

Pippa Byrne has joined the Department as Assistant Professor in Medieval History. Dr Byrne received her PhD from the University of Oxford in 2014, and has since held positions there as a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow and a Departmental Lecturer. Her first book, *Justice and Mercy: Moral Theology and the Exercise of Law in Twelfth Century England* was published in 2014. She is currently researching the intellectual and cultural history of Norman Sicily.



Two questions for Pippa Byrne:

What is something you are excited about right now in relation to teaching?

I am co-teaching a module on Imagining History, for which I get to discuss how the Middle Ages have been depicted in film and fiction. It's been an opportunity for me to revisit my favourite medieval novel, *The Name of the Rose*, but also a way to think about the overlap between popular and academic engagement with the Middle Ages.

What is something you are excited about right now in relation to your research?

I'm working on a short book which provides a guide to reading scholastic summae - essentially the textbooks of the medieval university. It's allowed me to rethink some of my own assumptions about how knowledge was organised and transmitted in the scholastic world, and the way in which medieval students engaged with the page and the material culture of learning.