

Section:

## Mesoamerican Cultures and Religions. New Perspectives and Approaches

### Names of coordinators along with contact details:

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### Name and information about the research team coordinating the section:

#### Centro de Estudios Mesoamericanos+ (CEM+)

The research group gathers specialists in the history, culture and religion of the Indigenous peoples of pre-Hispanic Mesoamerica and other areas of pre-Columbian America. The goal of the group is to deepen knowledge of Mesoamerica (and Spanish America) of the pre-Conquest period, as well as of the transformations that took place in the area during the colonial times. Research activities of CEM+ cover areas such as history and historical memory, the Nahuatl language, phenomena of cross-cultural contact in central Mexico in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, the screenfolds (codices) of central Mexico, graphic communication systems, archives, historical cartography, spectacles and fiestas in Mexico, humor and laughter, and the Mesoamerican concept of deity.

### Section language:

english, spanish

## Call for papers:

The CEM+ (Mesoamerican Studies Centre) research group invites researchers to participate in the panel “Mesoamerican Cultures and Religions. New Perspectives and Approaches” during the 4th International Humanities-Society-Identity Congress. The purpose of the panel is to facilitate exchange among scholars about recent insights into the religious and cultural practices of Mesoamerican societies, during the pre-Hispanic and colonial periods, as well as in present times. This panel aligns with the conference theme of Re-Action(s) by exploring how Mesoamerican societies actively shaped, (re)created, negotiated, and transformed their religious and cultural practices in response to internal dynamics and external influences. We invite to submit papers related (but not limited) to the following topics:

- The performativity of rituals and daily life
- Cosmovision and symbolic spaces as frameworks of understanding and responding to the world
- God’s domains and fluctuating identities
- Gender and social roles in contexts of stability and transformation
- The shaping of cultural memory before the conquest and in the context of negotiation in new colonial and present-day reality

We are particularly interested in papers that offer new insights through innovative methods, fostering a dialogue that transcends disciplinary boundaries.

## Bibliography:

Bassett, Molly H. 2015. *The Fate of Earthly Things. Aztec Gods and God-Bodies*. University of Texas Press.

Boone, Elizabeth Hill. 2007. *Cycles of Time and Meaning in the Mexican Books of Fate*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Dehouve, Danièle. 2020. “The Rules of Construction of an Aztec Deity: Chalchiuhtlicue, the Goddess of Water.” *Ancient Mesoamerica* 31 (1): 7–28. [See here](#).

Díaz Álvarez, Ana Guadalupe. 2015. *Cielos e inframundos: una revisión de las cosmologías mesoamericanas*. Mexico: IIH-UNAM.

Dehouve, Danièle. 2022. “Los tropos conceptuales en los códigos adivinatorios del Centro de México.” *Revista Española de Antropología Americana* 52 (2): 299–319. [See here](#).

Madajczak, Julia. 2024. “Nahua Fasting in a Series of Don’ts: An Interpretation of the Precontact Nezahualiztli Practice.” *Hispanic American Historical Review* 104 (3): 371–401. [See here](#).

Mikulska, Katarzyna. 2015. *Tejiendo Destinos. Un Acercamiento Al Sistema de Comunicación Gráfica En Los Códigos Adivinatorios*. Mexico (Zinacantepec), Varsovia: El Colegio Mexiquense, IEIel-Universidad de Varsovia.

Mikulska, Katarzyna. 2022. “The Deity as a Mosaic: Images of The God Xipe Totec in Divinatory Codices from Central Mesoamerica.” *Ancient Mesoamerica* 33 (3): 432–58. [See here](#).

Whittaker, Gordon. 2021. *Deciphering Aztec Hieroglyphs. A Guide To Nahuatl Writing*. London: Thames & Hudson Ltd.