

DISRUPTION

FIFTEENTH CENTURY CONFERENCE

2ND-4TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Call for Papers

Based on current government guidelines, we are planning to hold the conference as an **In-Person Event** on the campus of the University of Bristol.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

- Professor Peter Crooks
Trinity College Dublin
- Professor Alfred Hiatt
Queen Mary University
of London
- Professor Helen Swift
University of Oxford

Abstracts & enquiries:
Professor Helen Fulton
helen.fulton@bristol.ac.uk

DEADLINE: 30 June 2021

Following the postponement of the 2020 conference, we are delighted to send out this new call for papers for the 2021 Fifteenth Century Conference. The theme of the conference is 'Disruption'. Remarkably, this theme was determined well before the 2020 outbreak of Covid-19, and it now seems more prescient and more relevant than ever.

The concept of 'disruption' has been gaining ground in management and leadership studies, often as an expression of positive or desirable change. But how effective is 'disruption' in managing change in uncertain times? The concept seems particularly appropriate to the events of the fifteenth century, when Britain and Europe were struggling to contain militarism, social and cultural change, competing ideologies, and intellectual challenges. Then, as now, disruption throws up important questions. How can leaders and thinkers predict and process disruptive events? What impact do disruptive events have on communities and populations? Is disruption different from change? Can individuals trigger disruption (acting as 'disruptors'), or does it happen at institutional or social levels? What can be learned from disruptive events and their aftermath? Can disruption ever be a force for good?

We welcome abstracts from any discipline that explore aspects of the theme or any other topic relevant to fifteenth-century studies. Areas of interest can include, but are not limited to:

- politics
- environment
- intellectual history
- language
- religion
- institutions
- gender
- materiality
- military history
- cultural history
- space
- law
- economics & commerce
- science and medicine
- literature and literary forms
- literary criticism & theory

Abstracts (maximum 300 words) may be for individual papers (20 minutes), roundtables (90 minutes), or sessions of three or four speakers (90 minutes) and should include contact details for all speakers. Proposals are welcome from academics at all career stages and from independent scholars. Some travel bursaries are available for early-career and unwaged scholars.