

Centre for Medieval & Early Modern Studies (MEMS)

Welcome to MEMS

Dr Suzanna Ivanic (Director, MEMS)

Wed 1st October 2025, 10-12:00

Today

Introductions

What is MEMS?

PhD and MA

Making the most of MEMS & Support

Cosmos

Knowledge Orders before Modernity

*Leverhulme-funded programme
between Kent and KCL*

CHASE

*Kent, SOAS, Sussex, UEA, Goldsmiths,
Essex, Birkbeck, Courtauld*

Medieval and Early Modern
Research Network (MEMRN)

University of Kent

Postgraduate Taught Programme:

- administrative body relating to PGTs (MAs)

artshumsugandpgt@kent.ac.uk (Polly Andrews)

- module/timetable/course issues

Graduate Researcher College:

- administrative body relating to PGRs (PhDs)
- provides general skills training

artshumspgr@kent.ac.uk (Angela Whiffen, Jenny Humphrey)

Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Centre Director, PG Director – Dr Suzanna Ivanic

MA – PhD – Events – Research - Community

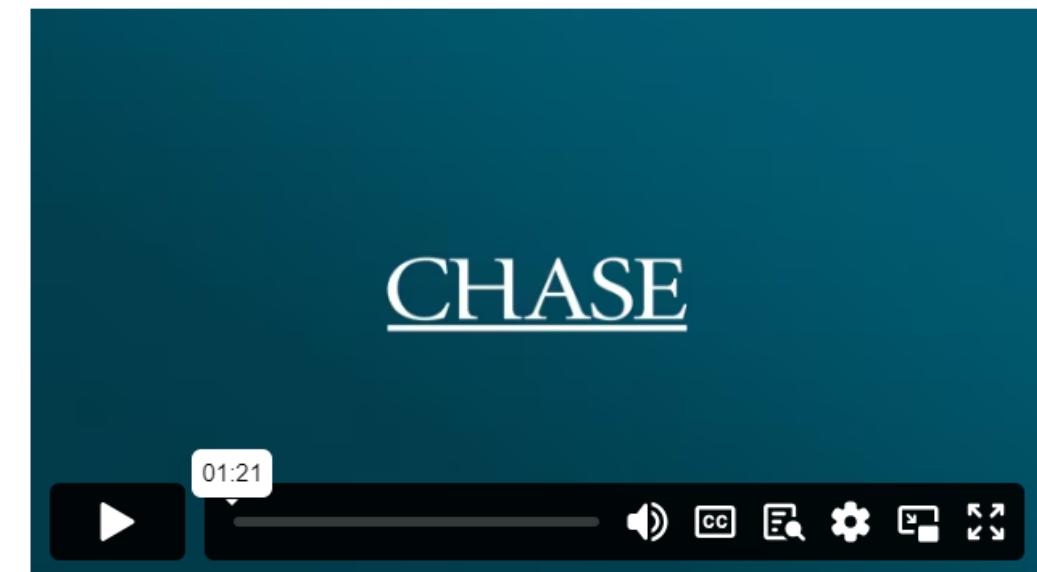
School of Humanities Postgraduates

PG Director – Dr Ryan Perry

[About](#)[News](#)[Training](#)[Our Research](#)[Funding](#)

What is CHASE?

The Consortium for the Humanities and the Arts South-east England (CHASE) brings together 9 leading institutions engaged in collaborative research activities including an AHRC doctoral training partnership. These are the Universities of East Anglia, Essex, Kent and Sussex, The Courtauld Institute of Art, Goldsmiths, University of London, Birkbeck, University of London and SOAS, University of London. Together, we offer a new and unique environment in which to undertake doctoral research.



Knowledge Orders before Modernity

About us

Projects

How to apply

Master's Plus

Resources

Knowledge Orders before Modernity

A Leverhulme Doctoral
Scholarships Programme

Apply for funding

Find out about us



LEVER H
TRUST

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Centre Director, PGR Director – Dr Suzanna Ivanic

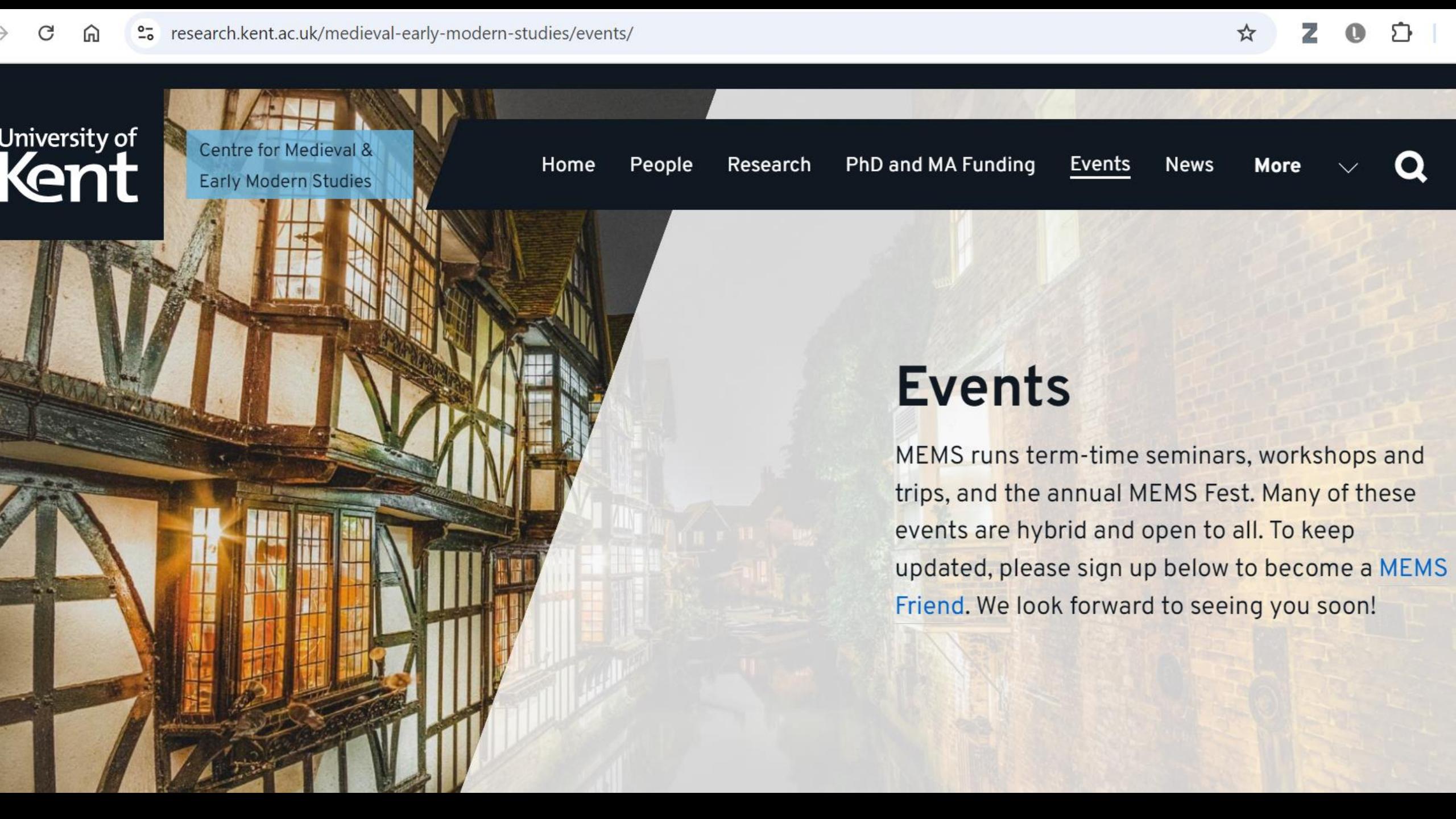
MA – PhD – Events – Research - Community

School of Humanities Postgraduates

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MEMS Events

- MEMS Seminars
- MEMS Labs
- MEMS Fest



Events

MEMS runs term-time seminars, workshops and trips, and the annual MEMS Fest. Many of these events are hybrid and open to all. To keep updated, please sign up below to become a [MEMS Friend](#). We look forward to seeing you soon!

MEMS Events

- MEMS Seminars
- MEMS Labs
- MEMS Fest, Jun 26

And...

- CHASE (MEMRN events, NB conference 14-16 Nov!)
- Knowledge Orders before Modernity
- Historical Association, Canterbury
- Canterbury Christ Church University
- Relevant research-related societies, e.g. RHS, IHR, Leeds IMC, SRS...

Fri 5 Dec, 3.30-6pm - Christmas Ye Olde Qui...

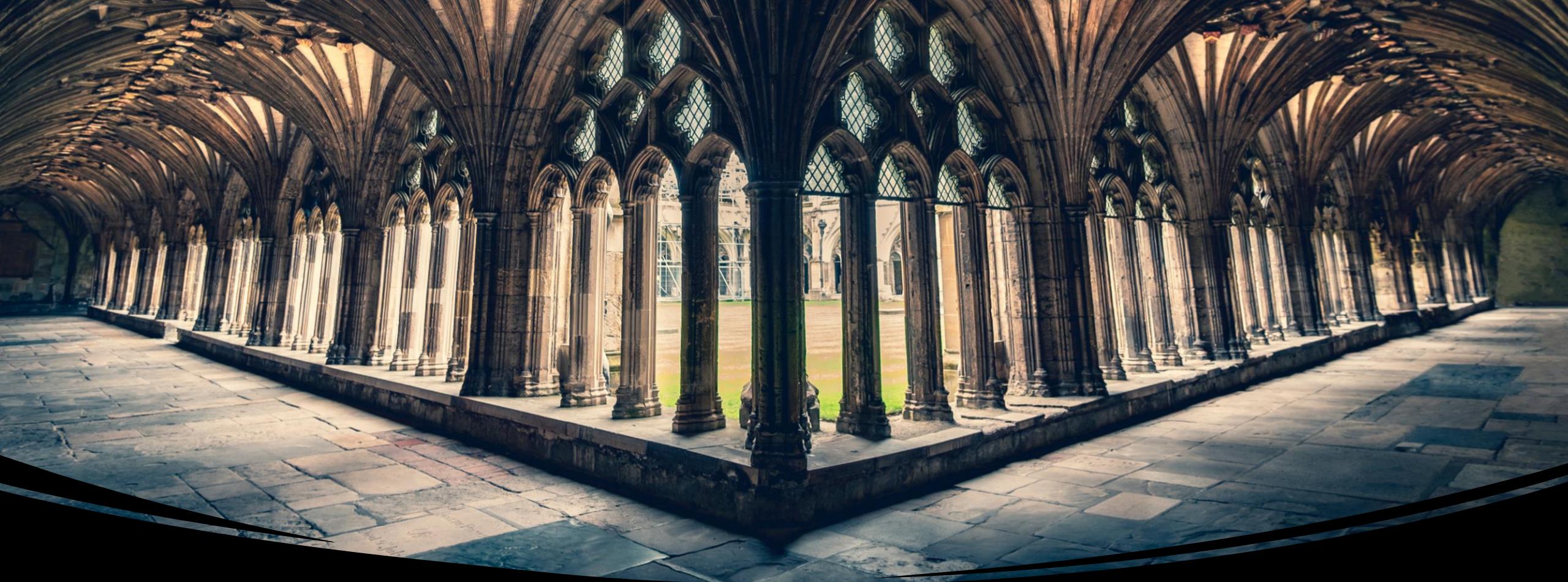
menstruum, the tincture with the vesse
bloud, the earth which is left in the bottome of the vessel
being black, dry, spongious and light. The menstruum must be
vapoured away, and the Oil of gold will remain by it self, which
must be kept as a great treasure: and this is Dr. Anthony's Au-
rum potabile.

Four or eight graines of this Oil taken in what manner so-
ever wonderfully refresheth the Spirits, and workes severall
wayes, especially by sweat.

The true Oil of Gold.

Special Collections and Archives

Study premodern drama, science and local history in SC&A (Templeman Library)



Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library

MEMS PhD

Dr Suzanna Ivanic
(Director, Centre for MEMS and MEMS PhD)

Supervisory Team

First/Second, Co-Supervisors, Cross-Institution teams

Supervisory Chair

Expectations (supervision once a month with Kent Vision report, don't get stuck!)

What makes a good supervision?
(reading of work, assigning of new work.)

Any problems, contact your supervisor or MEMS Director.

The PhD

- 80,000-100,000 words (excluding footnotes and bibliography)
- MHRA style
- 3-4 years

Examiners will be asked:

1. Does the candidate's work show that study of the subject of the thesis has been carried out with adequate industry and application?
2. Has the candidate shown ability to conduct an original investigation and to test ideas, whether their own or those of others?
3. Has the candidate shown an understanding of how their special theme is related to a wider field of knowledge?
4. Has the candidate shown appropriate ability in the organisation and presentation of the material in the thesis?

GRCPGR Team

Online PGR Admin Guide

- The GRC's PGR [Research Programmes Administration Guide](#) provides links to the updated guidelines for the PhD.

Kickstart your PhD

- It is a requirement that all PhD students complete this workshop and the Researcher Development Assessment during their first year of study. The workshop, which is repeated many times throughout the year, will explore the responsibilities of a postgraduate researcher, the supervisory relationship and skills development, the PhD journey and what researchers need to make the most of their doctoral programme. For dates and details about how to book a place, please visit the My Kent PG Events page.

Supervision Meetings

- You should make contact with your main supervisor during September to arrange your first meeting, which will ideally be attended by both of your supervisors. At this first meeting you should agree the pattern of how your supervision meetings will be arranged and how and when you will submit work for discussion ahead of each supervision meeting. You should always aim to meet every month (every other month if you are part-time).
- Following each of your supervisory meetings you should log-on to your student record on KentVision and write up the notes of the meeting. It is important that you complete these records promptly so there is a continuous record of your supervision meetings for both you and your supervisor's reference.

Progression Review Meetings

- When you meet with your supervisors for the first time, you should agree a date for your Induction Meeting which will ideally be attended by both of your supervisors and should take place within six weeks of your first registration. Following this meeting, your supervisor will write up the meeting notes which will then be accessible to you on KentVision. As you progress through your studies, you will receive notifications about subsequent review meetings as they become due, typically one each year.

Reviews

1. Induction (within 6 weeks)
2. Probation (10 months)
3. End of Year 2 Review (24 months)
4. Submission Review (33 months)
5. Continuation Year Review 1 (41 months)
6. Continuation Year Review 2 (46 months)

Induction Review

1. Work plan and targets to meet ahead of the next review (probation)
2. Have key publications and/or sources relevant to the research topic been identified?
3. Skills training plan
4. Record of any initial concerns
5. Record of any work the student is undertaking in addition to the research degree, which may impact on progress
6. Record of any additional support which the research student may require e.g. English language support
7. Record of key resources and facilities to be used in conduct of the research project
8. Agreement on the ways in which the supervisor-student relationship will work e.g. preferred means of contact (email, phone etc)
9. Any other comments

Probation Review

1. Record of discussions surrounding the portfolio of work (prepared by the research student in advance of the review) which will include:
 - i. A summary of work carried out to date
 - ii. Planned schedule of future work
 - iii. A sample of written work
 - iv. Completed induction review form
 - v. Record of supervisory meetings and completed Researcher Development Assessment (for PhD students only)
2. Review of targets and work plan set at the induction review
3. Identification of future targets and work plan
4. Record of any skills training undertaken since the induction review
5. Identification of future skills training opportunities
6. Has the PhD researcher completed the Researcher Development Assessment? (This is a condition for successful completion of the probation review for PhD students.)
7. Have key publications and/or sources relevant to the research topic been identified?
8. Record of how any necessary ethical considerations have or will be taken forward
9. Record of any work being undertaken in addition to the research degree to ensure that this is not adversely affecting progression of the research
10. Record of discussions regarding the efficacy of the current working relationship between supervisor and student (e.g. means of contact (email, phone etc), meeting format/frequency, feedback mechanisms and turnaround times)
11. Review of publishing opportunities (if considered appropriate)

GRC Training



My Kent

Need help? Ask Nexus

Quick links ▾

Your studies ▾

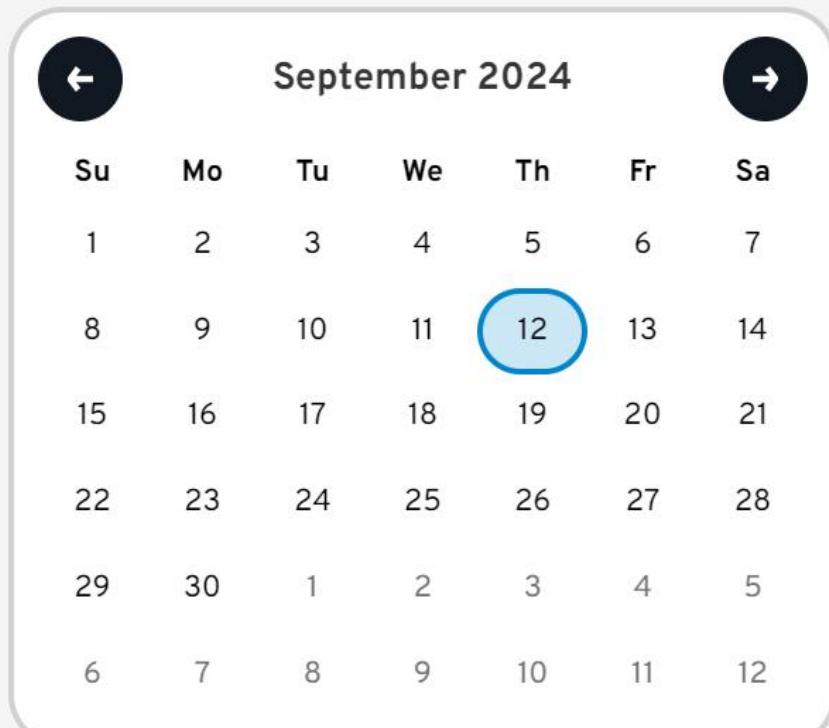
Student life ▾

Support ▾

Careers ▾

Q

GRC events



Postgraduate Research Students - Induction to the Graduate and Research College

📍 Canterbury



Postgraduate Research Students - Induction to the Graduate and Research College

📍 Canterbury



Milestone 1: Kickstart your PhD - In Person (Canterbury)

📍 Canterbury

Specialist skills training

Specialist training opportunities can be provided by different institutions or societies, so keep an eye out. Particularly useful is CHASE training that is offered in the first instance to CHASE PhD students, and then made available to other PhD and MA students.

Look out for:

- Language training, e.g. Old English, Medieval French, Anglo-Norman.
- Archival skills, material studies methodologies etc.

Sign up to the CHASE newsletter and check the website regularly

Internships/Placements



chase.ac.uk/current-placements



Current placement opportunities



CHASE Researcher Networks Officer

Deadline: Friday 1st November

CHASE is looking to appoint a part-time Researcher Networks Officer to oversee the administration of the student and faculty-led CHASE researcher networks.



Wasafiri Editorial Placement

Deadline: 29 September 2024

An opportunity is available for a CHASE-funded PhD student to join Wasafiri on a year-long editorial placement. The internship will provide invaluable experience within an internationally-recognised academic and literary journal in preparation for a career within academia, publishing, or the arts sector.

Deadline:

Funding for research trips, organising symposia...

- CHASE
 - Research expenses
 - Student-led training
 - can also apply for studentship in first year of PhD
- KOM
 - Research expenses
 - Budget
- University of Kent
 - Turing for research trips (3 weeks+)
 - Ad hoc
- Societies and Associations (check out Teams file)
 - Research expenses
 - Conference organisation



MEMS MA

Degree Structure

The MEMS MA includes core modules (60 credits) that focus on skills training, 3 x optional modules (60 credits), and a dissertation (60 credits), which amounts to a total of 180 credits.

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Late Summer Term
<p><u>CORE</u> <u>MEMS7007: Unlocking the Evidence: Latin and Palaeography for MA Medievalists and Early Modernists</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr David Rundle</p>	<p><u>CORE</u> <u>MEMS7007: Unlocking the Evidence: Latin and Palaeography for MA Medievalists and Early Modernists</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr David Rundle</p>	<p><u>MEMS7004: Pre-Modern Canterbury: from Augustine to Aphra Behn</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr Robert Gallagher</p>	<p><u>MEMS9980: MEMS Dissertation</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr David Rundle</p>
<p><u>CORE</u> <u>MEMS7003: Material Approaches to Pre-Modernity</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr Suzanna Ivanic</p>	<p><u>MEMS7001: Digital Futures for the Medieval and Early Modern Pasts</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr Rory Loughnane</p>	<p><u>MEMS7006: Sacred Arts: Death and Doom in the Premodern World</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr Clare Wright</p>	
	<p><u>MEMS7005: Premodern Race; Selfhood, Politics and Culture</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr Clare Wright</p>	<p><u>MEMS7002: Further Adventures in Latin, Palaeography and Codicology</u></p> <p>Convenor: Dr David Rundle</p>	

Dissertation (MEMS9980)

1. Dissertation Showcase - Wednesday 19th November, 1-3pm (DLT1)
2. Dissertation Proposal - Submission: Tuesday 17th February 2026 (via Moodle)
3. Supervisor Allocations - Tuesday 3rd March 2026 (notification via email)
4. Dissertation Presentation Symposium - 24th April 2026
5. Supervisor Meetings
 - arrange an initial meeting before Easter vacation, you are entitled to 5 supervisions, which is to be submitted along with your dissertation.
 - Please note that many supervisors will not be available all of the time in the summer holidays, so the sooner you plan your supervisions, the better.
6. Submission: - Early September 2026: Dissertation submission via Moodle submission box
7. NB Graduation will be late November (check accommodation, end of term means mid-September!)



Making the Most of MEMS

Boost your CV

- MEMS Fest Committee
- Conference organisation assistance
- Chairing panels and seminars (MEMS Seminars and MEMS Fest)
- Student Representative <https://ksu.co.uk/student-voice/student-reps>
- PGT Student Ambassadors <https://www.kent.ac.uk/ambassadors/vacancies>.
- MEMS Lib
- Volunteering with SC&A, Cathedral etc.

Think early about MA to PhD and PhD funding

Discuss early with a member of staff and find a suitable supervisor.

Explore funding options and be aware of early deadlines:

- AHRC Landscape: look out for events in autumn, to apply early 2026.
- KOM: deadlines TBC, but likely to start after Christmas.

Communication

Email:

- Please check regularly as this is the main communication from professional services and lecturers
- Term-time weekly email on Mondays by midday.

Teams:

- Your shared space for CfPs, questions, files etc.
- Minimally monitored by staff, so we can help if there are any queries relating to admin (though this is probably best directed by email to the relevant person anyway).

Moodle:

- MEMS Moodle

plus Whatsapp!



CAMEMS.org.u

Our principal aim is to support research and scholarship such as our funding of an MA scholarship at the University of Kent. By being a member CAMEMS, you will be supporting medieval and early modern community in Kent which includes enthusiasts, academics and alumni/ae of the Medieval and Early Modern Studies programmes at the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University.

We warmly invite you to become a friend.

CAMEMS Membership Levels

Students Free Academics £20

Friends £25 Life Membership £250

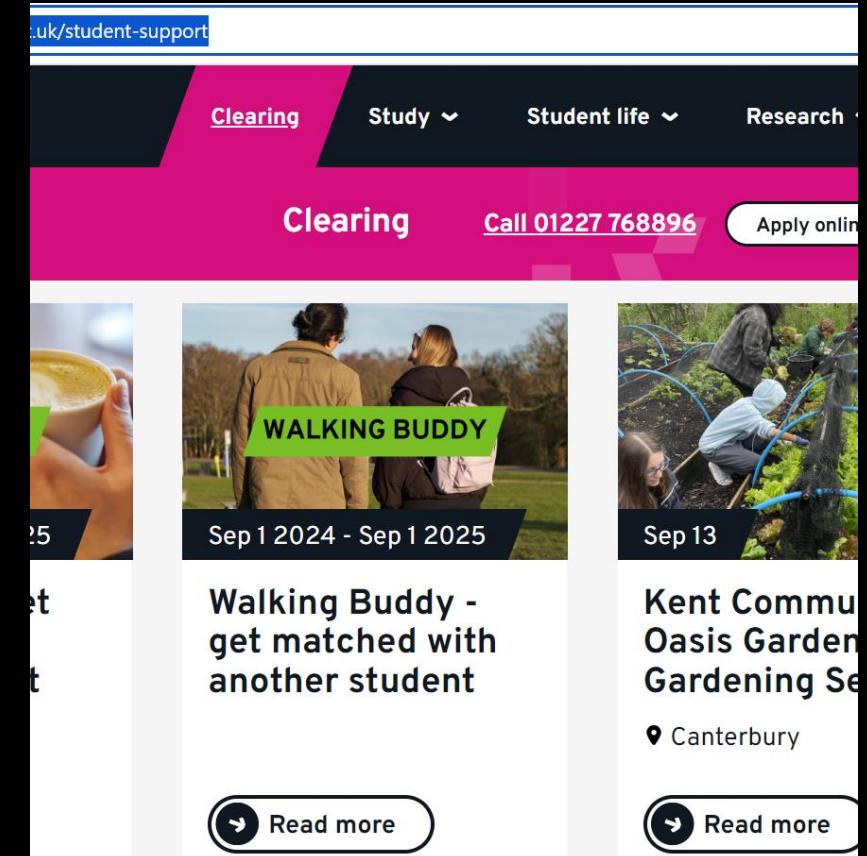
Patrons (includes Life Membership) £1,000



Student Support and Wellbeing

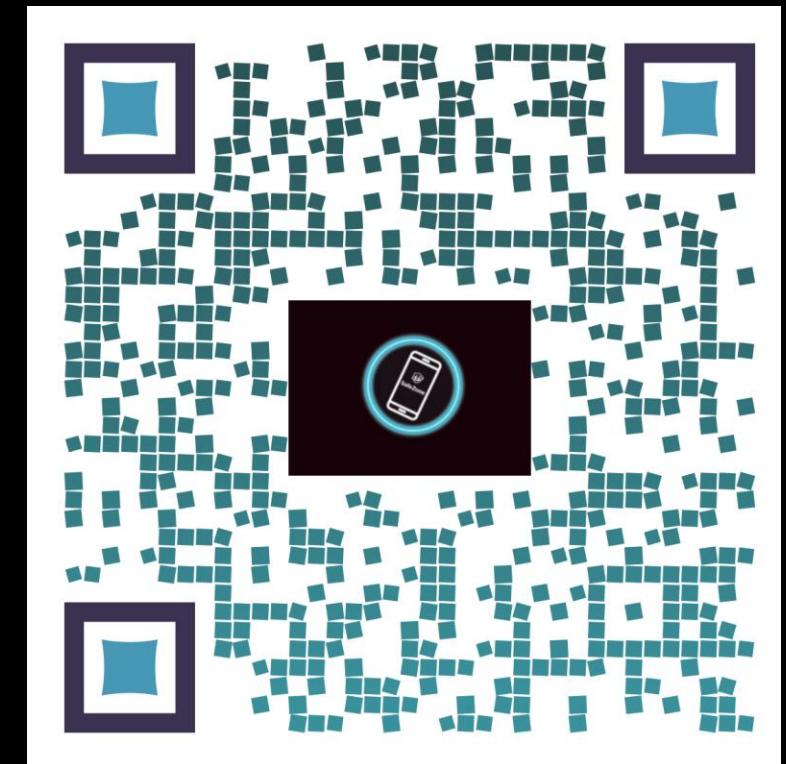
<https://www.kent.ac.uk/student-support>

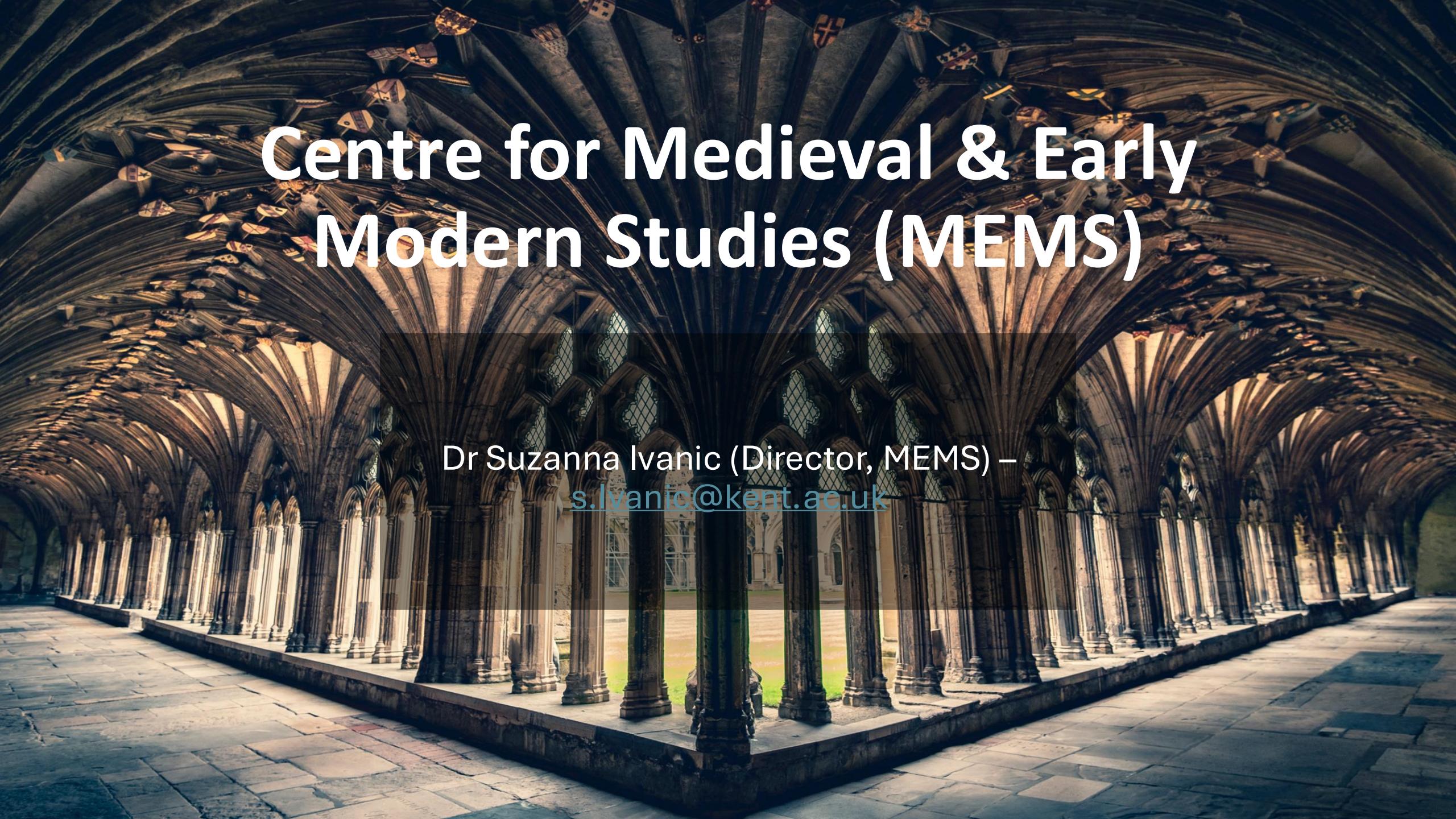
- Expect Respect Module - All PG students should be automatically enrolled on the module, but please contact Becky Lamyman (R.S.Lamyman@kent.ac.uk) if you have any issues.
- Inclusive Learning Plans
- Extensions



Contacts

**** Please feel free to reach out to any one of the MEMS staff, from your course convenor to your supervisor, or professional services. We will all try our best to help, and we can direct you to where you need for support. Never suffer in silence or feel you have to wait.****





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