

Arcastar Lerinosse: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Arda

Tolkien Workshop at the University of Freiburg, 28. June 2024

To say that J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy are popular would be an understatement. Even fifty years after his death, Tolkien's popularity has not abated, as adaptations like Amazon's *Rings of Power* TV show (2022—) or *The Lord of the Rings: Return to Moria* video game by Free Range Games (October 2023) prove. In 2014, the late fantasy author Terry Pratchett said that Tolkien's lifework has "become a sort of mountain" with which every author after him has had to engage in one way or another—words that still hold true today. Whether the metaphorical mountain is close, far away, deliberately omitted, or right underneath one's feet, the possibilities for authors, fans, and academics to engage with Tolkien's Legendarium are nigh on limitless.

The aim of this workshop is to move Tolkien's mountain to Freiburg for a day to climb and explore it, hence the workshop's title, which translates to "Tolkien in Freiburg"*. Scholars from all fields are welcome to participate and share their research about J.R.R. Tolkien's body of work, the world he has created, and his impact on subsequent fantasy- and science-fiction-literature. We also encourage the presentation of work in progress and welcome the participation of Early Career Scholars. As to the format, individual talks will be twenty minutes long with a final discussion at the end of each panel. It is possible to hold your presentation via Zoom. The workshop will take place on June 28 2024.

Carl F. Hostetter, head of the Elvish Linguistic Fellowship and one of the translators for Amazon's *Rings of Power* TV show, has been invited as keynote speaker.

Possible topics include, but are by no means limited to the following:

- Tolkien's sources and inspirations
- His impact on fantasy and science-fiction literature (as a whole or on specific examples)
- Tolkien's worldbuilding and languages
- Themes in Tolkien's writings, such as Ecocriticism; Music, Artistry; Gender, Sexuality; Race, Imperialism, Colonialism; Religion; Politics
- Adaptation of Tolkien's works
- Medievalism

Please submit an abstract of no more than 200 words and a short biography of up to 100 words by February 16 2024 to arcastarlerinosse@gmail.com.

**Arcastar* – Tolkien. *Lerinosse* – in Freiburg, from *lerina* 'free' and *-os* from *osto*, as in Túrosto "Mickleburg". Modelled after *Arcastar Mondósaresse* "Tolkien in Oxford" ([Mellonath Daeron Index of Tengwa Specimina](#))