

Learn Live: Intermediate Old English

Dates	Tuesdays 8 and 15 November 2022
Times	17.30 – 19.00
Location	Zoom
Level	Intermediate. Some previous experience of Old English language required.
Class size	Maximum 35 participants

Course description

Moving away from the more well-known riddles and elegies, we will explore the arresting and enigmatic genre of Old English wisdom poetry. We will build on the skills introduced in our beginner courses, including the translation, transliteration, literary analysis and cultural context of Old English literature.

Through a combination of glossed text, translation, and digitised edition of the manuscript itself, we will get to grips with a single Old English poem, known today as *Maxims II* or the *Cotton Maxims*. Participants will gain deeper knowledge of Old English language and literature, as well as the confidence to access and examine the manuscripts in which these ancient works survive.

This two-week online course is aimed at those who have already taken our beginner-level courses, or those with some previous knowledge of the language and grammar of Old English literature.

This course takes place on Zoom and we will email you a joining link the day before. There will be an opportunity to ask the tutor Victoria Symons questions during a Q&A, and have conversations with your fellow participants in virtual breakout rooms.

If you require live-captioning please email adultlearning@bl.uk as soon as you have booked your ticket.

Pre-course task

Please read *Maxims II* in translation and the refresher Old English grammar guide (both to be provided ahead of the course).

Tutor

Dr Victoria Symons is a former teaching fellow of Old and Middle English literature at University College London. She currently works in outreach, and has taught courses on medieval literature and manuscript studies to audiences ranging from specialist MA students to primary school children. Her

research focuses on runes, writing and textuality in the medieval period, as well as modern adaptations of medieval literature. She is the author of various articles on medieval literature, former co-editor of *The Riddle Ages* blog, and her monograph on runes in Old English manuscripts was published in 2016.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

Intermediate level. Some previous experience of Old English language required. Please only join this course if you have attended the two-day weekend Masterclass at the British Library, or if you have previous knowledge of the language and grammar of Old English literature.

Accessibility

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**THIS COURSE TAKES PLACE ON ZOOM.
PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE BRITISH LIBRARY.**