

Welcome

Name: Francisco Lopez-Santos Kornberger

PhD: Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies

Thesis Title: *Power in Eleventh-Century Byzantium: Re-thinking its Nature from an Interdisciplinary Approach*

Thesis Description:

My main research interest is the nature of power, its agents, uses, expressions and representations in eleventh-century Byzantium. My study departs from pointing at a lack of historiographical revision among Byzantine scholars on such a multi-faced and problematic concept as "power", whereas such a concept has constituted the centre of modern debates in anthropology, sociology and philosophy. My intension is to take leading conceptions and debates about power and to apply them to the case of middle-Byzantium. Such study may include diverse topics in the fields of literary criticism, gender studies, church history and Christian theology. My interest is also focused on how other researchers have developed similar studies, namely applying a multi-disciplinary, social-science approach, to other historical contexts.



Supervisors and Institution:

- Ruth Macrides - University of Birmingham
- Leslie Brubaker - University of Birmingham

University email address: FXL491@bham.ac.uk

Publications:

- In collaboration with M. Diaz Bourgeal: 'El cantar del Mio Cid y el poema del Diyenís Akritas [Manuscrito de el Escorial]. Un estudio comparativo desde el legado clásico', *Estudios Medievales Hispánicos* 5 (2016) [Forthcoming]. <https://www.uam.es/otros/muemh/publicaciones.htm>

Book reviews:

- Review of S. Boldrick, L. Brubaker, and R. Clay (eds.) *Striking images, iconoclasms past and present*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2013 for *Diogenes* 3 (2015). <https://gemuob.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/diogenes-3-review-fl-sk.pdf>
- Review of F. De Vivo, *Patrizi, Informatori, barbieri. Politica e comunicazione a Venezia nella prima età moderna*, Milan: Feltrinelli, 2012 for *Libros de la Corte* 9 (2014). <http://sigehweb.geo.uam.es/ojs/index.php/librosdelacorte/article/view/112/139>

Scholarly activities:

2016:

- President of the society GEM (Gate to Eastern Mediterranean, Student Society for the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies), year 2016-2017.
- Co-organiser of the 18th CBOMGS Annual Postgraduate Colloquium (University of Birmingham, June 3rd 2017). In collaboration with Gemma Mason.

2015:

- Attendance to the Byzantine Greek Summer School in the University of Birmingham, 9th-23rd August 2015.
- Treasurer and Representative of Byzantine Studies in GEM (year 2015-16).

2014:

- Organized the II Curso de Historia Bizantina (Byzantine history introductory course; 12 hours taught) in collaboration with the student society APCA; Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, February – April 2014.
- Vice-president of the Asociación Cultura y Pensamiento en la Antigüedad (APCA: Ancient History Student Society) in the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

2013:

- Organized the I Curso de Historia Bizantina (6 hours taught) in collaboration with the

student society APCA; Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, February – April 2013.

Papers:

2016:

- Paper presented in the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies (CBOMGS) 17th Annual Postgraduate Colloquium (University of Birmingham, June 4th): 'The 'Cantar del Mio Cid' and 'Digenes Akrites': similarities and differences in two epic figures from the frontier'.
- Paper presented in the International Medieval Congress (University of Leeds, 4-7 July): 'Contextualising the Cantar del Mio Cid and the Digenes Akrites: Connecting the Christian Mediterranean'. Funded by a SDF scholarship.
- Paper presented in the 23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies (Belgrade, 22-27 August): 'The reigns of Isaak I Komnenos and Constantine X Doukas in the Skylitzes Continuatus: just a rewriting of Michael Attaleiates' History?'
- Paper presented in the 17th edition of the 'Jornadas sobre Bizancio' (University of Malaga, 13-15 October): 'El sol como símbolo de legitimidad en las crónicas bizantinas del siglo XI' (The sun as a symbol for legitimacy in eleventh-century Byzantine chronicles).

2015:

- Paper presented in the College of Arts and Law Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Workshop 'Power and Identity: Representations, Transformations and Conflicts', titled 'Power in 11th Century Byzantium: seeking for a new approach. Goals, tools, challenges.' University of Birmingham, 30th March 2015.
- Paper presented in collaboration with Marina Diaz Bourgeal in the V Jornadas de Estudios Medievales Hispánicos (5th Journey of Hispanic Medieval Studies) titled 'El cantar del Mio Cid y el poema del Diyenís Akritas [Manuscrito del Escorial]. Un estudio comparativo desde el legado clásico' ('The poem of Mio Cid and the poem of Digenis Akritas [El Escorial Manuscript]. A comparative study from the classic legacy'). Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, April 2015.
- Paper presented in the CBOMGS 16th Annual Postgraduate Colloquium, titled 'Literary Descriptions of the Eleventh Century Byzantine Empire'. University of Birmingham, 30th May 2015.

2013:

- Poster presented in the III Jornadas de Estudios Medievales Hispánicos (3rd Journey of Hispanic Medieval Studies), titled 'Manuel Comneno y la influencia bizantina en los "estados" cruzados' ('Manuel Komnenos and the Byzantine influence in the crusader states'). Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, April 2013.
- Paper presented in the XVI Jornadas de Bizancio titled 'La percepción bizantina de Occidente a través de la obra cronística de Juan Cinnamo' ('The Byzantine Perception of the West through the chronicle of John Kinnamos'). Alcalá de Henares, October 2013.

Other research interests: Anthropological and sociological theory, theory of ideologies, gender studies, interdisciplinary studies, popularizing history.