
Elite and Popular Cultures

| [DISCUSSION TOPICS](#) | [DOCUMENTS](#) | [AUDIO](#) | [READING](#) |

DISCUSSION TOPICS AND ESSAY QUESTIONS

a) Popular and Elite Cultures

- Why have historians struggled to define 'popular culture'?
- Is the distinction between 'elite' and 'popular' meaningful?

b) Witchcraft

- Were the European witch hunts primarily a war against women?
- Why did the legal pursuit of witches make less sense in 1720 than in 1500?

c) Print

- Did the spread of printing draw elite and popular culture closer together, or drive them further apart?
- Was there a print 'revolution'?

E-RESOURCES

EXTERNAL LINKS

[The Robin Hood Project](#),
University of
Rochester

[The Elizabethan
Noble Style](#)

[Shakespeare's
Plays in Quarto](#)

[Kett's Rebellion,
Virtual Norfolk](#)

[Life in
Elizabethan
England](#)

[Cornell Witch
pages](#)

[Cunning Folk](#)

[Survey of
Scottish
Witchcraft](#)

[Witchcraft
Legends](#)

[The Renaissance
of witchcraft
studies](#)

[Witchcraft and
Magic, Virtual
Norfolk](#)

[Impact of Print,
Virtual Norfolk](#)

[Early 18th
century
newspaper
reports](#)

[Publishers,
Printers, and the](#)

DOCUMENTS

NOTE: Some resources are accessible only *on-campus at Warwick University* or via *off-campus proxies* or the *athens service*

TEXTS

POPULAR AND ELITE CULTURE

J. Deacon, ['Dicks loyalty to his true love Nancy: or, A famous wedding'](#) (c.1671 and 1704)
[English Broadside ballad archive](#)

WITCHCRAFT

Jean Bodin, [De la demonomanie des sorciers](#) (1580) excerpts
George Gifford, [A Dialogue concerning witches and witchcraftes](#) (1593) excerpts
Heinrich Kramer and James Sprenger, [Malleus Maleficarum](#) (1486)
[Witch Persecutions at Bamberg](#)

PRINT

[Dance of Death](#), early example of printing (c.1500)
[Printed page](#) from 1498
[A most strange and true report of a monstrous fish](#) (1604)
[Secticeps Lutherus](#) (1529)

IMAGES

POPULAR AND ELITE CULTURE

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1525-68)
[Peasant Dance](#) (1568)
[A theatre ticket](#)
Pieter Bruegel, [The Fight between and Lent](#)
[Coronation of James I](#)

WITCHCRAFT

Hans Baldung Grien, ['Witches S'](#) (1510 Woodcut)
[Scottish witches](#) (1591)
[Illustration](#) from Ulrich Molitor, [phitonicias mulieribus](#) (c.1496-1500)
[The Devil abducts the witch of E](#)

PRINT

[Jacobean Travelling Library](#) (1600)
[English emblem books](#) online
[Type-cases](#)
Salamon de Bray, [Book and Pict](#) (1628)

AUDIO LINKS:

- BBC Radio 4 'In Our Time' programme on [Witchcraft](#)
- Search for suitable versions of the following pieces on <http://uk.youtube.com>

- 'The Gelding of the Devil', composed by John Playford
- 'New Oysters', composed by Thomas Ravenscroft

Printed Book

Book History
Online

SECONDARY LITERATURE

a) Popular and Elite Culture

- P. Burke, *Popular Culture in Early Modern Europe* (1978; reprint, 1994)
- S. Clark, 'French Historians and Early Modern Popular Culture', *P&P* 100 (1983)
- N. Z. Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France* (1985), chs 4, 7 & 8
- " ", 'The Historian and Popular Culture', in J. Beauroy & M. Bertrand (eds), *The Wolf and the Lamb: Popular Culture in France* (1977)
- A. Fox, *Oral and Literate Culture in England 1500-1700* (2000)
- " ", 'http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/undergraduate/modules/hi203/seminars/springwk2/http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/undergraduate/modules/hi203/seminars/springwk2/Rumour, news and popular political opinion in Elizabethan and early Stuart England', *HJ* 40 (1997)
- C. Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worms: the Cosmos of a Sixteenth-Century Miller* (1976)
 - T. Harris (ed.), *Popular Culture in England c.1500-1850* (1996) esp. chs 1-3
 - " ", *The Politics of the Excluded c.1500-1850* (2001)
 - S. L. Kaplan (ed.), *Understanding Popular Culture* (1984), esp. chs 3, 5, 7, 9
 - R. Muchembled, *Popular Culture and Elite Culture in France 1400-1750* (1985)
 - R. Scribner, 'Is the History of Popular Culture Possible?', *History of European Ideas* 10 (1989)
 - " ", 'Popular politics and cultural conflict in early modern Europe', *European History Quarterly* 18 (1988)
 - G. Strauss & W. Beik, 'The Dilemma of Popular History', *P&P* 132 (1991), [Beik debate](#) and [Strauss reply](#) in *P&P* 141 (1993)
 - M. Todd, 'The persistence of popular festivities in early modern Scotland', *Journal of British Studies* 39 (2000)

William Hogarth
and 18th Print
Culture

British Book
Trade Index

Centre for the
History of the
Book

Women in the
Book Trade

b) Witchcraft

- L. Apps and A. Gow, *Male Witches in Early Modern Europe* (2003)
 - W. Behringer, 'Weather, hunger and fear: origins of the European witch-hunts', *German History* 13 (1995)
 - " ", *Witches and Witch-Hunts: A Global History* (2004)
 - R. Briggs, *Witches and Neighbours* (1996)
 - " ", 'Women as victims? Witches, judges and the community', *French History* 5 (1991)
 - S. Clark, 'http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/undergraduate/modules/hi203/seminars/springwk2/http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/undergraduate/modules/hi203/seminars/springwk2/Inversion, misrule and the meaning of witchcraft', *P&P* 87 (1980) [JStor]
 - " ", 'The "gendering" of witchcraft in French demonology: misogyny or polarity?', *French History* 5 (1991)
 - " ", *Thinking with Demons: the Idea of Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe* (1997), esp. parts iv and v
 - N. Cohn, *Europe's Inner Demons* (1975)
 - A.C. Kors & E. Peters, *Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700: A Documentary History* (2001)

- B.P. Levack, *The Witchhunt in Early Modern Europe* (1995)
- " (ed.), *Witchhunting in Early Modern Europe: General Studies* (1992)
- " , 'The great Scottish witch hunt of 1661-2', *Journal of British Studies* 20 (1980)
- E. William Monter, 'Witchcraft in Geneva, 1537-1662', *JMH* 43:2 (1971)
- L. Roper, *Oedipus and the Devil: Witchcraft, Sexuality and Religion in Early Modern Europe* (1994)
- " , *Witch Craze: Terror and Fantasy in Baroque Germany* (2004)
- " , 'Witchcraft and the Western Imagination', in *TRHS*, 6th series, 16 (2006)
- G. Scarre, *Witchcraft and Magic in C16th and C17th Europe* (1987; new edn with J. Callow, 2001)
- J. Sharpe, *Witchcraft in Early Modern England* (2001)
- J.L. Teall, 'Witchcraft and Calvinism in Elizabethan England: Divine Power and Human Agency', *Journal of the History of Ideas* 23 (1962)
- H. Trevor Roper, *The European Witchcraze of the C16th and C17th* (1978)
- R. Zguta, 'Witchcraft Trials in Seventeenth-Century Russia', *AHR* 82:5 (1977)

c) Print

- G. Baumann (ed.), *The Written Word: Literacy in Transition* (1986)
- R. Chartier, *The Order of Books* (1994)
- C. Cipolla, *Literacy and Development in the West* (1969)
- E. Eisenstein, *The Printing Press as an Agent of Change* (1979)
- " , *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe* (1983)
- " , 'American Historical Review debate: how revolutionary was the print revolution?', *AHR* 107 (2002) containing: A. Johns, *How to Acknowledge a Revolution*, *AHR* 107 (2002); .L. Eisenstein, 'An unacknowledged revolution revisited', *AHR* 107 (2002)
- M.U. Edwards, *Printing, propaganda, and Martin Luther* (1994)
- L. Febvre & H-J. Martin, *The Coming of the Book* (1984)
- S. Füssel, *Gutenberg and the Impact of Printing* (2003)
- A. Grafton, 'The importance of being printed', *J. Interdisc. H.* 11 (1980)
- H. Graff, *The Legacies of Literacy: Continuities and Contradictions in Western Culture* (1986)
- R. Houston, *Literacy in Early Modern Europe* (1988)
- " , 'Literacy and society in the West 1500-1850', *Social History* 8 (1983)
- M. Knights, *Representation and Misrepresentation in later Stuart Britain: Partisanship and Political Culture* (2005)
- S. Nalle, 'Literacy and culture in early modern Castile', *P&P* 125 (1989)
- D. Raven, 'Elizabeth Eisenstein and the Impact of Printing', *Eur.Rev.of Hist.* 6 (1999)