

Advances in Historical Orthography, c. 1500–1800

The early modern period is a key historical era for the standardisation of languages in Europe, in which orthographies played an important role. This book traces the development of European spelling systems in the early modern era, and is unique in bringing together several strands of historical research, across a diverse range of Germanic, Romance and Balto-Slavic languages, including Polish, German, French, Spanish, Lithuanian, Czech, Croatian and English. Whilst each chapter includes a case study on a particular language or script, the volume in general follows a broad thread of discussion based on models and methods relevant to many languages, showing how empirical approaches can be applied across languages to enrich the field of historical orthography as a whole. As one of the first volumes to diachronically explore the standardisation of spelling systems from a cross-linguistic perspective, this is an invaluable resource for specialists and those interested in European historical studies more broadly.

Edited by

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