13 Funded PhD Positions (Late Medieval/Early Modern Book Studies) in the MSCA Doctoral Network REBPAF

‘Re-mediating the Early Book: Pasts and Futures’ (REBPAF) is a European Commission-funded MSCA Doctoral Network that will support 13 PhD researchers undertaking projects on late medieval and early modern books. These PhD researchers will be spread across the following institutions: University of Galway (3 positions), University of Antwerp (2 positions), University of Alicante (2 positions), University of Zürich (2 positions), University of Vienna (2 positions), and University of Bristol (2 positions). All PhD researchers recruited to this network will join a vibrant and supportive international community of scholars; they will also benefit from bespoke, network-wide programming and will gain hands-on work experience in related cultural sectors as part of their training programme.

We are now accepting applications from prospective doctoral researchers. Applications are due by **10 January 2023**. The PhD positions will begin on **1 September 2023**. Details about the 13 individual projects and further application instructions can be found below.

**About REBPAF**

The digital revolution is opening our eyes to the important historical truth that the enduring cultural and economic value of the book has always depended on its adaptability to different media, today from printed book to e-book (and back again), and in the past from manuscript book to printed book (and vice versa).

REBPAF focuses on the ways in which 15th- and 16th-century book producers (scribes, printers, entrepreneurs) negotiated the dynamic relations between the manuscript book and the printed book and adapted to the evolving challenges of the market, and it demonstrates the continuing relevance of these cultural and economic negotiations to the modern world. To this end, REBPAF unites the interests of present-day organisations that re-mediate the early book – publishers, bookdealers, museums, and other stakeholders in the creative and heritage sectors – with those of academic scholarship. REBPAF has the double aim of: 1) engaging a new generation of medievalists and early modernists in an innovative and collaborative research programme that asks fundamental and interdisciplinary questions about the history of the book and the written word and its future in a digital environment; and 2) equipping the researchers recruited to this network with high-level transferable skills and competencies to be acquired and applied through training workshops and internships provided by a suite of nine European non-academic partners that have a direct interest in and relevance to our research agenda.

REBPAF’s non-academic partners include Antiquariat Inlibris (Austria), Maggs Bros. Ltd. (UK), The National Print Museum (Ireland), Österreichische Nationalbibliothek (Austria), Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheken (Belgium), Stiftsbibliothek Klosterneuburg (Austria), Boydell & Brewer (UK), Quaternio Verlag Luzern (Switzerland), and Cúirt International Festival of Literature (Ireland).

**Benefits**

Successful candidates will receive an attractive salary in accordance with the MSCA regulations for recruited researchers. The indicative gross salary is €3400 per month (adjusted according to a country correction formula to account for cost-of-living differences between EU Member States) plus a €600 monthly mobility allowance. An additional family allowance is also
available, if applicable, and the network will financially facilitate researchers’ participation in off-site training activities where appropriate. The net salary for each researcher will be dependent on local tax regulations and on the country correction factor. Full PhD funding is guaranteed for 36 months with the possibility of additional funding in some instances, depending on local and national arrangements. In institutions where it is customary to charge tuition fees to doctoral students, waivers will be granted for project participants.

**Mobility and General Eligibility Rules**

Candidates of **any nationality** are warmly invited to apply for any of our positions, provided that they meet our funder’s mobility rules. These mobility rules stipulate that applicants will be ineligible to take up a position at a university located in a country where they have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline. In determining eligibility, the following periods are *not* taken into account: a) compulsory national service; b) time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention; c) short stays such as holidays.

Please note that applicants must not yet possess a doctoral degree in any field.

**Application Instructions**

Applications for all 13 REBPAF positions are made centrally. Application is a two-step process: 1) Complete the online application form; 2) Submit your supporting documents by email.

The online application form is available at:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hrHjE0bEq0qchZq5u3aBbAtWw7P1v
JMt2S2A5gqYSRURUNDWlFCRUJDMzFUU1dRNkdBRkVNTENYTC4u

The form will ask you to enter:

- Personal details (e.g. name, contact information)
- Details about your academic history and linguistic competencies
- Details about where you resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline
- The names and university email contacts for two academic referees who would be willing to write a letter of support for your application
- Information about the PhD project(s) for which you would like to be considered

Please note: it is possible to express interest in multiple REBPAF PhD positions, and we encourage you to list as many as you like on the application form. The form will invite you to rank your top choices in order of preference. **Please read the descriptors for each project carefully** and ensure that you meet essential criteria and mobility requirements for each of the positions for which you would like to be considered.

In addition to completing the online application form, please send the following supporting documentation by email:

- An academic CV
- Either a cover letter or a personal statement (maximum 700 words) outlining your background, interests, and aptitude for doctoral-level research
- A scanned/electronic copy of your academic transcripts listing coursework and grades for each degree obtained or in progress (hard copies may be required at a later date)
- An academic writing sample (minimum 3,000 and maximum 15,000 words)
- Optionally, applicants applying for PhD Position 11 may additionally submit a portfolio of any digital projects they might have been engaged with (e.g. Github profile)

Your supporting documentation should be combined into a single PDF document. Please use your surname for the file name. Send this PDF to rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie using the subject line ‘REBPAF supporting documentation’.

Online application forms and all supporting documents must be received by the stated deadline in order to receive full consideration.

**PhD Project Descriptions**

**PhD Position 1: From Manuscript to Print: A Matter of Bankability?**  
**Location: University of Zürich**

Based on a corpus of some 80 medieval texts that were prosified and printed, this project seeks to determine the reasons why these (and not others) were selected for print, and to explain the changes these *mises en prose* underwent in the process of adaptation to the new medium of print. Moving beyond textual changes, it focuses special attention on modifications in layout, rubrication and titles. It is anticipated that training will include a two-month internship at Klosterneuburg, where the researcher will gain experience of manuscript and rare books conservation and exhibition and acquire curatorial and librarianship skills in a leading heritage library and museum. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Bristol.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Switzerland for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- MA in Medieval French Literature or Medieval French Linguistics, with a MA thesis in either.
- Good reading knowledge of medieval and Middle French.
- Native or near native competence in modern French and German.
- Basic competence in vernacular palaeography and French text edition.
- Linguistic ability to participate in network-wide training activities conducted in English.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A foundation in codicology.
- A demonstrable interest in book history and/or textual criticism.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.rose.uzh.ch/de/seminar/wersindwir/mitarbeiter/trachsler.html](https://www.rose.uzh.ch/de/seminar/wersindwir/mitarbeiter/trachsler.html)
- [https://www.sglp.uzh.ch/de/aboutus/personen/cardelle.html](https://www.sglp.uzh.ch/de/aboutus/personen/cardelle.html)

*For specific queries about this position, please contact Richard.trachsler@uzh.ch. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.*

**PhD Position 2: Epic Books in the Age of Print: Translation and Transformation**  
**Location: University of Bristol**

This project focuses on late 15th-century England and Burgundy to study the transformations of Charlemagne material with specific reference to one narrative, *Quatre Fils Aymon*, which became widely disseminated in manuscript and print, both in England and on the continent. Using translation theory, the project investigates processes of inter- and intralinguistic translation and expands the bounds of translation theory by examining the art-historical dimension of translation. Special
attention will be given to both literary and visual representations of the Other (Saracens and/or Women). It is anticipated that training will include a four-month secondment at Boydell and Brewer to gain work experience at a major independent publishing house in medieval studies and gain transferable IT and marketing skills. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Zürich.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the UK for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- An upper second-class degree (or international equivalent) in languages, literatures, or book history.
- A master’s qualification, or be working towards a master’s qualification, or international equivalent. Applicants without a master's qualification may be considered on an exceptional basis, provided they hold a first-class undergraduate degree (or international equivalent). Applicants with a non-traditional background may be considered provided they can demonstrate substantial equivalent and relevant experience that has prepared them to undertake their proposed course of study.
- Good reading knowledge of medieval French.
- Fluency in spoken and written English corresponding to level c: https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/language-requirements/profile-c/

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A foundation in palaeography and codicology.
- A demonstrable interest in book history and/or textual criticism.
- Knowledge of other medieval languages, for example, Latin or Middle English.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Marianne-Ailes-dba901dd-299f-472d-90cb-f140b133e2ae/](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Marianne-Ailes-dba901dd-299f-472d-90cb-f140b133e2ae/)
- [https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Ad-Putter-09ecfd98-f060-490d-acff-a29e09fd6e9d/](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Ad-Putter-09ecfd98-f060-490d-acff-a29e09fd6e9d/)

For specific queries about this position, please contact marianne.ailes@bristol.ac.uk. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.

**PhD Position 3: Karel ende Elegast in Manuscript and Print**

**Location: University of Antwerp**

This project focuses on the transmission of *Karel ende Elegast*, generally considered the masterpiece of Middle Dutch literature but also extant in Ripuarian and Middle High German versions. Like other medieval texts, it was ‘translated’ into the new medium of print, but, more unusually, it was not prosified. The purpose of this project is to explore the implications of continuities of form: the printed editions resemble, in layout, format and font size, the late medieval manuscript tradition: questions to be answered include: how was this archaic text read in the late 15th and 16th centuries? How do these books and woodcut illustrations relate to other contemporary books? Last but not least, how can the multimodal form of this text as transmitted in early books best be captured in modern editions? It is anticipated that training will include a four-month secondment at Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheken to gain work experience in analytical bibliography, acquire general and specialist skills in heritage and library management. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Vienna.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Belgium for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- A Research MA degree in (historical) literature or (book) history.
- Near-native proficiency in Dutch.
- Linguistic ability to participate in network-wide training activities conducted in English.
Desirable Criteria:

- Prior research experience in medieval and/or early modern Dutch literature.
- A demonstrable interest in book history and/or (digital) textual editing.
- Proficient in writing and speaking English and/or German and/or French.
- Proficient in reading Middle Dutch and/or Middle High German.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

Supervisor Profiles:

- https://www.uantwerpen.be/nl/personeel/remco-sleiderink/

For specific queries about this position, please contact remco.sleiderink@uantwerpen.be. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact repbaf@universityofgalway.ie.

PhD Position 4: Walahfrid Strabo’s *Hortulus* in Manuscript and Print

Location: University of Zürich

This project focuses on the 1510 edition of Walahfrid Strabo *Hortulus* by the humanist Joachim Vadianus. The edition, printed in Vienna, is exceptional in two ways: 1) the manuscript on which it is based is known and survives in the Vatican library; 2) despite the overwhelming interest of humanist printers in classical Latin texts, this printed edition (reprinted in 1512) contains a didactic poem by a 9th-century abbot. This study exploits the rare opportunity to compare the manuscript copy-text with the printed copy to calibrate the formal re-mediation: how do the texts compare, and just as importantly, how do para-texts, mise-en-page, and illustration? It also asks why this text was selected (who funded it? who bought it?), and what comparisons can be drawn with other early medieval poets who made it into print (e.g., Hrosvitha). It is anticipated that training will include a four-month secondment at Quaternio Verlag Luzern, where this researcher will gain valuable insight into, and hands-on experience with, processes of production and marketing at a publisher specialising in facsimile editions of illuminated medieval manuscripts. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Galway.

Required Criteria:

- The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Switzerland for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- Good command of Latin, including knowledge of Medieval and Neo-Latin.
- MA in literary or historical studies.
- Native or near native command of German.
- Linguistic ability to participate in network-wide training activities conducted in English.

Desirable Criteria:

- Knowledge of palaeography.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

Supervisor Profiles:

- https://www.sglp.uzh.ch/de/aboutus/personen/cardelle.html
- https://www.rose.uzh.ch/de/seminar/wersindwir/mitarbeitende/trachsler.html

For specific queries about this position, please contact carmen.cardelle@uzh.ch. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact repbaf@universityofgalway.ie.

PhD Position 5: Manuscripts and Printed Editions of *Flos Sanctorum*

Location: University of Alicante

Widely disseminated in most European languages, Jacobus de Voragine’s *Legenda aurea* was also translated into Spanish, Occitan, and Catalan. The aim of this project is to study the evolution of printed editions of this text in seven 15th- and 16th-century Catalan editions, to probe its remarkably close relation to the practically complete but still unedited Occitan version in manuscript BNF, MS 9759, and to contextualise changes in text, type, and lay-out in wider cultural changes and technological evolutions that affected the printing presses in the Iberian Peninsula of the 15th and
16th centuries. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month secondment at the National Museum of Print in Dublin, to learn about the history of printing and to gain work experience, curatorial skills and transferable IT skills in the museum sector. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Bristol.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline
- MA in Catalan or other Romance medieval and modern philology.
- Knowledge of Catalan and prior study of both late medieval and early modern Catalan literature.
- Linguistic ability to participate in network-wide training activities conducted in English.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- Language competency in Occitan and Latin.
- A demonstrable interest in textual editing and book history.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://web.ua.es/va/valenciana-prosa/marinela-garcia-sempere.html](https://web.ua.es/va/valenciana-prosa/marinela-garcia-sempere.html)

For specific queries about this position, please contact marinela@ua.es / marinela@gcloud.ua.es. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact repaf@universityofgalway.ie.

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**PhD Position 6: Media and Narratology: Transformations of the Short Story in German from Manuscript to Print**

**Location: University of Vienna**

Based on a study of the evolving media in which shorter narratives were transmitted (late medieval multi-text codices, in the sixteenth century printed omnibus editions such as Pauli’s Schimpf und Ernst and Kirchhof’s *Wendenmuth* and in the seventeenth century newspapers), this project triangulates changes in modes of transmission with formal and narratological changes, such as changes from verse to prose and changes in focalisation and plot-telling. The project will lead to a deeper understanding of the relationship between medium and text in a crucial period of transition. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month internship at Antiquariat Inlibris to gain experience of, and access to, manuscript and rare books at Austria’s leading rare books dealer and to develop and apply palaeographical and codicological skills in a non-academic context. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Antwerp.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Austria for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline
- Proficiency in English-language academic reading and writing.
- A degree (MA) in German Literature or Medieval Literature with a focus on German.
- Near-native proficiency in German (C1, C2).
- A working knowledge of either Middle High or Early Modern German.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- Prior research experience in medieval and/or early modern German literature.
- An understanding of (historical) narratology.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/matthias-meyer/](https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/matthias-meyer/)
### PhD Position 7: From Print to Manuscript: A Study of Manuscripts Based on Caxton’s Prints

**Location:** University of Bristol

This project challenges the myth of progress (from manuscript to print) by investigating a corpus of 10 surviving manuscripts that were copied from printed Caxton originals. It asks how and why book producers of the late 15th century reversed the direction of travel, moving from print to manuscript, and explores how changes of media affected text, paratext, *ordinatio*, and so on. Particular attention will be paid to the way book producers sought to restore the *aura* of the handwritten book in the age of mechanical reproduction. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month internship at Antiquariat Inlibris to gain experience of, and access to, manuscript and rare books at Austria’s leading rare books dealer and to develop and apply palaeographical and codicological skills in a non-academic context. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Alicante.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the UK for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline
- A master’s qualification, or be working towards a master’s qualification, or international equivalent. Applicants without a master’s qualification may be considered on an exceptional basis, provided they hold a first-class undergraduate degree (or international equivalent). Applicants with a non-traditional background may be considered provided they can demonstrate substantial equivalent and relevant experience that has prepared them to undertake their proposed course of study.
- Good reading knowledge of medieval English.
- Fluency in spoken and written English corresponding to level c: [https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/language-requirements/profile-c/](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/language-requirements/profile-c/)

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A foundation in palaeography and codicology.
- A demonstrable interest in book history and/or textual criticism.
- Knowledge of other medieval languages, specifically French and Latin.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Ad-Putter-09ecfd98-f060-490d-accf-a29e09f6e9d/](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Ad-Putter-09ecfd98-f060-490d-accf-a29e09f6e9d/)
- [https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Marianne-Ailes-dba901dd-299f-472d-90cb-fl40b133e2ae/](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/people/person/Marianne-Ailes-dba901dd-299f-472d-90cb-fl40b133e2ae/)

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### PhD Position 8: Corporate Identity: Sigmund Feyerabend’s Books

**Location:** University of Vienna

Feyerabend was one of the most successful 16th-century publishers of Latin and German texts. This project traces the formation of the corporate identity of his published books throughout his career, taking into consideration the technology of production he inherited and acquired subsequently. The objective of the project is to uncover the connections between the means of production, the monetary and artistic value of the books, with special regard to the question of how Feyerabend developed the visual identity of his ‘brand’. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month secondment at Österreichische Nationalbibliothek to gain hands-on experience of analytical bibliography, acquire transferable general and specialist skills in heritage and library management, and work *in situ* with copies of Feyerabend’s early books in ÖNB. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Zürich.
**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Austria for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- Near-native proficiency in German (C1, C2).
- Proficiency in English-language academic reading and writing.
- A degree (MA) in German Literature, History of Art, Book History, or similar.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- Prior research experience in medieval and/or early modern German literature.
- A demonstrable interest in book history.
- Proficiency in reading early modern German and Latin.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/rabea-kohnen/](https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/rabea-kohnen/)
- [https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/matthias-meyer/](https://www.germ.univie.ac.at/matthias-meyer/)

For specific queries about this position, please contact rabea.kohnen@univie.ac.at. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.

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**PhD Position 9: Value and Intervention in 16-century Translating and Editing**  
**Location: University of Galway**

This project examines value both in commercial terms – investigating what 16th-century editors and printers saw as marketable material – and in terms of the comparative status and prestige attached to different sorts of texts. The project will compare practices of editors of French material with those of translators of classical and renaissance Latin, focusing on book production in Lyon. Research questions include: how were claims of value made, and how do these claims square with actual practice; what markers of prestige (names of patrons and authors, paratextual and visual material) are used and how did editors manipulate them? It is anticipated that training will include a three-month secondment at the National Museum of Print in Dublin, to learn about the history of printing and to gain work experience, curatorial skills and transferable IT skills in the museum sector. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Vienna.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Ireland for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- An honours BA with a minimum degree result of a high 2.1 or international equivalent.
- A good reading knowledge of modern and Renaissance French.
- Minimum IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent (only applicable for students who have not earned a previous degree in an English-speaking context).

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A good reading knowledge of Latin.
- A Master’s-level qualification.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/languages-literatures-and-cultures/catherinemcmoniemerson/](https://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/languages-literatures-and-cultures/catherinemcmoniemerson/)

For specific queries about this position, please contact catherine.emerson@universityofgalway.ie. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.
**PhD Position 10: The Commodification of the Early Book: Collecting and Selling Rare Books in the 19th Century**
*Location: University of Alicante*

This project traces the history of the present-day valuation of rare books as precious commodities in the marketplace back to the 19th c., focusing on Sir Thomas Phillipps, the greatest book collector of all times, and his contemporaries. It locates the history of the present-day valuation of rare books as collectible investment items in the 19th century, and it asks what neglected sources (19th-century sales catalogues, guides to book collecting, inventories of private collections) can tell us about the canons of value still prevalent nowadays in the trade of early books, both in manuscript and in print. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month secondment at Maggs Bros. to gain first-hand experience of the book trade in the UK’s leading dealer in manuscripts and early printing; to apply palaeographical and codicological skills to research into and marketing of the firm’s newly acquired manuscripts and early printed books; and to benefit from 19th-century company records recording sales (going back to 1853). It will also include a short secondment to the University of Bristol.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- An honours BA with a minimum degree result of a high 2.1 or international equivalent.
- An MA degree.
- High level of competence in academic English (minimum C1).
- Prior study of both late medieval and early modern English literature.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A demonstrable interest in book history, digital humanities, and/or textual editing.
- Some knowledge of Spanish and/or Catalan.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://web.ua.es/va/valenciana-prosa/marinela-garcia-sempere.html](https://web.ua.es/va/valenciana-prosa/marinela-garcia-sempere.html)

*For specific queries about this position, please contact Jordi.Sanchez@ua.es. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.*

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*Location: University of Antwerp*

This project turns to machine learning to quantitatively model the prices of medieval manuscripts at modern and historic auctions. It seeks to provide novel, quantitative insights into the factors driving the current (perceived) value of historical artefacts. Machine learning systems will be applied to recent auctioning information for premodern books, based on codicological properties, data to be collected from websites and catalogues of major auction houses. It is anticipated that training will include a three-month secondment at Maggs Bros. to gain first-hand experience of the book trade in the UK’s leading dealer in manuscripts and early printing; to apply and enrich palaeographical and codicological skills to research into and marketing of newly acquired manuscripts and early printed book; and to gather research data on the relation between valuation and codicological features. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Bristol.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Belgium for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- A Research MA degree in (medieval) literature, (book) history and/or Digital (Computational) Humanities. In the case of a degree in Data Science or Machine Learning, the researcher must be able to demonstrate a clear affinity with medieval manuscripts.
PhD Position 12: Promoting Open Educational Resources (OER) in Early Book Studies
Location: University of Galway
This practice-based project has the following objectives: 1) to create an inventory of the best existing OER related to early book studies; 2) to critically analyse current European and international policy on OER; 3) to conduct surveys and/or interviews that capture the current academic discourse around the value of OER in and beyond the subfields of medieval and early modern studies; 3) to investigate why literary studies remains underrepresented in high-profile OER repositories, making relevant recommendations for improving future volume and visibility; 4) to develop an experimental multimedia corpus of small-scale OER that effectively introduce editorial and bibliographical methodologies to undergraduate and nonspecialist audiences; 5) to develop capacity-building and awareness training encouraging medievalist and early modernist stakeholders to create, access, re-use, adapt, and redistribute OER. It is anticipated that training will include a two-month secondment at Cúirt International Festival of Literature to gain firsthand experience of arts events and social media management and to acquire archival skills by exploring Cúirt’s archives. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Antwerp.

Required Criteria:
- The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Ireland for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- An honours BA with a minimum degree result of a high 2.1 or international equivalent.
- Prior study of late medieval and/or early modern literature.
- Minimum IELTS score of 7 or equivalent (only applicable for students who have not earned a previous degree in an English-speaking context).
- Willingness and aptitude to acquire new digital skills.

Desirable Criteria:
- A completed MA or MLIS/MLS degree or other relevant postgraduate qualification.
- A demonstrable interest in book history, digital humanities, and/or textual editing.
- Experience with qualitative data collection and analysis.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

Supervisor Profiles:
- https://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/languages-literatures-and-cultures/catherineemerson/

For specific queries about this position, please contact lindsay.reid@universityofgalway.ie. For general queries about PhD opportunities with REBPAF, please contact rebpaf@universityofgalway.ie.
**PhD Position 13: Open Educational Resources (OER) in the History of the Book: Towards a New Anthology**  
**Location: University of Galway**

This practice-based project is focused on literary anthologies and OER creation and has the following aims: 1) to critically assess the extent to which aspects of selection, paratext and layout are included in traditional, commonly assigned anthologies used for teaching late medieval and early modern English literature; 2) to explore how non-traditional digital formats can be leveraged to convey information about material culture to students of literature; 3) to conceptualise, create, and effectively disseminate an open, classroom-friendly anthology of texts that will provide undergraduate and non-specialist audiences with a sophisticated understanding of early English print culture (c. 1476-1603). The digital anthology developed by the researcher will place particular emphasis on illuminating issues such as the coexistence of print and manuscript circulation, the transnational character of literary exchange and the book trade, and the economics of textual production in the long 16th century. It is anticipated that training will include a four-month internship at Boydell and Brewer to gain work experience at a major independent publishing house in medieval studies and gain transferable IT and marketing skills. It will also include a short secondment to the University of Antwerp.

**Required Criteria:**
- The researcher **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Ireland for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the application deadline.
- An honours BA with a minimum degree result of a high 2.1 or international equivalent.
- Prior study of both late medieval and early modern English literature.
- Minimum IELTS score of 7 or equivalent (only applicable for students who have not earned a previous degree in an English-speaking context).
- Willingness and aptitude to acquire new digital skills.

**Desirable Criteria:**
- A completed MA or MLIS/MLS degree or other relevant postgraduate qualification.
- Confidence reading Middle English.
- A demonstrable interest in book history, digital humanities, and/or textual editing.
- The ideal applicant is a communicatively skilled team player who is willing to teach and learn from their peers in the local group.

**Supervisor Profiles:**
- [https://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/languages-literatures-and-cultures/catherineemerson/](https://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/languages-literatures-and-cultures/catherineemerson/)

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