

Thinking about Thinking

A Conference on Metathinking Convened by

Hindy
Najman

Tobias
Reinhardt

Konrad
Schmid

30 June – 2 July 2025, Oxford



Speakers

Arjen Bakker

Felix Budelmann

Bruno Currie

Jan Dietrich

Constanze Güthenke

Phillip Lasater

Nathan MacDonald

Christopher Metcalf

Saskia Peels-Matthey

Hindy Najman

Reviel Netz

Tobias Reinhardt

Ishay Rosen-Zvi

Annette Schellenberg

Alessandro Schiesaro

Konrad Schmid

Barnaby Taylor

Monday 30 June

(All lectures to be held at Oriel College in the Harris Lecture Theatre)

- 9:30–9:45: Introduction - Hindy Najman, Konrad Schmid, Tobias Reinhardt
- 9:45–10:15: Nathan MacDonald: “Sanctuary Descriptions as Metathinking”
- 10:15–10:45: Bruno Currie: “Hesiod’s Hemerology (Works and Days 765-828)”
- 10:45–11:15: Discussion
- 11:15–11:45: Coffee
- 11:45–12:15: Tobias Reinhardt: “Meta-thinking in Roman comedy?”
- 12:15–12:45: Hindy Najman: “The Place of Nature and Natural Thinking in Ancient Jewish texts”
- 12:45–13:15: Discussion
- 13:15–14:30: Lunch
- 14:30–15:00: Christopher Metcalf: “Thinking about Myths of Creation”
- 15:00–15:15: Alessandro Schiesaro: “‘Thinking’ between Reason and the Irrational”
- 15:15–15:45: Discussion
- 15:45–16:15: Coffee
- 16:15–16:45: Barnaby Taylor: “Metathinking in Manilius”
- 16:45–17:15: Discussion

Tuesday 1 July

- 9:30–10:00: Annette Schellenberg: “The Book of Deuteronomy and its Concept(s) of Knowing (about) God”
- 10:00–10:30: Felix Budelmann & Saskia Peels-Matthey: “Trust in the Gods as an Epistemological Challenge in Archaic and Classical Greek Texts”
- 10:30–11:00: Discussion
- 11:00–11:30: Coffee
- 11:30–12:00: Arjen Bakker: “Between Light and Darkness: Hellenistic and Jewish Thinking about Time”
- 12:00–12:30: Reviel Netz: “The Praxis of Abstraction”
- 12:30–13:00: Discussion

13:00–15:00: Lunch

15:00–15:30: Phillip Lasater: “Reason’s Rightness as a Legalistic Consideration”

15:30–16:00: Ishay Rosen-Zvi: “Hermeneutic and Reflexivity: the Case of Tanna-
itic Midrash”

16:00–16:30: Discussion

Wednesday 2 July

9:30–10:00: Konrad Schmid: “Conceptualizing Humans: The Intellectual Road
to an Egalitarian Anthropology in Ancient Israel”

10:00–10:30: Jan Dietrich: “Areas of Thought and their Respective Thinking
Modes in Ancient Near Eastern Cultures”

10:30–11:00: Discussion

11:00–11:15: Coffee

11:15–11:45: Constanze Güthenke: Reflections on the Papers Given

11:45–12:15: Discussion and General Reflection

12:15: Lunch

