

The Achaemenid Empire
Wednesdays, 11am, Examination Schools
Dr Kathryn Stevens

This lecture series offers a broad overview of the Achaemenid Empire. It is mainly intended for students taking the *Achaemenid Empire, 550–330 BC* paper, but all are welcome! Some lectures may be of interest for those studying fifth and fourth century Greek History papers, or *Alexander the Great and his Early Successors*. The approach will be partly chronological and partly thematic.

Lectures will be recorded, and lecture handouts and powerpoints will be uploaded to the Canvas page for the series the day before each lecture.

For any questions, or if you would like to suggest any topics for the series that are not currently covered, please contact kathryn.stevens@ccc.ox.ac.uk

Provisional programme (nb. there may be some changes to the content or order of the list; please check the Canvas page for the latest version):

Week 1: Origins and sources

Week 2: Expansion and consolidation: Cambyses to Xerxes

Week 3: Languages, communication and administration

Week 4: King, court and heartland

Week 5: The view from the provinces

Week 6: Elites: imperial and local

Week 7: Religion

Week 8: Imperial twilight? The fourth century