

**New England Medieval Conference 2020
Race and the Middle Ages**

**December 3, 2020
Hosted Virtually by Keene State College**

Zoom link will remain open all day:

<https://keene.zoom.us/j/82926603535?pwd=UkExRFZoY3VYQ2VENktsSFRyYVNVNjZz09>

9:00 AM Opening Remarks—Meriem Pagès

9:10 AM Musical Prelude

9:30-10:50 AM

Session 1: Race and Religion

Moderator: J. R. Webb, Bridgewater State University

Patrick Meehan (Harvard University), “Who could resist a people who nourish themselves from the wilderness?” Colonial Encounters in Prussia, ca. 1215-1410”

Maeve Callan (Simpson College), “A Sacrilegious and Ungovernable Race, Hostile to God and Humanity’: Ethnicity as Heresy in Fourteenth-Century Colonial Ireland”

Sumor Ziva Sheppard (Prairie View A & M), “La Raiz de Raza: Jewish Otherness and the Birth of Race”

11:00 AM-12:20 PM

Session 2: Racializing the Other

Moderator: Maeve Callan (Simpson College)

Gro-Tove Sandsmark (University of Stavanger), “Are Skrälingjar the others in the Vinland sagas?”

Gabriela Benner (The University of Porto, Portugal), “How many black colours in Christian iconography?”

Laura Ingallinella (Wellesley College), “The Invention of the Miracle of the Black Leg”

12:20-1:00 PM: Break for Lunch

1:00- 2:20 PM

Session 3: Race in Fourteenth-Century Florence

Moderator: Laura Ingallinella (Wellesley College)

C. Matthew Balensuela (DePauw University), Karen M. Cook (University of Hartford), Gillian Gower (University of Denver), Brandi Neal (Independent Scholar), and Matthew Ovalle (University of Texas—Austin), “Questions of Race & Ethnicity in the Squarcialupi Codex”

Angela Zhang (York University), “Exploring the Intersections of Slavery and Race in Trecento and Quattrocento Florence”

2:30-3:50 PM

Session 4: Re-thinking Race in the Middle Ages and Beyond

Moderator: Anita Savo, Boston University

Marla Segol (University at Buffalo), “The Strange and Familiar Figure of the Slave in the *Zohar*: Race, Gender, Hierarchy and Mystical Wisdom”

Brenna Duperron (Dalhousie University), “Off with His Head: Re-Reading the Headless Colonization of the Green Knight”

Angela Jane Weisl (Seton Hall University), “Global Medievalism, Indigeneity, and Race in the Marvel Cinematic Universe”

4:00-5:00 PM

Keynote Address

Introduction: Sean Gilsdorf, Harvard University

Geraldine Heng (The University of Texas—Austin), “The Politics of Race in the European Middle Ages”