



Centrum Studiów Mediewistycznych
Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II

The Centre for Medieval Studies
at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

has the pleasure to invite doctoral students to
the international Spring School

on

The Scribes of the Żagań Monastery in the Second Half of the Fifteenth Century

which will be held in Wrocław, the University Library

on 7 – 11 April 2025

The Spring School will be focused on scribes from the monastery of the Canons Regular of St Augustine in Żagań (Germ. Sagan) who busily worked copying books in the second half of the fifteenth century. The Żagań monastery was a key intellectual centre in late medieval Silesia, famous for its large library and a well-organized scriptorium. Luckily almost the entire medieval library of this monastery has been preserved and is currently deposited in the University Library of Wrocław. One of the research projects operated by the Lublin Centre for Medieval Studies is dedicated to the library of the Żagań monastery and its objective is to produce the catalogue of its medieval manuscripts.

The Spring School will address an important problem of our research, namely the identification of scribes who were behind the production of particular manuscripts. The information about them is provided in colophons – the formulas added by scribes at the end of manuscripts they copied. The colophons often include information about the time when the manuscript was completed, the place of its production, and the name of the scribe. Sometimes they are also supplied with humorous verses or requests for prayer. Thus colophons remain the key source material to analyse the circumstances in which particular manuscripts were produced.

Participants of our Spring School are planned to work on the colophons from the Żagań manuscripts, reading them and analysing information about the most active scribes who copied more than one codex. To conduct such research basic information on the Żagań monastery, its history and manuscript collection is required. In addition, to effectively work with medieval manuscripts some codicological skills are needed. That's why the Spring School will offer courses in the history of the Żagań monastery and the history of the manuscript collections from



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the monastery library. Practical skills in codicology to be trained will include the analysis of the structure and contents of particular manuscripts, their script, illuminations, and binding. A special focus will be given to colophons which enable to identify scribes and to date manuscripts. It is noteworthy that participants will work on the original fifteenth-century manuscripts from the special collections of the University Library in Wrocław.

The Spring School programme to be announced later will include lectures and seminars led by leading Polish and Czech experts. The following courses will be offered:

- *Innovation and Inertia: The End of Medieval Scribes* – Prof. Dr. Lucie Doležalová (Charles University, Prague);
- *Practical Aspects of Medieval Latin Paleography* – Prof. Dr. Anna Zajchowska-Bołtomiuk (Centre for Medieval Studies, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin);
- *Medieval Bindings of the Żagań Monastery Manuscripts* – Dr Ewa Chlebus (Centre for Medieval Studies, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin);
- *Introduction to Wrocław Manuscript Collections* – Dr. Adam Poznański (Centre for Medieval Studies, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin).

The Spring School will be organized in cooperation with the Institute of Greek and Latin Studies, Charles University of Prague, and the University Library in Wrocław.

The Spring School is addressed to doctoral students who should know Latin and have skills in medieval palaeography.

International participants (up to 12) are eligible to scholarships from the **PROM – Short-Term Academic Exchange** project covering travel, living and accommodation expenses. The project is funded by the European Union under the project titled “Short-Term Academic Exchange as a Method to Improve the Quality of Education in Higher Education and Research Institutions” (Project No. FERS.01.05-IP.08-0218/23) implemented by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA).

To apply for scholarship please fill out the **Project participation data form which can be easily found on a dedicated website ([LINK](#), see *Annex No. 1*)**. The complete application must include the following:

1. **Project participation data form** (preferably completed electronically)
2. **Certificate** from the Doctoral School Secretariat confirming the applicant’s status as a doctoral student at a foreign institution



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3. **Certificate of language proficiency necessary for the mobility programme**, provided in one of the following forms: an international certificate; a certificate from an institution confirming completion of a language course at the required level; a copy of a doctoral examination protocol certified as a true copy; or a candidate's declaration (*no template provided*)
4. **Original or copy of the acceptance** confirmation from the host institution, such as an official letter or an email printout (*not applicable to international Spring School participants*)
5. **Self-assessment questionnaire on research and teaching competencies** (BEFORE utilising the support forms in the project) – *online* ([LINK](#))

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 12 JANUARY 2025

For doctoral students, the complete set of recruitment documents must be delivered in person or sent via postal service to the Project Office:

The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin
Department of Research Projects
Al. Raławickie 14, 20-950 Lublin (Poland)
Knowledge Transfer Centre (CTW), Room 19

Alternatively, scanned copies can be sent via email to prom@kul.pl.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to us!