



Contextualising Medieval Race

How Was Race Constructed, Modified and Challenged in Premodern Times?

Call For Papers — IMC Leeds, 6-9 July 2026

Organisers: Ana Roda Sánchez (Queen Mary University) and Georgie Anderson (University of Kent)

These sessions aim to explore race-making and racialised discourses and practices across medieval Europe. We seek to examine how race was constructed, modified and challenged in different contexts and sources, including written documents, visual representations and material culture, to better understand the multiple ways by which race came into play in premodern times and made its way into modernity. Possible paper topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Intersectionality between race, culture and religion.
- Visual representations of racialised differences.
- Political uses of race and race-making by medieval authorities and institutions.
- Links between racial and gendered discrimination.
- Premodern race and racialisation as reflected in material culture.
- Methodological challenges in the study of premodern race today.

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit an abstract of 200 words with a provisional title, 3-5 keywords and a short bio (name, institutional affiliation, main research interests). Please send these to Ana Roda Sánchez (a.rodasanchez@qmul.ac.uk) and Georgie Anderson (ga301@kent.ac.uk) by **September 7th, 2025**.

Likewise, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions. We look forward to your proposals!