

British Association for the Study of Religions Annual Conference

Theme: 'Religion Beyond the Textbook'

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Martin Stringer (Swansea University)

University of Wolverhampton, 5-7 September 2016

People enact, perform and live religion in a multitude of specific contexts, which are studied through a wide range of methods and approaches; and yet mainstream discourse on religion – public, media and textbook – too often reverts to generic, out-dated essentialisms concerning the lives of religious actors and the classification of 'religion' itself. However, new methodological approaches are emerging which ensure diverse forms of religion – often contradictory and complicated, offering counter-narratives to the textbook accounts – are understood, which allow different voices to be heard, texts to be re-read, phenomena to be re-interpreted and identity boundaries to be challenged.

The BASR invites colleagues from across the UK, Europe and beyond to the University of Wolverhampton – the heart of multicultural Britain – to contribute papers or panels on the above theme. Papers will be 20-25 minutes with 5-10 minutes for questions/discussion. Panels will be 90 minute sessions, to normally include 3 papers. Roundtables and poster presentations may also be accepted – please contact the below email for details. Ideas for papers and panels may include, but are not limited to:

- Lived and vernacular religion
- Multiple religious belonging
- Contested identities within and between religions
- Minority and muted voices
- Counter-cultural practices and purposefully 'discordant' worldviews
- Non-Religion in diverse forms
- Pedagogic challenges and opportunities
- Emergent methodologies and paradigms in the Study of Religion/s

Abstracts (200 words plus paper title, author name and institutional affiliation in Microsoft Word format) should be submitted to basrconference@gmail.com before 31st May 2016. Panels should be submitted in the same way, with details for each paper along with the panel title and the name of the convener/chair.

Deadline for paper/panel submissions: 31st May 2016

Notification of acceptance of papers/panels: No later than 6th June 2016

Online registration for conference open from: 1st June 2016

Deadline for registration: 31st July 2016