG Courses

The Crusading Movement, c.1095–c.1300 (Jan–Apr 2016; as a year-long module Sep 2016–Apr 2017): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour tutorials; 36 students. Designed, convened and taught.

MPhil PG Courses

The Thirteenth-Century Papacy: Vitality and Vulnerability (Jan–April 2016; Jan–April 2017): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour tutorials; 4 students. Designed, convened and taught.

Supervision

1x 20,000-word MPhil dissertation on 'Peacemaking between Christians and Muslims in the early thirteenth century' (2015–16).

3x 10,000-word BA dissertations (2016–17).

Dozent (Lecturer), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Apr–Jul 2015)

2nd- and 3rd-year UG Courses

Die Kreuzzüge im Mittelalter (Apr–Jul 2015): 14 weeks, 12x two-hour seminars; 11 students. Designed, convened and taught in German.

Assistant Lecturer, University of Kent (Sep 2011–Jan 2013)

1st-year UG Courses

Later Medieval Europe, c.1066–1450 (Jan–Apr 2012; Sep 2012–Jan 2013): 12 weeks, 2x one-hour lectures, 11x one-hour seminars; 53 students.

2nd- and 3rd-year UG Courses

Popular Religion and Heresy, c.1000–c.1350 (Oct, Dec 2012): 2x one-hour lectures, 3x two-hour seminars; 32 students.

The Crusades (Sep 2011–Jan 2012): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour seminars; 32 students.

Education

PGCE Secondary History with QTS, University of Buckingham, sponsored by Rugby School (2020–1): Merit.

PhD in History, Royal Holloway, University of London (2009–13): Pass, no corrections (awarded 1 Oct 2013). Thesis title: 'Pope Honorius III and the Holy Land Crusades 1216-1227: A Study in Responsive Papal Government'. Supervisor: Prof. Jonathan Phillips. Examiners: Prof. Andrew Jotischky (Lancaster); Dr Brenda Bolton (London).

inSTIL Higher Education Teaching Course (half a PGCHE), Royal Holloway, accredited by the Higher Education Academy (2011–13): Pass with Commendation.

MA Medieval and Early Modern Studies, University of Kent (2008–9): Distinction (graduated top of class).

BA (Hons) History, University of Kent (2005–8): First Class (graduated top of class; winner of Faculty Rotary Prize and School of History Prize).

A Levels in English Literature, History, and Politics (AAB), Heathfield Community College, East Sussex (1998–2005).

Administrative Roles and Service (select)

Keeper of the Scholars and Head of Oxbridge (Arts and Humanities), Rugby School (2021–).

Director of MPhil Medieval History Programme, Trinity College, Dublin (2016–17).

Co-convenor of Medieval History Research Seminar, University of Leeds (2017–19).

Standing Committee Member of the Leeds International Medieval Congress (2018–19).

International Research Networks

Invited member of the British Academy research network 'Making of Europe', University of Kent (2022–23).

Invited member of Leverhulme Trust research network on 'News and News Cultures in the Middle Ages', University of Exeter/Institute of Historical Research (2019–22).

Invited member of Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) research network 'Stilus curiae: Spielregeln der Konflikt- und Verhandlungsführung am Papsthof des Mittelalters', Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (2014–18).

Invited member of international symposium 'The Medieval Papacy: Governance, Communication, Cultural Exchange', Rikkyo University, Tokyo (2017).

Invited member of AHRC research network 'Remembered Places and Invented Traditions: Thinking about the Holy Land in the Late Medieval West', Birkbeck, University of London (2012).

Invited participant in AHRC research network 'Church, Law and Society in the Middle Ages', University of Cambridge (2011–12).

Membership of Academic Societies and Professional Bodies

Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society (elected 30 Apr 2021–present).

Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (elected 24 Nov 2017–present).

Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (2014–present) [reference no.: PR065788].

Member of The Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East (SSCLE), The Haskins Society, The Canterbury and York Society, and The Pipe Roll Society.

Outreach and Public Engagement (select)

Co-leader of the *Schools of Empire: Class and Colonialism, c.1750–c.1945* project at Rugby School, recognised in the Highlights of The National Archives' Year in Review 2021 and winner of the Boarding Schools' Association prize for Best New INDEX (Inclusivity and Diversity Excellence) Initiative 2022 (2020–5).

Exhibitor at Leeds 'Be Curious 2018' open day: designed and presented card game 'Church Invaders' (Mar 2018).

Public lecture at TCD on 'St Francis of Assisi: A Religious Revolutionary' (Feb 2016).

Spoke to 'Sandymount Study Group' (Dublin local interest group) on 'France and the Crusading Movement' (Feb 2016).

Historical consultant for TV drama 'Vikings', series 4, episode 16; uncredited (Dec 2015).