The Department of History at the University of Texas at Arlington announces its 53rd Annual Walter Prescott Webb Essay Competition. The topic for 2018 is “The Digital Medieval: New Directions in Medieval History and the Digital Humanities.”

We are looking for students and scholars to submit original, unpublished article-length essays (maximum 10,000 words, plus endnotes) that explore the opportunities and challenges that the growing field (and set of methodologies) of the Digital Humanities presents for the study and understanding of the Middle Ages.

Submissions that engage with current ideas about how Medieval History as a discipline has responded to—or should respond to—calls for greater collaboration, integration, interoperability, interdisciplinarity, inclusiveness, and disruption are especially welcome. Topics may concern, but are not limited to: new avenues of research; new methodologies; questions of public outreach; and the place of medieval studies and the Digital Humanities both within and outside the academy.

A prize in the amount of $500 will be awarded to the author of the winning entry during the 53rd Annual Webb Lecture Series on April 4–5, 2018 at UTA. The goal of this two-day conference will be to reflect critically on the promises, challenges, and responsibilities of studying the medieval era in this digital age. The winning entry will appear in an edited monograph, to be published by Texas A&M University Press. Essays by the lecturers will also be included in the volume.

The lecturers include: Dorothy Kim, Erik Kwakkel, Austin Mason, Charles Travis, Kathryn Beebe, and Laura Morreale.

Deadline for submission: January 15, 2018

Essays should be submitted electronically to the coordinator of the 2018 Webb Lecture Series:

Dr. Jennifer Lawrence
University of Texas at Arlington, Department of History
jlawrence@uta.edu.