



The unskilled scribe.

Elementary hands and their place in the history of handwriting

Conveners: IRENE CECCHERINI & MARTIN KAUFFMANN

Papers by: CARMEN DEL CAMINO (Seville), TERESA DE ROBERTIS (Florence), MARC SMITH (Paris), CARLO TEDESCHI (Chieti-Pescara), TERESA WEBBER (Cambridge)

**Weston Library
Bodleian Libraries
Oxford**

**Friday 30
September**

10am–5pm

The Bodleian Library is happy to welcome the ninth seminar of the series "Séminaire Écritures cursives". Started in 2006, these are open, informal workshops run by an established group of researchers and hosted by different institutions throughout Europe. They focus upon the various aspects of cursivity and its role in the evolution of handwriting in the Latin West and comprise short presentations as a starting-point for informal discussion. The speakers are usually experienced palaeographers from different European countries, who consider new ideas about the history of handwriting in Europe over the Middle Ages.

The theme of the Oxford seminar is handwriting by people untrained, poorly trained or still learning to write. Such elementary handwriting is fascinating for the history of medieval literacy, which often recounts the spread of the skill of writing (and reading) to new groups of people for pragmatic or other purposes. Moreover, such elementary handwriting is useful for revealing how a script works. It can reveal what new or unaccomplished writers consider the essential elements of a script or of scribal practice. It can also reveal the contexts in which cursive handwriting thrived, such as schooling, bureaucracy or the perhaps unlicensed writing in graffiti. Papers will be in English, Spanish and Italian.

Information and registration (by 22 September): irene.ceccherini@bodleian.ox.ac.uk



APICES

Association Paléographique Internationale
Culture / Écriture / Société