International ISCSD Conference "Predictive Practices & Interpretations" · 5–8 November 2026 · Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany

All papers are 20 minutes · Conference A panels are followed by 20 minutes of discussion · Times are CET (UTC+1) · Online presentations remain in time-zone-conscious blocks · Chairs (listed in the "Discussion" row) are responsible for the entire panel

Date	Time	Room	Conference	Type	Panel	Presenter / Activity	Paper / Detail	Mode
Thu, Nov 5	**17:00–18:00**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Joint event**		**Open hour**	**Participants gather and mingle before Alison Bashford's keynote.**	
Thu, Nov 5	**18:00–18:30**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Keynote speech**		**Keynote speech · Alison Bashford**	**"The Simian Line: Typologies, Diagnostics and Prognostics in Modern Medicine"**	
Thu, Nov 5	**18:00–19:30**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Joint event**		**Joint welcome, registration, and reception**	**Alison Bashford's keynote takes place from 18:00–18:30 within the reception.**	
Fri, Nov 6	**08:30–08:40**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Welcome address**		**Welcome address · Marta Hanson & Stéphanie Homola**		
Fri, Nov 6	**08:40–08:50**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Welcome address**		**Welcome address · Michael Lackner**		
Fri, Nov 6	**08:50–08:55**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Welcome address**		**Welcome address · Xu Baofeng**		
Fri, Nov 6	09:00–09:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Traditions, Especially Geomancy	Charles Burnett	The Practice of Divination as Part of the Curriculum of Arabic-Latin Studies in Toledo in the Later Twelfth Century	ONLINE
Fri, Nov 6	09:20–09:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Traditions, Especially Geomancy	Sally Abed	From Bata to Dublin via the Comoros: The Journey of an Arabic Geomantic Treatise on Board the Crocodile	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	09:40–10:00	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Traditions, Especially Geomancy	Josefina Rodriguez Arribas	Abraham ibn Ezra's Geomantic Texts and Their European Tradition	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	10:00–10:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Traditions, Especially Geomancy	Petra Schmidl	Arabic Prognostic Manuals – Practices and Presentations	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	***10:20–10:40***	***Large room***	***A · ISCSD/Divination***	***Discussion***	***Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Traditions, Especially Geomancy***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Petra Schmidl***	***20-minute discussion following the panel***	
Fri, Nov 6	09:00–09:20	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Hands as Mnemonic and Cosmological Instruments	Xing Wang	Investigation on a Late-Qing Hand Numerology Text: The Divine Numbers of White Crane	ONLINE
Fri, Nov 6	09:20–09:40	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Hands as Mnemonic and Cosmological Instruments	Wan-Chun Cheng	Destiny Tied to the Stars: Calculating One's Life Destiny through Palm Mnemonics	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	09:40–10:00	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Hands as Mnemonic and Cosmological Instruments	Stéphanie Homola	Hand Diagrams as Epistemic Bridges: Rethinking Knowledge Stratification in Contemporary Chinese Calendars and Almanacs	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	10:00–10:20	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Hands as Mnemonic and Cosmological Instruments	Congcong Ren	Gesture and the Ruler: Hand Techniques and Cosmological Measurement in Chinese Building Practice	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	***10:20–11:00***	***Small room***	***B · Hanson/KH***	***Discussion***	***Hands as Mnemonic and Cosmological Instruments***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Marta Hanson***	***Discussion and Q&A within the 09:00–11:00 panel block***	
Fri, Nov 6	*11:00–11:30*	*Small room*	*B · Hanson/KH*	*Break*		*Coffee/tea break*		
Fri, Nov 6	*10:40–11:40*	*Large room*		*Break*		*Coffee/tea break*		
Fri, Nov 6	11:40–12:00	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Fate, Persuasion, Law, and Social Institutions	Radu Bikir	The Bureaucracy of Fate: Divination, Moral Accounting, and the Administration of Destiny in Medieval China	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	12:00–12:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Fate, Persuasion, Law, and Social Institutions	Lu Zhao	Divination as a Form of Persuasion	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	12:20–12:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Fate, Persuasion, Law, and Social Institutions	Ullrich Kleinhempel	The Recognition of Bantu Divination in South African Law, and the Pathways to Its Reception	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	12:40–13:00	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Fate, Persuasion, Law, and Social Institutions	Ziyu Wang	From Hopeless Labour to Hope Consumption: The Navigation of Chinese Internet Giant Workers during the Industry's Downturn	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	***13:00–13:20***	***Large room***	***A · ISCSD/Divination***	***Discussion***	***Fate, Persuasion, Law, and Social Institutions***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Radu Bikir***	***20-minute discussion following the panel***	
Fri, Nov 6	11:30–11:50	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Reading Bodies: Medicine, Physiognomy, and Diagnosis	Chia-Feng Chang	Reading Fingers and Faces: Innovations in Pediatrics from Jin to Song dynasty	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	11:50–12:10	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Reading Bodies: Medicine, Physiognomy, and Diagnosis	Asaf Goldschmidt	Transformations in Pulse Diagnosis in the Song Dynasty	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	12:10–12:30	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Reading Bodies: Medicine, Physiognomy, and Diagnosis	Dominique Hertzer	The Shanghan qianfa 傷寒鈐法 (Key Method of Cold Damage): Divining Chinese Medical Prescriptions	ONLINE
Fri, Nov 6	12:30–12:50	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Reading Bodies: Medicine, Physiognomy, and Diagnosis	Mari Kuennen	From Pulse to Palpation: Translating Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine into American Equine Medicine 1970 - 1990	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	***12:50–13:30***	***Small room***	***B · Hanson/KH***	***Discussion***	***Reading Bodies: Medicine, Physiognomy, and Diagnosis***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Wan-Chun Cheng***	***Discussion and Q&A within the 11:30–13:30 panel block***	
Fri, Nov 6	*13:20–15:00*	*Large room*		*Break*		*Lunch break*		
Fri, Nov 6	*13:30–15:00*	*Small room*	*B · Hanson/KH*	*Break*		*Lunch break*		
Fri, Nov 6	**15:00–16:30**	**Large room**	**A · ISCSD/Divination**	**Track session**		**Conference A methods roundtable**		
Fri, Nov 6	15:00–15:20	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Manual Divination Techniques	Matthias Hayek	The Rules and Roles of the Thumb: Divinatory Uses of the Hand in 17th-Century Japan	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	15:20–15:40	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Manual Divination Techniques	Su-Yeon Seo	Reading the Hand, Pinching the Fingers: Narrative and Illustration as Media of Divinatory Knowledge in Jinghua yuan 镜花缘 (Romance of Flowers in the Mirror, 1827)	ONLINE
Fri, Nov 6	15:40–16:00	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Manual Divination Techniques	Xinyu Zheng	Predicting Climate with the Hands: Embodied Practice in Yunqi 運氣 Learning in Late Imperial China	PRESENCE
Fri, Nov 6	***16:00–16:30***	***Small room***	***B · Hanson/KH***	***Discussion***	***Manual Divination Techniques***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Stéphanie Homola***	***Discussion and Q&A within the 15:00–16:30 panel block***	
Fri, Nov 6	**19:30–22:00**	**Tree House**	**B · Hanson/KH**	**Dinner**		**Knowing Hands dinner**	**Self-paid**	
Sat, Nov 7	09:00–09:20	Large room	A+B · Joint thematic panel	Presentation	Yijing, Astral Timekeeping, and Algorithmic Knowledge	Johan Hausen	The Nine Sages: The Mythological Founders of the Yi Jing	ONLINE
Sat, Nov 7	09:20–09:40	Large room	A+B · Joint thematic panel	Presentation	Yijing, Astral Timekeeping, and Algorithmic Knowledge	Ning Hu	Formalising Fate: Modelling Chinese Bazi Astrology as an Algorithmic Religious Knowledge System	ONLINE
Sat, Nov 7	09:40–10:00	Large room	A+B · Joint thematic panel	Presentation	Yijing, Astral Timekeeping, and Algorithmic Knowledge	Xinyu Zhang	Prediction of the Past: Historical Narratives and Hemerological Reasoning in the Yan Zhao Manuscript	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	10:00–10:20	Large room	A+B · Joint thematic panel	Presentation	Yijing, Astral Timekeeping, and Algorithmic Knowledge	Lan Xing	The Zoo in the Heavens: The History and Functionality of Yanqin	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	***10:20–11:00***	***Large room***	***A+B · Joint thematic panel***	***Discussion***	***Yijing, Astral Timekeeping, and Algorithmic Knowledge***	***Panel discussion***	***40-minute discussion following the panel***	
Sat, Nov 7	09:00–09:20	Small room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Omen Theory and Classical Astrology	Dorian Greenbaum	Dorian Greenbaum, A Selection of Predictive Practices and Their Interpretations in the Work of the Astrologer Vettius Valens	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	09:20–09:40	Small room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Omen Theory and Classical Astrology	Ann Guinan	African Geomancy and Ancient Mesopotamia	ONLINE
Sat, Nov 7	09:40–10:00	Small room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Omen Theory and Classical Astrology	Stephan Heilen	Tarutius of Firmum's Creative Use of Elements of Late Babylonian Astrology	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	10:00–10:20	Small room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Omen Theory and Classical Astrology	Levente Lázló	The Evolution of Zodiacal Dignities and Debilities in Astrology	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	10:20–10:40	Small room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Omen Theory and Classical Astrology	Cristian Tolsa	Where Is the Board in Graeco-Roman Astrological Manuals	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	***10:40–11:00***	***Small room***	***A · ISCSD/Divination***	***Discussion***	***Omen Theory and Classical Astrology***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Stephan Heilen***	***20-minute discussion following the panel***	
Sat, Nov 7	*11:00–11:30*	*Both rooms*	*Both conferences*	*Break*		*Coffee/tea break*		
Sat, Nov 7	**11:50–13:00**	**Large room**	**A · ISCSD/Divination**	**Track session**		**Conference A source workshop/internal discussion**		
Sat, Nov 7	*13:00–15:00*	*Large room*		*Break*		*Lunch break*		
Sat, Nov 7	15:00–15:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Objects and Living Practices of Divination	Knut Graw	The Mantic Life of Things: Divination Objects in Senegal	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	15:20–15:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Objects and Living Practices of Divination	Philip Egbule	From Shrine to School: Negotiating Indigenous Divination and Formal Religious Education in South-South Nigeria	ONLINE
Sat, Nov 7	15:40–16:00	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Objects and Living Practices of Divination	Fabian Graham	Exploring the Paradoxical Conundrums of Fate, Free Will, Efficacy, Probability and Interpretation Generated by Ritual Divination Using 'Moon Blocks' in Chinese Contexts (…)	MODE TBC
Sat, Nov 7	16:00–16:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Objects and Living Practices of Divination	Rolf Scheuermann	Questions of Fortune and Wealth in Tibetan Buddhist Divination Manuals	PRESENCE · TBC
Sat, Nov 7	16:20–16:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Objects and Living Practices of Divination	Robert LaFleur	Living Divination: Everyday Practice and Propitiation on China's "Longevity Mountain"	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	***16:40–17:00***	***Large room***	***A · ISCSD/Divination***	***Discussion***	***Objects and Living Practices of Divination***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Knut Graw***	***20-minute discussion following the panel***	
Sat, Nov 7	11:30–11:50	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Comparative Chiromancy and Bodily Divination	Marta Hanson & Stefano Rapisarda	The European "Zodiac man" and the Chinese "12-Branch Body": Comparing Divination and Bodily Arts of Memory in Europe and China	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	11:50–12:10	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Comparative Chiromancy and Bodily Divination	Stefano Rapisarda	The Roots and Development of Western Chiromancy	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	12:10–12:30	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Comparative Chiromancy and Bodily Divination	Kimberly Rivers	Ciromancia spiritualis: Hands of Spiritual Divination	PRESENCE
Sat, Nov 7	12:30–12:50	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Comparative Chiromancy and Bodily Divination	Hanna Tervanotko	"He Possesses a Spirit with Six Parts Light, but Three Parts in the House of Darkness" (4Q186:7-8): Physiognomy as a Predictive Practice in Jewish Antiquity	ONLINE
Sat, Nov 7	***12:50–13:30***	***Small room***	***B · Hanson/KH***	***Discussion***	***Comparative Chiromancy and Bodily Divination***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Asaf Goldschmidt***	***Discussion and Q&A within the 11:30–13:30 panel block***	
Sat, Nov 7	*13:30–15:00*	*Small room*	*B · Hanson/KH*	*Break*		*Lunch break*		

Sat, Nov 7	**15:00–17:00**	**Small room**	B · Hanson/KH	*Track Session*		Knowing Hands Panelists	Discussion on Brill Handbook Series on Hand-based Divination & Prognostication	
Sat, Nov 7	**19:30–22:00**	**Jinh/Namaste**	**Both conferences**	**Joint event**		**Joint conference dinner**		
Sun, Nov 8	09:00–09:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge	Jingchao Zeng	Panel Contribution: Synchronicity in Astrology, Yijing, and Palmistry	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	09:20–09:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge	Nathan Fraikin	Panel Contribution: Synchronicity in Astrology, Yijing, and Palmistry	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	09:40–10:00	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge	Alexandra Nagel	Panel Contribution: Synchronicity in Astrology, Yijing, and Palmistry	**PRESENCE**
Sun, Nov 8	10:00–10:20	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge	Michael Lackner	Wen Tianxiang's (1236-1283) Poems for Diviners	**PRESENCE**
Sun, Nov 8	10:20–10:40	Large room	A · ISCSD/Divination	Presentation	Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge	Francesco Pigato	Predicting Accurately or Showcasing Expertise? The Epistemic Claims of Contemporary Astrology in Practitioners' Journals and Newsletters	**PRESENCE**
Sun, Nov 8	***10:40–11:00***	***Large room***	***A · ISCSD/Divination***	***Discussion***	***Synchronicity, Interpretation, and Claims to Knowledge***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Michael Lackner***	***20-minute discussion following the panel***	
Sun, Nov 8	09:00–09:20	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Celestial, Temporal, and Terrestrial Signs in China	Chang Xu	Mapping Zodiac Harmonies on Hand	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	09:20–09:40	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Celestial, Temporal, and Terrestrial Signs in China	Yu Gao	The Five Hidden Tigers: Method to Determine the Month	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	09:40–10:00	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Celestial, Temporal, and Terrestrial Signs in China	Ye Hua	Seeing Mountains as Hands: Visualizing Terrain in Late Imperial Chinese Geomancy	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	10:00–10:20	Small room	B · Hanson/KH	Presentation	Celestial, Temporal, and Terrestrial Signs in China	Shen-mi Song	A Study on the Universal Twenty-Eight Mansions Time-Keeping System from the Song to Ming Dynasties.	**ONLINE**
Sun, Nov 8	***10:20–11:00***	***Small room***	***B · Hanson/KH***	***Discussion***	***Celestial, Temporal, and Terrestrial Signs in China***	***Panel discussion · Chair: Matthias Hayek***	***Discussion and Q&A within the 09:00–11:00 panel block***	
Sun, Nov 8	*11:00–11:30*	*Both rooms*	*Both conferences*	*Break*		*Coffee/tea break*		
Sun, Nov 8	**11:30–13:30**	**Common area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Joint event**		**Knowing Hands research synthesis and future plans**		
Sun, Nov 8	**13:30–15:00**	**Common/ext. area · TBC**	**Both conferences**	**Joint event**		**Lunch and send-off**		