

## John Haldon: Brief CV

John Haldon is Shelby Cullom Davis '30 Professor of European History, Professor of Byzantine History and Hellenic Studies, and Director of the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies ([www.princeton.edu/iran](http://www.princeton.edu/iran)) at Princeton University. A corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, he is also current President of the International Association of Byzantine Studies. He has been Director of Graduate Studies for the History Department at Princeton since July 2009. His research centers on the socio-economic, institutional, political and cultural history of the early and middle Byzantine Empire from the seventh to the eleventh centuries. He also works on political systems and structures across the European and Islamic worlds from late ancient to early modern times, on the environmental history of the Byzantine and Ottoman worlds and the interface between societal change, environment and climate, and has explored how resources were produced, distributed and consumed, especially in warfare, during the late ancient and medieval periods.

He is the author of a number of articles, monographs and co-authored books, most recently:

*The empire that would not die: The paradox of eastern Roman survival, 640 – 740* (Harvard UP, Cambridge MA 2016: <http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674088771>);

*A tale of two saints: the passions and miracles of Sts Theodore 'the recruit' and 'the general'* (Liverpool UP, Liverpool 2016: <https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/collections/series-translated-texts-for-byzantinists/products/73642>);

*A Critical Commentary on the Taktika of Leo VI* (Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, DC 2014:

<http://www.doaks.org/resources/publications/books-in-print/a-critical-commentary-on-the-taktika-of-leo-vi>); and

*Byzantium in the Iconoclast Era: A History* (with L. Brubaker) (Cambridge University Press,

Cambridge 2011: <http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/history/european-history-450-1000/byzantium-iconoclast-era-c-680850-history?format=PB>).

He is the director of two long-term projects: the PIIRS *Climate Change and History Research Initiative* (<http://climatechangeandhistory.princeton.edu/>) entitled "A comparative approach to climate, environment and society in Eurasia, 300-1900. Towards understanding the impact of climate on complex societies"; and the *Avkat Archaeological Project* - an archaeological and historical survey in north central Turkey ([www.princeton.edu/avkat](http://www.princeton.edu/avkat)). As well as traditional

methods of field survey and historical research, this long-term project employs cutting edge survey, mapping and digital modeling techniques to enrich our understanding of the society, economy, land use, demography, paleo-environmental history and resources of the late Roman, Byzantine and Seljuk/Ottoman periods.

A native of Northumberland, England, he was educated in the UK and studied at the Universities of Birmingham and Athens; he held postdoctoral or visiting faculty positions at the University of Munich and at the Max-Planck-Institut for European Legal History in Frankfurt. From 1995 until 2000 he was Director of the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies at the University of Birmingham, and from 2000-2004 Head of the School of Historical Studies. He moved to Princeton University in 2005. From 2007-2013 he was a Senior Fellow at the Dumbarton Oaks Center for Byzantine Studies in Washington D.C. He is a member of the editorial boards of several scholarly journals in Europe and the USA.

### **Current Projects**

Apart from those noted above, these include a re-examination of the relationship between environment and social and political change in the Byzantine world; research on some aspects of institutional and administrative history of the seventh-eighth centuries; preparation of an English translation of and critical commentary on the tenth-century text 'De Thematibus'; research into the origins and development of the so-called Second Iconoclasm; work on comparative state formation in pre-modern societies. He is also in the initial stages of a major project on the history of the Eurasian world ca 400-800 for Edinburgh University Press.

### **Teaching Interests**

Include a wide range of courses in the field of Byzantine history from the late Roman to the 12th century. Recent courses include "Problems of Byzantine History - Formation of Byzantium 600-850: Sources and Problems," "Transformation of the Ancient World: Byzantium 500-1200," "War and Peace in the Medieval World," and "Byzantium in the 10th Century."