

A Libelous History of England, c.1570-1688

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Session 1: Introductory

--Introductions

--Discussion: Robert Darnton, *The Forbidden Bestsellers of Pre-Revolutionary France* (New York: 1995)

--Viewing of the Folger "Breaking News" Exhibition

Session 2: The Monstrous Favourite: Leicester's Commonwealth

--Primary Sources:

--Dwight C. Peck (ed.), *Leicester's Commonwealth: The Copy of A Letter Written by a Master of Art of Cambridge (1584) and Related Documents* (Athens, OH: 1985)

--"Scandalum Magnatum" statutes; Elizabethan statutes on treason, sedition and libel

--Secondary Sources:

--Curtis Perry, *Literature and Favoritism in Early Modern England*, (Cambridge: 2006), ch.2

--Peter Lake and Steven Pincus, "Rethinking the Public Sphere in Early Modern England", *Journal of British Studies* 45:2 (2006)

--Debora Shuger, 'Civility and Censorship in Early Modern England', in Robert C. Post (ed.), *Censorship and Silencing: Practices of Cultural Regulation* (Los Angeles: 1998)

--Debora Shuger, *Censorship and Cultural Sensibility: The Regulation of Language in Tudor-Stuart England* (Philadelphia: 2006), ch.1

--Cyndia Susan Clegg, *Press Censorship in Elizabethan England* (Cambridge, 1997), ch.2

--Joad Raymond, *Pamphlets and Pamphleteering in Early Modern Britain*, (Cambridge: 2003), ch.3

--Harold Love, *Scribal Publication in Seventeenth-Century England* (Oxford: 1993), ch.1

Display: *The Copie of a Leter, Wryten by a Master of Arte of Cambrige (1584)* [Folger Deck B-STC Vault: STC 19399]

Session 3: Martin Marprelate

--Primary Sources:

--[Martin Marprelate, pseud.], *Oh read over D. John Bridges for it is a worthy worke [The Epistle]* (1588) [consult either on EEBO, or in the Scholar Press facsimile, *The Marprelate Tracts [1588-1589]* (Leeds: 1967), or in the modernized and annotated version now available in Joseph Black (ed.), *The Martin Marprelate Tracts* (Cambridge: 2008)]

--Depositions reprinted in Edward Arber, *An Introductory Sketch to the Martin Marprelate Controversy 1588-1590* (London: 1879), 81-6, 96-9, 101-04, 116, 127-8, 131, 133

--In-class primary reading:

--[Lewis Pickering?] 'The Lamentation of Dickie for the Death of Jockie'

--Sir Edward Coke, 'De Libellis Famosis'

--Secondary Sources:

--Patrick Collinson, 'Ecclesiastical vitriol: religious satire in the 1590s and the invention of puritanism', in John Guy (ed.), *The Reign of Elizabeth I: Court and Culture in the Last Decade* (Cambridge: 1995)

--Joseph Black, 'The Rhetoric of Reaction: The Martin Marprelate Tracts (1588-89), Anti-Martinism, and the Uses of Print in Early Modern England', *Sixteenth Century Journal*, 28:3 (1997)

--Joad Raymond, *Pamphlets and Pamphleteering*, ch.2

--Marcy North, *The Anonymous Renaissance: Cultures of Discretion in Tudor-Stuart England* (Cambridge: 2003), ch.5.

--Keith Thomas, "The Place of Laughter in Tudor and Stuart England", *TLS* (Jan. 21, 1977)

Display: Martin Marprelate, *The Epistle* [Folger Deck B-STC Vault STC 17453 copy 1 (from the Isham Lamport library)]

Session 4: Railing Rhymes and Vaunting Verse, c.1603-1616

--Primary Sources:

--Alastair Bellany and Andrew McRae (eds.), 'Early Stuart Libels: An Edition of Poetry from Manuscript Sources' *Early Modern Literary Studies* Text Series I (2005) (www.earlystuartlibels.net) (Sections D-H)

--Bodleian MS Malone 23 [a poetical miscellany devoted entirely to libels]

--Secondary Reading:

- Alastair Bellany, 'Railing Rhymes Revisited: Libels, Scandals and Early Stuart Politics', *History Compass* 5:4 (2007)
- Adam Fox, 'Ballads, Libels and Popular Ridicule in Jacobean England', *Past and Present* 145 (1994)
- Alastair Bellany, *The Politics of Court Scandal in Early Modern England: News Culture and the Overbury Affair, 1603-1660* (Cambridge: 2002), pp.97-111; ch.3
- Pauline Croft, 'The Reputation of Robert Cecil: Libels, Political Opinion and Popular Awareness in the Early Seventeenth Century', *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* 6th Series 1 (1991)
- Thomas Cogswell, 'Underground Verse and the Transformation of Early Stuart Political Culture', in Mark Kishlansky and Susan Amussen (eds.), *Political Culture and Cultural Politics in Early Modern England* (Manchester: 1995)
- Andrew McRae, *Literature, Satire and the Early Stuart State* (Cambridge: 2004), chs.1, ch.2 (pp.51-75).
- David Colclough, *Freedom of Speech in Early Stuart England* (Cambridge: 2005), ch.4.
- Joshua Eckhardt, "'Love-Song Weeds and Satyrique Thorns': Anti-Courtly Love Poetry and Somerset Libels", *HLQ* 69:1 (2006)

--Display: Folger MS V.a.103 (Poetry Miscellany)

Session 5: Underground Literature and the Spanish Match, c.1618-24

--Primary Sources:

- Thomas Scott, *Vox Populi or Newes from Spayne* (1620) [EEBO]
- 'The King's Five Senses' (Early Stuart Libels, L8)
- James I, 'The Wiper of the People's Tears' (Early Stuart Libels, Nvi1)
- James I, Proclamations against licentious speech
- Samuel Ward, Engraving of the Deliverances of 1588 and 1605
- Bod. MS Malone 23
- B.L. Add. MS 28640, John Rous Commonplace Book [contents outline, sample transcriptions]

--Secondary Sources:

- Thomas Cogswell, *The Blessed Revolution: English Politics and the Coming of War* (Cambridge: 1989), prologue
- Peter Lake, 'Constitutional Consensus and Puritan Opposition in the 1620s: Thomas Scott and the Spanish Match', *Historical Journal* 25:4 (1982)
- Markku Peltonen, *Classical Humanism and Republicanism in English Political Thought, 1570-1640* (Cambridge: 1995), ch.5
- Andrew McRae, *Literature, Satire*, pp.75-82
- Alan Bray, *Homosexuality in Renaissance England* (London: 1982), ch.1
- James Knowles, 'To "Scourge the Arse / Jove's Marrow so had Wasted": Scurrility and the Subversion of Sodomy', in Dermot Cavanagh and Tim Kirk

(eds.), *Subversion and Scurrility: Popular Discourse in Europe from 1500 to the Present* (Aldershot: 2003)

--James Knowles, "'Songs of Baser Alloy': Jonson's *Gypsies Metamorphosed* and the Circulation of Manuscript Libels', *HLQ* 69:1 (2006)

--Display: Scott, *Vox Populi* [Folger Deck B-STC Vault, STC 22100.2; French translation, Folger Deck C-Rare Stacks 228-326q]

--Folger MS X.d.235: single sheet separate of the King's Five Senses

Session 6: Libelous Politics in the Later 1620s

--Primary Sources:

--George Eglisham, *The Forerunner of Revenge Upon the Duke of Buckingham* ('Frankfurt', 1626) [EEBO]

--I.R., *The Spy, Discovering the Danger of Arminian Heresie and Spanish Trecherie* ('Strasburgh', 1628) [EEBO plus visual handout]

--Mary Anne Everett Green (ed.), *The Diary of John Rous* (Camden Society:First Series vol.66: 1856), pp.1-31

--'Early Stuart Libels', Oi10 (1626 Parliament); Oiii5 (1628 Parliament); Pii10, Pii15-17 (Felton)

--Secondary Sources:

--David Underdown, *A Freeborn People: Politics and the Nation in Seventeenth-Century England* (Oxford: 1996), chs.1-3

--Richard Cust, 'News and Politics in Early Seventeenth-Century England', *Past and Present* 112 (1986)

--Display:

--George Eglisham, *Prodromus Vindictae* (1626) [Folger DA391.E5 Cage]

--I.R., *The Spy, Discovering the Danger of Arminian Heresie and Spanish Trecherie* (1628) [Folger Deck B-STC Vault STC 20577]

--Folger MSS X.d.236 and V.a.470: scribal copies of Eglisham

Session 7: Libelous Anti-Laudianism c.1630-1642

--Primary Sources:

--[William Prynne], *Newes from Ipswich* (1636)

--William Laud, *A Speech Delivered in the Starr Chamber* (1637) (prefatory address)

--*A Breife Relation of Certain Speciall, and most materiall passages, and speeches in the Starre-Chamber* (Amsterdam, 1638), pp.16ff.

--S.R. Gardiner (ed.), *Documents Relating to the Proceedings Against William Prynne in 1634 and 1637* (Camden Society, NS 18: 1877), selections
--*Diary of John Rous*, (c.1635-42), pp.78-119

--Secondary Sources:

--Stephen Foster, *Notes from the Caroline Underground: Alexander Leighton, the Puritan Triumvirate, and the Laudian Reaction to Nonconformity* (Hamden: 1978)
--David Cressy, 'The Portraiture of Prynne's Pictures', in *Agnes Bowker's Cat: Travesties and Transgressions in Tudor and Stuart England* (Oxford: 2000)
--Helen Pierce, 'Anti-Episcopacy and Graphic Satire in England, 1640-1645', *Historical Journal* 47:4 (2004) [or relevant sections from her *Unseemly Pictures* if available]

Session 8: Royalist Libelous Discourses in Revolutionary England

--Primary Sources:

--*The Rump, or A Collection of Songs and Ballads...* (1660) (selections)

--Secondary Sources:

--Mark Jenner, 'The Roasting of the Rump: Scatology and the Body Politic in Restoration England', *Past and Present* 177 (2002)
--Angela McShane, 'Debate: The Roasting of the Rump: Scatology and the Body Politic in Restoration England', *P&P* 196 (2007)
--Arthur Marotti, *Manuscript, Print and the English Renaissance Lyric* (Ithaca: 1995), pp.112-26.
--Jason McElligott, 'The Politics of Sexual Libel: Royalist Propaganda in the 1640s', *HLQ* 67:1 (2004)
--David Underdown, *Freeborn People*, ch.5.

Display: Folger copies of Rump songs material:

--*The Rump, or A Collection of Songs and Ballads* (1660) [Folger Deck C R2275]
--*Ratts Rhimed to Death* (1660) [Deck C 152-930q]
--*The Rump Serv'd in with a Grand Sallet* (nd:1659/60) [Deck C R2277]
--*The Character of the Rump* (1660) [Deck C 152-033q]

--Session 9: The King's Body & The Popish Plot: Charles II and the Libelers

--Primary Sources:

--John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, 'On King Charles'
--Stephen College, 'Truth Brought to Light' (1679) [POAS]

- [Stephen Colledge], 'A New Ballad' (1679) [POAS]
- Stephen Colledge, *A Ra-ree Show* (1681) [POAS/EEBO]
- Roger L'Estrange, *Notes Upon Stephen Colledge* (1681), pp.10-16
- Roger L'Estrange, 'The Committee in Masquerade'

--Secondary Sources:

- Harold Love, *English Clandestine Satire 1660-1702* (Oxford: 2004), chs.1-2, 4 (to p.139), ch.8
- Paul Hammond, 'The King's Two Bodies: Representations of Charles II', in Jeremy Black and Jeremy Gregory (eds.), *Culture, Politics and Society in Britain, 1600-1800* (Manchester: 1991)
- Rachel Weil, 'Sometimes a Scepter is only a Scepter: Pornography and Politics in Restoration England', in Lynn Hunt (ed.), *The Invention of Pornography* (New York: 1993)
- Tim Harris, *London Crowds in the Reign of Charles II: Propaganda and Politics from the Restoration until the exclusion crisis* (Cambridge: 1987), ch.5
- Mark Knights, *Politics and Opinion in Crisis, 1678-81* (Cambridge: 1994), ch.6

Session 10: Performing Libel c.1615-1688: Music and Lyrics

--Primary Sources:

- 'There was an ould ladd' (1615-16) ('Early Stuart Libels', H1)
- 'Our eagle is yett flowne' (1623) ('Early Stuart Libels', Nv11)
- Stephen Colledge, *A Ra-ree Show* (1681)
- The Protestant-Flayl* (1682)
- [Thomas Wharton], *A New Song (Lilliburlero)* (1688) [POAS]

--Claude M. Simpson, *The British Broadside Ballad and Its Music* (New Brunswick, NJ: 1966), frontispiece; entries for 'Clean Contrary Way', 'I am the Duke of Norfolk', 'Lilliburlero', 'Whoop! Do Me No Harm, Good Man'

--Secondary Sources:

- Christopher Marsh, 'The Sound of Print in Early Modern England: The Broadside Ballad as Song', in Julia Crick and Alexandra Walsham (eds.), *The Uses of Script and Print, 1300-1700* (Cambridge: 2004)
- Alastair Bellany, 'Singing Libel in Early Stuart England: The Case of the Staines Fiddlers, 1627', *HLQ* 69:1 (2006)