Wisdom and Torah in Jewish Antiquity: What Can We Learn from the Dead Sea Scrolls? Lecture by Dr Elisa Uusimäki from the University of Helsinki (a collaboration between Hebrew Bible, New Testament and Jewish Studies)
Tuesday March 12 at 14.15–16 at LUX C:215

The association between wisdom and torah in the Hebrew Bible and the Septuagint is well-known (esp. Deut 4:5–6; Ezra 7:14, 25; Jer 8:8; Pss 1, 19, 119; Sir 24; Bar 3:9–4:4), and scholars have long acknowledged its afterlife in the thought of early Christians who identified Jesus with Logos or Sophia (e.g. John 1, 15; 1 Cor 1:24, 30; Col 1:15-17, 2:2-3). The discovery of the Qumran scrolls revealed new materials that illuminate notions of wisdom and torah in early Judaism.

Dr Elisa Uusimäki is a scholar of ancient Jewish literature and holds the title of docent at the University of Helsinki, currently involved in the research project "Conceptions of Virtue in Early Judaism" (2018-2020). Uusimäki has published on wisdom and torah, the Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient scriptural interpretation, the figure of the sage in antiquity, and exemplarity. Apart from Helsinki, she has studied and conducted research at the University of Manchester, Yale University, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.