

8th Old English Student Conference

Thinkers and Thanes

Kraków 14–16 May 2026

Call for Papers

... Ond þis geþeabt ic sylle eallum wyrhtum, þæt anra gehwylc cræft his geornlice begange, forþam se þe cræft his forlæt, he byþ forlæten fram þam cræfte. Swa hwæðer þu sy, swa mæssepreost, swa munuc, swa ceorl, swa kempa, bega oþþe behwyrf þe sylfne on þisum, ond beo þæt þu eart; forþam micel hynð ond sceamu hyt is menn nellan wesan þæt þæt he ys ond þæt he wesan sceal.

And this counsel I offer to all workers, that each one perform his craft diligently, since he who neglects his craft will be given up by the craft. So whether you be a masspriest, or monk, or churl, or soldier, perform or know this: be what you are. Because it is much humiliation and shame for a man not to want to be that which he is, and that which he should be.

Ælfric of Eynsham *Colloquy on Occupations* (transl. Stephen J. Harris)

We extend a cordial invitation to all scholars and students (BA, MA, PhD) interested in the study of the Anglo-Saxon period and its multifaceted culture and society. This year we want to encourage participants to show the rich tapestry of approaches to Anglo-Saxon studies. This will hopefully allow for an interdisciplinary discussion and the continuation of our mission to gather scholars interested in the Anglo-Saxon past.

We welcome abstracts on any topic related to the Anglo-Saxon period (or its reception in later eras) in the linguistic, literary, or cultural realms of research, such as:

- historical linguistics (e.g. phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse studies, lexicology);
- translation studies (e.g. translation in the Early Middle Ages, translation from OE into modern languages or modern translations into OE);
- literary studies (e.g. history of literature, adaptation studies, comparative analysis, medievalism);
- history and archaeology (e.g. history of art, history of culture, military history, social history, manuscript studies, paleography);
- and more!

Papers may address, but are not limited to the following themes:

- hierarchy and roles in Anglo-Saxon society,
- hostile and non-hostile contacts with other cultures or societies,
- transmission and development of ideas,
- education, natural science, prognostics,
- maxims, gnomic verse, sermons,
- Anglo-Saxon glosses, texts on grammar,
- literary and other representations of the Anglo-Saxon past,
- Anglo-Saxon material culture (art, artifacts, everyday objects etc.)

Submission deadline: 5 January 2026

Conference language: English

Paper Proposals:

We invite students and scholars from various academic fields to submit their proposals for **twenty-minute papers** in the form of **abstracts of no more than 250 words** (excluding figures, linguistic examples, or the list of references).

An abstract should clearly state research questions, the approach, method, data, and results. Abstracts should also list three to five keywords.

Please fill in the registration form [here](#).

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by the end of February.

Conference fee:

There is no conference fee and all the conference materials will be free of charge.

Organised by:

Old English Student Society KNA UJ
(Institute of English Studies, Jagiellonian University)

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