

OSL Research Day, 11 October 2019

Law, Literature, and Society research group

'Order and Erasure'

During this year's edition of the OSL Research Day, the LLS research group aims to establish a tradition of attending more closely to a book that was recently published in the field of Law and Literature. The point of focus will be the approach to the field proposed or applied in the book, so that participants of the workshop can sharpen their methodological tools. This year's edition will study Jeanne Gaakeer's *Judging From Experience: Law, Praxis, Humanities* (Edinburgh University Press, 2019), by bringing it in dialogue with an 'older' book, namely Cornelia Vismann's *Files: Law and Media Technology* (Stanford University Press, 2008).

In *Judging From Experience*, legal scholar and judge Jeanne Gaakeer proposes a humanistic approach to law through the idea of a 'legal narratology', by means of which she reflects on the fact that judges in court face the task of judging *narratives*. In *Files*, historian of law and media scholar Cornelia Vismann approaches this problem from the angle of its mediation when she presents an archeology of that curious organizing principle of the case we call 'the file'. Where Gaakeer is interested in what is *in* the accounts and how they are organized, Vismann emphasizes the dimension of what is *left out*, with her special focus on the practice of deletion (to decide what to include in a file, she argues, is to decide what is left out). Narratology meets Media Archeology, humanism meets post-humanism, and literary scholars meet law, on October 11 2019. Come and share your thoughts.