



Call for Papers

# Categories and Boundaries in Second Temple Jewish Literature



Department of Theology & Religion, University of Birmingham  
15<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## Keynote Speakers:

Dr Molly Zahn, University of Kansas

Dr Elisa Uusimäki, Aarhus University

**Deadline for Abstracts: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**

We invite postgraduate students and early career researchers to submit proposals for twenty-minute papers broadly related to the topic of Categories and Boundaries in Second Temple Jewish Literature. Abstracts of no more than 300 words and a working title should be sent to [categoriesandboundaries2020@gmail.com](mailto:categoriesandboundaries2020@gmail.com). Please note that speakers can apply for travel bursaries and that selected papers may be considered for publication in peer-reviewed proceedings.

We welcome abstracts engaging with, but not limited to, the following themes:

- Categorical or genre-related distinctions/similarities/tensions in Second Temple texts and related literature
- Physical boundaries (e.g. city limits, border regions, topographical features, walls, buildings)
- Understanding vocational roles (e.g. priests, prophets, scribes, sages)
- Cross-border cultural interaction (e.g. travel, international trade, migration, treaties)
- The role of boundaries in the construction of space/place (e.g. ritual, political)
- Rhetorical or symbolic creation/uses/deconstruction of borders and boundaries in the formation of “self” and the knowledge of “other”
- The relationship between land, space, and identity
- The function of power in delineating categories or boundaries (e.g. elite scribes connected to political power, literate scribes reflecting an oppressed/defiant community)



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