

Mag. Dr. Robert Spindler, M.A.

Senior postdoctoral fellow
(FWF Erwin Schrödinger Fellowship return phase)
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POSITIONS

2023 – 2024	Erwin Schrödinger Postdoctoral Fellow (FWF) and FRIAS Junior Fellow English Department and Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies University of Freiburg (Host: Prof. Monika Fludernik)
1 – 6/2023	Erwin Schrödinger Postdoctoral Fellow (FWF) Faculty of English University of Oxford (Host: Prof. Diane Purkiss)
9 – 12/2021	Fulbright Visiting Scholar Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures Harvard University (Host: Prof. Alison Frank Johnson)
2016 – 2020	Research assistant and postdoctoral fellow Department of American Studies University of Innsbruck
2005 – 2008	Teaching assistant Department of English University of Innsbruck
2003	Compulsory military service Franz-Joseph-Kaserne Lienz, Austria

EDUCATION

2020 – 2022	MA German Literature University of Munich
2008 – 2016	Dr. phil. English and American Studies University of Innsbruck
2003 – 2008	Mag. phil. English and American Studies University of Innsbruck

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2023 – 2025	Erwin Schrödinger Fellowship of the Austrian Science Fund
2023 – 2024	Junior Fellowship of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies
2022	Max Kade Fellowship of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (declined in favor of Erwin Schrödinger Fellowship)
2021	Fulbright Grant for Teaching, Research, Career Development, or Institutional Collaboration
2021	Postgraduate Scholarship of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science & Research
2014 – 2016	University of Innsbruck doctoral scholarship for the promotion of young researchers

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Since 2024

Reviewer for *PMLA*, *Humanities*, FRIAS Conference Program

2019-2020

Member of the advisory board, Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Early modern English and American broadside ballads; English, American, and German Barbary captivity narratives; Native Americans and the American frontier in literature and film; Medieval literature and medievalism

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *Corsairs, Captives, Converts in Early Modernity: Narrating Barbary Captivity in German-Speaking Europe and the World, 1558–1807*. Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann, **2020**. [Review by Stephan Conermann in *Sehepunkte* 22.3 (2022)]

Articles and book chapters

1. “Fährten, Waffen, Körperkult: Zeichensysteme in Karl Mays *Winnetou* (1893).” *Jahrbuch der Karl-May-Gesellschaft* 52 (**2022**): 245-268. (peer-reviewed)
2. “Western Nostalgia, Revisionism and Native American Women in *Wind River* (2017).” *Women in the Western*. Ed. Sue Matheson. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, **2020**. 159-172. (peer-reviewed)
3. “The Robinsonade as a Literary Avatar of Early Nineteenth-Century Barbary Captivity Narration.” *Mediterranean Slavery and World Literature: Captivity Genres from Cervantes to Rousseau*. Ed. Mario Klarer. London: Routledge, **2020**. 175-194. (peer-reviewed)
4. “Benevolent Masters, Despicable *Renegados*: Relativizing Portrayals of Muslims in British Barbary Captivity Narratives, 1595 – 1739.” *Anglistik: International Journal of English Studies* 30.3 (**2019**): 141-156. (peer-reviewed) <https://doi.org/10.33675/ANGL/2019/3/1>
5. “An Early *Schelmenroman*: The Picaresque Elements in the German Barbary Captivity Narrative *Verzeichnis der Reise* (1558) by Balthasar Sturmer.” *Germanisch-Romanische Monatsschrift* 69.1 (**2019**): 1-20. (peer-reviewed)
6. “Fluch des Mittelmeers: Zur Rezeption der frühneuzeitlichen Barbareskenkorsaren in der Populärkultur.” *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 73-77.
7. “Mitforschen und Mitgestalten: Schülerinnen und Schüler erarbeiten Ideen und Objekte zur Ausstellung.” (with Mario Klarer, Timo Gassner, and Katharina Seidl) *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Ed. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 79-83.
8. “Identity Crises of Homecomers from the Barbary Coast.” *Piracy and Captivity in the Mediterranean: 1550-1810*. Ed. Mario Klarer. London: Routledge, **2019**. 128-143. (peer-reviewed)
9. “German Saddle Pals and the Absence of Love in the Karl May Westerns.” *Love in Film and Television Westerns: Lonely Hearts and Happy Trails*. Ed. Sue Matheson. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, **2013**. 209-224. (peer-reviewed)
10. “Epics and Screenplays: The Problem of Adapting Beowulf for the Screen.” *Old English Newsletter* 43.3 (2012): n. pag. Web. 23 December **2012**. (peer-reviewed)

Translations

1. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Balthasar Sturmer. “Account of the Travels of Mister Balthasar Sturmer (1558).” (with Almyria Wilhelm) *Barbary Captives: An Anthology of Early Modern Slave Memoirs by Europeans in North Africa*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, **2022**. 56-89.
2. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Hark Olufs. “The Remarkable Adventures of Hark Olufs (1747).” *Barbary Captives: An Anthology of Early Modern Slave Memoirs by Europeans in North Africa*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, **2022**. 236-253.

3. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Andreas Matthäus and Johann Georg Wolfgang. "Travels and Wonderful Fortunes of Two Brothers in Algerian Bondage (1767)." *Barbary Captives: An Anthology of Early Modern Slave Memoirs by Europeans in North Africa*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, **2022**. 191-199.
4. Translation of a scholarly article from German into English: Palm, Kurt. "Mozart, Islam, and the Hangman of Salzburg." (with Almyria Wilhelm) *Mediterranean Slavery and World Literature: Captivity Genres from Cervantes to Rousseau*. Ed. Mario Klarer. London: Routledge, **2020**. 197-211.

Reviews

1. "Pascal Michel. Zehn Jahre versklavt: Die vergessene Lebensgeschichte des Johannes Rohner. Schwellbrunn: Appenzeller Verlag, 2023. 127pp." In: *Schweizerisches Archiv für Volkskunde* 2023/2 (**2023**): 113-115.
2. "Patricia Fumerton. *The Broadside Ballad in Early Modern England: Moving Media, Tactical Publics*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020, 469pp." In: *English Studies* 103.2 (**2022**): 373-375. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0013838X.2021.1987032>
3. "Arno Heller. *Herman Melville*. Darmstadt: Lambert Schneider, 2017, 320pp." In: *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik* 68.2 (**2020**): 217-219. <https://doi.org/10.1515/zaa-2020-0021>
4. "Alfred Hornung. *Jack London: Abenteuer des Lebens*. Darmstadt: Lambert Schneider, 2016, 320pp." In: *Anglia* 137.1 (**2019**): 186-190. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ang-2019-0018>
5. "Ernstpeter Ruhe. *Porträt des Künstlers als Sklave: Zwei Augsburger Kupferstecher als Gefangene in Alger (1684-1688)*. Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann, 2017, 243pp." In: *Archiv für Kulturgeschichte* 100.2 (**2018**): 461-462. <https://doi.org/10.7788/akg-2018-1000209>

Smaller contributions

1. Catalogue essay: "Daniel Defoe, *The Life and Strange Surprizing Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*, London 1719." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 174-175.
2. Catalogue essay: "Zur Rezeption der Piraterie: Robert Louis Stevenson, *Treasure Island*, Leipzig 1884; Rafael Sabatini, *The Sea-Hawk*, Boston 1923; Giles Milton, *White Gold: the Extraordinary Story of Thomas Pellow and North Africa's one Million European Slaves*, London 2005." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 186-187.
3. Catalogue essay: "Jan Luyken: *William Okeley in Seenot, Algerischer Sklavenmarkt, Sklaven-Freikauf, Sklavenmarkt*." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 177-179.
4. Catalogue essay: "Miguel de Cervantes, *El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quixote*, Madrid 1605." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna: Haymon, **2019**. 173.

TALKS (selection)

1. **University of Freiburg**
"Robin Hood, Broadside Ballad Categories and Diachronic Narratology" (Invited talk. LitCult Colloquium, Department of English, 26 November 2024)
2. **University of Freiburg**
"A Genre Theory of Broadside Ballads" (Talk. FRIAS Colloquium, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), 1 July 2024)
3. **University of Freiburg**
"Outsiders, Lawbreakers, Apostates, Witches: Figures of Transgression in Narrative English Broadside Ballads (1550-1800)" (Talk. FRIAS Colloquium, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), 17 July 2023)
4. **University of Oxford**
"Early Modern English Broadside Ballads about Non-normative Figures" (Talk. Visiting Scholars' Centre, Weston Library, 30 June 2023)
5. **Harvard University**
"Barbary Captivity and German Literature: Narrating Mediterranean Piracy and Slavery in Germany and Austria, 1550 – 1850" (Guest lecture. Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, 9 December 2021)

6. **Bielefeld University**
 “*Renegados*: Converted Christians in British Barbary Captivity Narratives” (Invited conference talk. Buccaneers, Corsairs, Pirates and Privateers: Connecting the Early Modern Seas, 13 April 2018)
7. **University of Innsbruck**
 “*Merkwürdige Lebens- und Reisebeschreibung*: Der Bericht des Johann Michael Kühn” (Invited conference talk. Erzählen zwischen Fakt und Fiktion, 23 February 2017)
8. **University of Minnesota**
 “Three Early Modern Barbary Captivity Narratives in the German Language and their Portrayal of Islam” (Guest lecture. Consortium for the Study of the Premodern World, 8 November 2017)
9. **Case Western Reserve University**
 “Masters, *Agusins* and *Renegados*: Portrayals of Muslims in Early Modern Barbary Captivity Narratives from Germany and Austria” (Guest lecture. SAGES Program, 4 November 2017)
10. **University of Salzburg**
 “The Castle in Arthurian Film” (Conference talk. 32nd International Conference on Medievalism: Medieval Places – (Post)Modern Presences, 17 July 2017)
11. **University of Innsbruck**
 “Austrian Pirate Victims in North Africa: Two Early Modern Narratives of Barbary Coast Captivity” (Invited conference talk. Piraten, Gin Tonic und Partnerwahl: Die Vielfalt der universitären Forschung, 22 April 2016)
12. **University of Graz**
 “City Descriptions in American Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives” (Conference talk. 41st International AAAS Conference: Space Oddities, 22 November 2014)
13. **University of Salzburg**
 “17th Century Captivity Narratives and the Puritans’ Utopian Vision of the New World” (Conference talk. 40th International AAAS Conference: American Utopias, 9 November 2013)
14. **University of Bristol**
 “Malory’s Gawain: In Search of a Fictional Identity” (Conference talk. 18th Annual Postgraduate Medieval Studies Conference: Identity and Image, 25 February 2012)
15. **National University of Ireland, Galway**
 “Individualism in Malory’s Gawain” (Conference talk. Imbas Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Medieval Conference, 12 November 2011)

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

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| 2019 | “Kulturbrücken und -brüche: Der Mittelmeerraum als Schauplatz transkultureller Identitätsentwicklung” (with Magdalena Modler-El Abdaoui), University of Innsbruck, 19 June |
| 2016 | “Piracy and Captivity in the Mediterranean: 1530-1810: Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives” (with Mario Klarer and Tobias Auböck), University of Innsbruck, 16-18 June |
| 2014 | “Perspectives on Northern Africa in the Early Modern Period: Piracy, Slavery, and Diplomacy” (with Mario Klarer and Tobias Auböck), University of Innsbruck, 13-14 November |

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Interviews

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| 2024 | “Weltliteratur voll 'starker Männer': Der Anglist Robert Spindler habilitiert sich über englische Balladen.” By Erika Pichler. <i>Die Presse</i> , 2 November, p. W6 |
| 2024 | “Anglistik-Studium: Zwischen Interdisziplinarität und Orientierung.” Interview by Erika Pichler. <i>Die Presse</i> , 21 September, p. K7 |
| 2024 | “Winnetou reitet wieder.” Interview by Alexandra Plank. <i>Tiroler Tageszeitung</i> , vol. 85/2024, 27 March, p. 6 |
| 2023 | “Zu Forschen ist ein Privileg: Robert Spindler über Literaturwissenschaft.” Interview by Amata Steinlechner. <i>ECHO Top 50 Telfs</i> , vol. 1/2023, March 2023, p. 80 |

2019 "Sklaverei und Piraterie im Mittelmeer." Radio interview by Laurin Mauracher. *KulturTon*. Freies Radio Innsbruck, 15 July

Museum exhibition

2019 "Pirates and Slaves in the Mediterranean" by Schloss Ambras Innsbruck and the University of Innsbruck, 20 June to 6 October (assistance in curation and concept design)

Transfer-oriented book

2019 (Edited with Mario Klarer) Konstantin Holzmeister, Anna Kovacs, and Franziska Ulrich. *Vom Piraten zum Sklaven: Balthasar Sturmers Tunis-Abenteuer im Jahr 1535 als Graphic Novel*. Innsbruck: Innsbruck University Press

SUPERVISIONS OF STUDENTS

Since 2017 7 Master, 11 Bachelor students

COURSES TAUGHT

2022 **"The Barbary Captivity Narrative between North America and North Africa"**
(Co-taught American and comparative literature graduate seminar)
University of Innsbruck & University of Duisburg-Essen

2022 **"Business English 1"** (EFL Academic Writing course)
Salzburg University of Applied Sciences

2022 **"Wirtschaftsenglisch 3"** (EFL Business English course)
Salzburg University of Applied Sciences

2022 **"Wirtschaftsenglisch 1"** (EFL Business English course)
Salzburg University of Applied Sciences

2020 – 2021 **"Successful Meetings in English"** (EFL communication seminar for PhD students)
Office of the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Teaching, University of Innsbruck

2020 **"Communication Skills and Leadership"** (EFL communication skills lecture)
Faculty of Economics and Management, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

2019 – 2020 **"Kommunikation und Strategie"** (Communication skills lecture)
Faculty of Economics and Management, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

2018 **"Sailors, Fishermen, and Castaways: Maritime Adventures in American Prose"**
(American literature undergraduate seminar)
Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck

2018 **"Slaves, Captives, and Pirates in American Culture"**
(American culture undergraduate seminar)
Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck

2017 **"Language Skills: Listening/Speaking I"** (TESOL exercise)
Department of English, University of Innsbruck

2016 – 2017 **"Language Skills: Reading/Writing II"** (TESOL exercise)
Department of English, University of Innsbruck

2016 **"Language Skills: Listening/Speaking II"** (TESOL exercise)
Department of English, University of Innsbruck

2014 **"Film Production through Metafilms"** (American culture undergraduate seminar)
Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck

2010 **"Guerilla Film Production"** (American culture undergraduate seminar)
Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck

Innsbruck, 5 March 2025