

Elizabethan Fiction

WS 2020-2021

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Office hours: posted on my door

Wednesday 10-12 IN PRAESENTIA

R 3 | Peterhof

START: Wednesday, 4 November 2020

Standard literary histories claim that the novel was invented in the early eighteenth century, usually citing Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* as its first instance. However, the Elizabethan period and the seventeenth century already had a large number of prose texts in circulation. Some of these are considered romances, some of them picaresque fiction (also called picaresque novels), some are generically peculiar and cannot be easily fitted into any of the standard categories.

We will discuss a few prominent examples of Elizabethan prose narratives, among them John Lily's *Euphues*, George Gascoignes *The Adventures of Master F. J.*, Thomas Nashe, *The Unfortunate Traveller*, Thomas Deloneys *Jack of Newbury* (all included in Salzman's anthology) as well as Sir Philip Sidney's *Old Arcadia*. Xeroxes will be made available of other texts. We will also read two utopias, More's *Utopia* and Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*. Xeroxes will be made available of other texts.

Requirements: active class participation, 5-minute oral report, seminar paper to be handed in by **March 29, 2021**.

Texts to buy:

Salzman, Paul (2008) *An Anthology of Elizabethan Prose Fiction* [1987]. Oxford World's Classics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Sidney, Philip (2008) *The Old Arcadia* [1985]. Oxford World's Classics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bruce, Susan (2008) Ed. *Three Early Modern Utopias: Thomas More: Utopia / Francis Bacon: New Atlantis / Henry Neville: The Isle of Pines* [1999]. Oxford World's Classics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements:

- **Regular attendance** (you may not miss class more than twice, doctor's certificate needed; please give advance notice by email at least two days before class).
- **Active in-class participation.**

- One **5-minute oral report** (OR). The oral report must be accompanied by a handout which contains the date of the presentation of the report, the name of the presenter (both in bold), the name of the seminar, and a list of the sources and literature used for the information presented.
- **Minutes of one session.**
- A fifteen-page seminar paper/**term paper** (roughly 6000 words) for (old and new) Staatsexamen candidates and a twenty-page seminar paper (roughly 8000 words) for Master students. The word count is excluding title page, table of contents and Works Cited. A digital version of the paper has to be sent to my secretary. Please note that the paper needs to be handed in in PRINTED OUT FORM to my secretary or put into the departmental mailbox downstairs in KG IV.
- See my homepage for the stylesheet. Please note that papers need to have wide margins, especially at the bottom, be double-spaced in Arial 12 point and use in-text citation (e.g. Winter 1999: 33) with a Works Cited list at the end. Use the SEVENTH edition of the MLA Stylesheet as a model, i.e. the one that mentions the PLACE of publication as well as the publisher! (The eighth edition has a totally new stylesheet which has not yet become the norm with publishers and journals.)

Deadline: 29.03.2021 The paper has to be formatted according to the departmental style sheet (see my homepage: www.anglistik.uni-freiburg.de/abteilungen/literatur-kulturwissenschaft/lsfludernik/infosheets).

In brief: all documentation in brackets in the text and full citation in the Works Cited list. Please leave ample margins to the right and at the bottom so that I can make comments when reading the paper.

How to find the texts on ILIAS:

1. Go to the homepage at <https://ilias.uni-freiburg.de> and login with your uni-account (the username should consist of your initials and a number)
2. At the top of the page, klick on the button that says 'Magazin' and choose 'Magazin Einstiegsseite'
3. Click on the folder 'Lehrveranstaltungen im WS 2018/19', then click on 'Philologische Fakultät', then choose 'Englisches Seminar', then open the folder 'Literaturwissenschaft'.
4. Choose the type of class you are taking (Hauptseminare/Masterseminare).
5. Next to the course that you want to join, you will find a button that says 'Aktionen'. When you click on it, a drop-down-menu will open, choose the option 'Beitreten'.
6. Next you will be asked to enter a password. THE PASSWORD FOR THE COURSE IS **Elizabethan Fiction**
7. Congratulations! You successfully joined the course and can now access all the material you need.

Preliminary Schedule

Please note that this winter semester is much shorter than usual (13 weeks instead of 16) so that we have to start in the first week and also have to do 23 December, alas.

OR Oral report

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 04 November | Session 1
General intro and Lodge, <i>Rosalynde</i> [xerox/scan]

OR: period terms (early modern, Renaissance, Elizabethan, Jacobean, Caroline) |
| 11 November | Session 2
Lodge, <i>Rosalynde</i> ctd.

OR: Comparison <i>Rosalynde</i> and Shakespeare's <i>As You Like It</i> |
| 18 November | Session 3
Deloney, <i>Jack of Newbury</i> |
| 25 November | Session 4
Nashe, <i>Unfortunate Traveller</i> (I)

OR: the picaro, the picaresque novel |
| 02 December | Session 5
Nashe, <i>Unfortunate Traveller</i> (II) |
| 09 December | Session 6
Sidney, <i>Old Arcadia</i> (I)

OR2: The various versions of the <i>Arcadia</i> |
| 16 December | Session 7
Sidney, <i>Old Arcadia</i> (II)

OR: early modern romances, definitions, authors, major works |
| 23 December | Session 8
Sidney: <i>Old Arcadia</i> (III) |
| Christmas break | |

- 13 January 2021 Session 9
Gascoigne, *Master F.J.*

OR: formal features of *Master F.J.*
- 20 January Session 10
Deloney, *The Gentle Craft* Part I (xerox/scan)

OR: domestic drama, citizen comedy
- 27 January Session 11
Lily, *Euphues*

OR: Euphuism defined
- 03 February Session 12
Thomas More, *Utopia*

OR: early modern utopias
- 10 February Session 13
Bacon, *New Atlantis* and wrap-up

Preliminary Bibliography

Anthologies

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CRITICISM AND BACKGROUND LITERATURE

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Englishness, Britishness, Nationalism

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Prose Fiction

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New Historicism – Literary Theory of the Early Modern Period

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