 **MANCENT**

**The Manchester Continuing Education Network**

Course Director: Dr. Birgitta Hoffmann, MA, FSA

**Late Additions to the Spring 2018 programme**

***Saints and Sanctity in the Early Middle Ages***

Saints and their cults have been an important, integral part of Christianity since its beginnings, and this was especially so in the early middle ages. There are hundreds of surviving accounts of the lives early-medieval saints. Who were these holy men and women, what made them ‘holy,’ and why did people revere them so much, both while they were alive and after they were dead? This course considers these questions by examining the lives of a range of British and European saints, their contexts and the ways in which they have been used and manipulated by subsequent generations. Saints discussed will include St Martin, St Benedict, St Patrick, St Cuthbert and St Wifrid.

**Recommended reading (for publication in brochure):**

No supplementary reading is necessary for this course, but those wishing to investigate more deeply might look at the following:

M. A. Stouck, *A Short Reader of Medieval Saints*, University of Toronto Press, 2008.

P. Brown, *The Cult of the Saints: Its Rise And Function In Latin Christianity*, University of Chicago Press; Enlarged Edition, 2014.

D. H. Farmer, *The Age of Bede*, Penguin Classics, 1998.

**Day:  Friday   Time**: 11.00-13.00

5 week course from Friday 19th January to 16th February 2017

**Venue:**The Library,
St Peter’s House,
Oxford Road (Precinct Centre),
Manchester,
M13 9GH

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Price** | **Concessions** | **Minimum No.** | **Maximum No.** |
| £50 |  | 8 | 14 |

**CONTACT ADDRESS FOR BOOKINGS**:

Dr Damian J. Tyler, 63 Cuckoo Lane, Whitefield, Manchester, M45 6WD

Email: dagoberht@hotmail.com

***First Contact: Spain and the Conquest of the New World***

Damian Tyler

At the very end of the middle ages the Spanish ‘discovered’ a ‘New World’ in the Americas. Though ‘New’ to Europeans, the American continent had been inhabited for millennia, and there was a long tradition of civilized life in parts of Central and South America. Within half a century Spanish explorers, colonists and conquistadores had encountered and destroyed three advanced civilizations - the Mexica (better known as the Aztecs), the Maya and the Incas. This course compares and contrasts Spain and the three American civilizations on the eve of first contact, then traces the history of these contacts and considers the factors which enabled tiny groups of Europeans to conquer, overwhelm and ultimately destroy great, powerful and populous civilizations.

Recommended reading (for publication in brochure):

No supplementary reading is necessary for this course, but those wishing to investigate more deeply might look at the following:

M. D. Coe, *The Maya*, Thames and Hudson, 2015.

R. F. Townsend, *The Aztecs*, Thames and Hudson, 2010.

T. N. D’Altroy, *The Incas*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2014.

**Day:  Friday   Time**: 11.00-13.00

5 week course: A block of four weeks 2 March 18 to 23 March 18, followed by a one week gap for Easter, then after Easter 6 April 2018

**Venue:**The Library,
St Peter’s House,
Oxford Road (Precinct Centre),
Manchester,
M13 9GH

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