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**Roman history in the Renaissance: what can the *Universal Short Title Catalogue* do
for us?**

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The author

Freyja took her first degree in Ancient and Modern History at Christ Church, Oxford, where she stayed for her MSt and DPhil. After a year teaching as a stipendiary lecturer at Merton College, she returned to Christ Church, where she is currently a Junior Research Fellow. Her current project is a study of classical culture and the book trade across early modern Europe; her first book, *Reading the Roman Republic in Early Modern England*, will be published by Brill later this year.

The paper

Using data derived from the new Universal Short Title Catalogue of books published in Europe in the sixteenth century, this paper explores the publication of Roman history in England and its neighbours. Taking as its starting point Peter Burke's seminal article, 'The popularity of the ancient historians' (*History and Theory*, 1966), it provides a reassessment of the histories of ancient Rome circulating in western Europe, and considers the implications of the new statistics for existing assumptions about the readership of these texts. It also assesses the utility of the new resource, and the validity of statistics in a field with incomplete source material. This research has implications for the historiographical trends usually thought to predominate in the sixteenth century, and for history of ideas across those parts of Europe that shared a common print market.