The Early Medieval Interdisciplinary Conference Series is pleased to present Sensory Perception in the Medieval World, taking place on 12th and 13th April in UCL's Institute of Archaeology.

Participants will consider the ways in which we understand and interpret written, printed, and physical materials from the early medieval period. This is enhanced by the growing availability of digital resources which enhance the potential for visual perception while reducing the opportunity to use other senses for interpretation.

At the same time, scholarship is becoming more conscious of ways in which artefacts and documents were perceived and used in the period: of how the design of objects, including books and manuscripts, controlled their reception.

Papers include discussions of the role of digital editions of texts, the impact of art, perceptions of deafness, the sensory experience of manuscripts, and the presentation and exploitation of the senses in Old English, Old Norse, and Medieval Literature.

Refreshments, including a wine reception on Saturday, and sandwich lunches on both days, are included.

Places are £10 (£5 students and concessions), with a 20% discount for advance booking. Please reserve your place on eventbrite or by emailing Simon Thomson at medievalsenses@gmail.com.

Saturday 12th April: 10.00 registration for 10.30 start; close by 17.30.
Sunday 13th April: 10.00-15.30.
Sensory Perception in the Medieval World:
an EMICS conference at the Institute of Archeology, UCL

Saturday 12th April

Registration 10.00-10.30

Session 1 10.30-12.00
Welcome
Richard North (UCL): Out of one's senses, or senses out of one: more on the flying modsefa
Jon Wilcox (Iowa): The sensory cost of remediation; or, sniffing in the gutter of the Blickling Homilies

Coffee 12.00-12.30

Session 2 12.30-2.00
Simon Thomson (UCL): "Whistle while you work": some indications of scribing as hearing in Old English poetic manuscripts
Nick Baker (York): Crying in the Middle Ages: the emotional power of manuscript art
Mary Wellesley (UCL): Multi-sensory association in the N-town 'Magnificat'

Lunch 2.00-3.00

Session 3 3.00-4.30
Irina Metzler (Swansea): Changes in the conflation of congenital deafness and mental disability in the medieval world
Mariana López (York): The York Mystery Plays: A case study in the exploration of sound and hearing in medieval vernacular drama
Eric Lacey (Winchester): tbc

Wine reception 4.30-5.30

Sunday 13th April

Session 1 10.00-11.00
Pete Sandberg (UCL): Disembodied cognition and sensory perception in Old Norse poetry
Meg Boulton (Independent): (Re)Viewing “luxta Morem Romanorum”: Considering Perception, Phenomenology and Anglo-Saxon Ecclesiastical Architecture

Coffee 11.00-11.30

Session 2 11.30-1.00
Eoin Bentick (UCL): "Bodyly Syght", female devotion and Books of Hours
Vicky Symons (UCL): Doing Things with Words in Old English Charms and Riddles
Francesca Brooks (KCL): The Partible Text and the Textual Relic: Sensory Engagements with the 13th Century Seinte Margarete

Lunch 1.00-2.00

Session 3 2.00-3.30
Melissa Herman (York): Loops, twists, and tangles: Visual perception and Anglo-Saxon interlace
Mike Bintley (Canterbury): Expressions of suffering and sensory engagement with the early medieval world