



OxREP Conference

The Economics of Roman Religion

THURSDAY 22 – FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2016

Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies
University of Oxford

From institutions to individuals, religion shaped the Roman economy. Temples served as treasuries and banks, and priesthoods came with political power. The expansion of Roman religion transformed economies throughout the Empire, affecting established institutions and creating new centres of sacred consumption and production. Roman religion mobilised vast quantities of wealth and resources, but tensions between traditional piety and financial expenditure remained. This dynamic interplay between religion and the economy created a complex system that has hitherto received little attention.

This Oxford Roman Economy Project (OxREP) conference brings together an international body of scholars to discuss the economic role of religion in the Roman world. A variety of historical and archaeological approaches will explore the subject throughout the Republican and Imperial periods. Through examination of the economic function of religious institutions, the role of priests and patrons, and the provincial impact of Roman religion, this meeting aims to understand better the nature and extent of religion's influence on the wider economy and how it changed with the growth of the Empire.

Format

The two-day programme will consist of four sessions of 45-minute papers.
Each paper will be followed by 15 minutes of discussion.

Registration

There is no conference fee but please can you register with angela.trentacoste@classics.ox.ac.uk or nicholas.ray@classics.ox.ac.uk before September 9th in order for us to be able to plan numbers.

Organisers

Andrew Wilson | Alan Bowman | [Nick Ray](#) | [Angela Trentacoste](#)



The Economics of Roman Religion

Thursday 22nd September 2016: Religious Institutions and the Impact of the Roman Empire

9.30	Registration	
10.00–10.30	Welcome and Introduction	Andrew Wilson

Session 1

10.30–11.30	Investing in Religion: Religion and the economy in pre-Roman central Italy	Charlotte Potts
11.30–12.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12.00–13.00	Cult Economy in the Eastern Provinces	Marietta Horster
13.00–14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Session 2

14.00–15.00	-tbc-	Tony King
15.00–16.00	Measuring Divine Devotion: Comparing the size and scale of animal offerings in the pre-Roman and Roman provinces	Rachel Hesse
16.00–16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16.30–17.30	Impact of the Roman Conquest on Temple Economies in Egypt	Marie-Pierre Chaufray
17.30–18.00	Discussion	
18:00	<i>Drinks Reception</i>	
19:30	<i>Dinner</i>	

Friday 23rd September 2016: Costs and Financing

Session 3

09.30–10.30	Cost differences in temple architecture between Rome and the provinces	Javier Á. Domingo Magaña
10.30–11.30	Animals in Roman Religion: The Economics behind the Rituals	Michael MacKinnon
11.30–12.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12.00–13.00	Moneychangers in the Temple? Coins, ritual and religion in the Roman world	David Wigg-Wolf
13.00–14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Session 4

14.00–15.00	Sacred Gifts, Profane Uses? The Limits of Roman Donations in the Religious Sphere	Marta García Morcillo
15.00–16.00	Guilds in a World Full of Gods	Koen Verboven
16.00–16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16.30–17.00	Summary and Response	Greg Woolf
17.00–17.30	Concluding Discussion	
17:30	<i>Drinks Reception</i>	