

**Robert Spindler**  
Researcher and lecturer

**Academic appointments**

- Since 2019            External part-time lecturer  
Faculty of Economics and Management  
*Libera Università di Bolzano/Freie Universität Bozen*
- 2017-2019            Postdoctoral researcher, SLAVES project (BMBWF)  
Department of American Studies  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 11/2017              Visiting researcher  
College of Liberal Arts  
*University of Minnesota Twin Cities*
- 2016-2017            Researcher, ESCAPE project (FWF)  
Department of American Studies  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2010-2019            Intermittent contracts as external part-time lecturer  
Department of English and Department of American Studies  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2005-2008            Teaching assistant  
Department of English  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*

**Education**

- 2016                  Doctor philosophiae, Literature and Cultural Studies  
(Prof. Mario Klarer)  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2008                  Magister philosophiae, English and American Studies (with distinction)  
(Prof. Arno Heller)  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2003                  Compulsory military service (mountain infantry)  
*Franz-Joseph-Kaserne Lienz*
- 1994-2002            High school  
*Bundesrealgymnasium Wörgl*

## Scholarships, grants, and awards

9/2019-12/2019	Post-graduate research scholarship of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
11/2017	Mobility grant of the International Relations Office of the Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck for a research visit to the USA (visits to: University of Minnesota Twin Cities; Case Western Reserve University; Wind River Indian Reservation)
2014-2016	Doctoral scholarship of the Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck for the promotion of young researchers
7/2009	Grant of the Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck for short-term research work at the British Film Institute in London
2008	Audience award of the <i>film:riss</i> student film festival in Salzburg

## Memberships and functions

2019	Member of the advisory board of the Department of American Studies (representative of non-professorial academic staff) <i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i>
Since 2018	Member of the German Association for the Study of English
Since 2017	Member of the International Arthurian Society, German Branch
Since 2017	Member of the research area "Cultural Encounters – Cultural Conflicts" <i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i>
Since 2013	Member of the Austrian Association for American Studies

## Teaching interests

- English and American literature, from 1500 to 1900
- Cultural studies
- Film and media studies
- TESOL
- Communication and presentation skills

## Research interests

- Early modern captivity literature
- Early modern relations between North Africa and the Western world
- Transnational literature
- The American frontier and Native American studies
- Arthurian literature and medievalism
- Narratology
- Gender studies

## Publications

### Monograph

1. *Corsairs, Captives, Converts in Early Modernity: Narrating Barbary Captivity in Germany and the English-Speaking World, 1558-1807*. (forthcoming)

### Articles and book chapters – published

1. "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)
2. "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, Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 73-77.
3. (with Mario Klarer, Timo Gassner, and Katharina Seidl) "Mitforschen und Mitgestalten: Schülerinnen und Schüler erarbeiten Ideen und Objekte zur Sommerausstellung ‚Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer‘ auf Schloss Ambras 2019." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Ed. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Vienna, Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 79-83.
4. "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)
5. "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)
6. "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)

### Articles and book chapters – in print

7. "Benevolent Masters, Despicable *Renegados*: Relativizing Portrayals of Muslims in British Barbary Captivity Narratives, 1595 – 1739." *Anglistik: International Journal of English Studies*. (peer-reviewed)
8. "Western Nostalgia, Revisionism and Native American Women in *Wind River* (2017)." *Women in the Western*. Ed. Sue Matheson. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2019. (peer-reviewed)
9. "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, 2019. (peer-reviewed)

## Articles and book chapters – in review

10. "Abomination, Admiration, Adaptation: Images of Islam in American Barbary Captivity Narratives." (submitted to *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, peer-reviewed)
11. "City Descriptions as Spatial Representations and Genre Markers in the American Barbary Captivity Narrative." (submitted to *American Studies in Scandinavia*, peer-reviewed)

## Reviews

1. "Alfred Hornung. *Jack London: Abenteuer des Lebens*. Darmstadt: Lambert Schneider, 2016, 320pp." In: *Anglia* 137.1 (2019): 186-190.
2. "Ernstpeter Ruhe. *Porträt des Künstlers als Sklave: Zwei Augsburger Kupferstecher als Gefangene in Algier (1684-1688)*. Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann, 2017, 243pp." In: *Archiv für Kulturgeschichte* 100.2 (2018): 461-462.

## Smaller contributions

1. Catalogue number: "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. Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 174-175.
2. Catalogue number: "Zur Rezeption der Piraterie: *Treasure Island* von Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Sea Hawk* von Rafael Sabatini und *White Gold* von Giles Milton." *Piraten und Sklaven im Mittelmeer: Eine Ausstellung von Schloss Ambras Innsbruck und der Universität Innsbruck*. Eds. Sabine Haag, Veronika Sandbichler, and Mario Klarer. Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 186-187.
3. Catalogue number: "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. Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 177-179.
4. Catalogue number: "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. Innsbruck: Haymon, 2019. 173.
5. Introduction and afterword: Konstantin Holzmeister, Anna Kovacs, and Franziska Ulrich. *Vom Piraten zum Sklaven: Balthasar Sturmiers Tunis-Abenteuer im Jahr 1535 als Graphic Novel*. Eds. Robert Spindler and Mario Klarer. Innsbruck: Innsbruck University Press, 2019. 5-8; 46-47.
6. Comment: Sturmer, Balthasar. "Account of the Travels of Mister Balthasar Sturmer (1558)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)
7. Comment: Olufs, Hark. "The Remarkable Adventures of Hark Olufs (1751)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)

8. Comment: Wolfgang, Gustav Andreas. "The Travels and Wondrous Fortunes of Two Brothers in Algerian Bondage (1767)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)

### **Translations**

1. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Sturmer, Balthasar. "Account of the Travels of Mister Balthasar Sturmer (1558)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)
2. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Olufs, Hark. "The Remarkable Adventures of Hark Olufs (1751)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)
3. Annotated primary text translation from German into English: Wolfgang, Gustav Andreas. "The Travels and Wondrous Fortunes of Two Brothers in Algerian Bondage (1767)." *Christian Slaves among Islamic Pirates: An Anthology of Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives (1550–1810)*. Ed. Mario Klarer. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019. (forthcoming)
4. (with Almyria Wilhelm) Translation of a scholarly article from German into English: Palm, Kurt. "Mozart, Islam, and the Hangman of Salzburg." *Mediterranean Slavery and World Literature: Captivity Genres from Cervantes to Rousseau*. Ed. Mario Klarer. London: Routledge, 2019. (forthcoming)

### **Transfer-oriented publication**

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

(Note: This project is nominated for the Young Science Inspiration Award)

### **Non-academic publication**

1. (with Tommy Heslep). *Grip Strength: How to Close Heavy Duty Hand Grippers, Lift Thick Bar Weights and Pinch Grip just about anything*. Innsbruck: CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2013.

### **Conference and workshop organization**

1. "Kulturbrücken und -brüche: Der Mittelmeerraum als Schauplatz transkultureller Identitätsentwicklung" (with Magdalena Modler-El Abdaoui). University of Innsbruck. Haus der Begegnung, Innsbruck. 19 June 2019.
2. "Frozen Pasts" (with the Department of Pre- and Protohistory, Classic Archaeology and History of the Medieval of the Institute of Archaeologies, University of Innsbruck). 4th International Glacial Archaeology Symposium. University of Innsbruck. 12-16 October 2016. (volunteer)

3. "Piracy and Captivity in the Mediterranean: 1530-1810: Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives" (with Mario Klarer and Tobias Auböck). University of Innsbruck. Claudiana, Innsbruck. 16-18 June 2016.
4. "Perspectives on Northern Africa in the Early Modern Period: Piracy, Slavery, and Diplomacy" (with Mario Klarer and Tobias Auböck). University of Innsbruck. Claudiana, Innsbruck. 13-14 November 2014.

### **Guest lectures and invited talks**

1. "Piraterie und Sklaverei im Mittelmeer der frühen Neuzeit." SLAVES Project. Handelsakademie Innsbruck. 8 May 2018.
2. "Piraterie und Sklaverei im Mittelmeer der frühen Neuzeit." SLAVES Project. Akademisches Gymnasium Innsbruck. 17 November 2017.
3. "Three Early Modern Barbary Captivity Narratives in the German Language and their Portrayal of Islam." Mediterranean Collaborative. Consortium for the Study of the Premodern World. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. 8 November 2017.
4. "Masters, *Agusins* and *Renegados*: Portrayals of Muslims in Early Modern Barbary Captivity Narratives from Germany and Austria." SAGES Program. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. 4 November 2017.
5. "New Western Films." American Corner. Department of American Studies. University of Innsbruck. 15 April 2010.

### **Conference papers (selection)**

1. "Creating Awareness through (Literary-) History in the School Context: the SLAVES Project." Kulturbrücken und -brüche: Der Mittelmeerraum als Schauplatz transkultureller Identitätsentwicklung. Haus der Begegnung Innsbruck. 19 June 2019.
2. "*Renegados*: Converted Christians in British Barbary Captivity Narratives." Buccaneers, Corsairs, Pirates and Privateers: Connecting the Early Modern Seas. Bielefeld University. 13 April 2018.
3. "The Castle in Arthurian Film." 32nd International Conference on Medievalism: Medieval Places – (Post)Modern Presences. University of Salzburg. 17 July 2017.
4. "*Merckwürdige Lebens- und Reisebeschreibung*: Der Bericht des Johann Michael Kühn." Erzählen zwischen Fakt und Fiktion. University of Innsbruck. 23 February 2017.
5. "Austrian Pirate Victims in North Africa: Two Early Modern Narratives of Barbary Coast Captivity." Piraten, Gin Tonic und Partnerwahl: Die Vielfalt der universitären Forschung. Department of Translation Science. University of Innsbruck. 22 April 2016.
6. "Identity Crisis: Returning from the Barbary Coast." Afrikaforschung in Österreich: Zugänge und Einordnungen. University of Innsbruck. 19 March 2015.
7. "City Descriptions in American Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives." 41st International AAAS Conference: Space Oddities. University of Graz. 22 November 2014.

8. "17th Century Captivity Narratives and the Puritans' Utopian Vision of the New World." 40th International AAAS Conference: American Utopias. University of Salzburg. 9 November 2013.
9. "Malory's Gawain: In Search of a Fictional Identity." 18th Annual Postgraduate Medieval Studies Conference: Identity and Image. BIRTHA. University of Bristol, UK. 25 February 2012.
10. "Individualism in Malory's Gawain." Imbas Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Medieval Conference. Moore Institute. National University of Ireland, Galway. 12 November 2011.

## Conference poster

1. "Das SLAVES Projekt: Museumspädagogik als Schnittstelle zwischen Wissenschaft und Schule" (with Timo Gassner and Katharina Seidl). 5. Österreichische Citizen Science Konferenz. Universitätszentrum Obergurgl. 26 June 2019.

## Exhibition

1. Assistance in the curation and concept design of the special exhibition "Pirates and Slaves in the Mediterranean" by Schloss Ambras Innsbruck and the University of Innsbruck. 20 June to 6 October 2019.

## Interview

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

## Courses taught

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2019 | <p>"Communication Skills and Leadership" (communication skills lecture for undergraduate economics students)<br/> Faculty of Economics and Management<br/> <i>Libera Università di Bolzano/Freie Universität Bozen</i></p> <p>"Kommunikation und Strategie" (communication skills lecture for undergraduate economics students)<br/> Faculty of Economics and Management<br/> <i>Libera Università di Bolzano/Freie Universität Bozen</i></p> |
| 2018 | <p>"Sailors, Fishermen, and Castaways: Maritime Adventures in American Prose from Romanticism to Modernism" (American literature undergraduate seminar)<br/> Department of American Studies<br/> <i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i></p> <p>"Slaves, Captives, and Pirates in American Culture" (American culture undergraduate seminar)<br/> Department of American Studies<br/> <i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i></p> |

(Note: According to a survey in 2018, the evaluation of the two courses above was among the top 20% of the University of Innsbruck)

- 2017 "Language Skills: Listening/Speaking I" (TESOL exercise)  
Department of English  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2016 and 2017 "Language Skills: Reading/Writing II" (TESOL exercise)  
Department of English  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2016 "Language Skills: Listening/Speaking II" (TESOL exercise)  
Department of English  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2014 "Film Production through Metafilms" (American culture undergraduate seminar)  
Department of American Studies  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*
- 2010 "Guerilla Film Production" (American culture undergraduate seminar)  
Department of American Studies  
*Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*

### **Supervised theses**

- 2019 *Religion and Nation Building in 16th Century European Slave Narratives with Suggestions for Teaching Intercultural Competences in Classrooms*  
(MA Thesis, with Mario Klarer)
- Intercultural Communication in Mary Rowlandson's Captivity Narrative*  
(BA Thesis)
- Jamestown and Constitutional Liberalism: How the Early Historical Events of the First American Colony Still Shape Contemporary Politics and Culture*  
(BA Thesis)
- "I had fainted, unless I had believed": Anti-Puritanism in Mary Rowlandson's Narrative and a Didactic Approach to the Usage of Captivity Narratives in the English Language Classroom*  
(MA Thesis, with Mario Klarer)
- 2018 *The Female Captivity Narrative and Elizabeth Marsh*  
(BA Thesis)
- Politics and Religion in French and American Barbary Coast Captivity Narratives from Tripoli and its Implementation in the Austrian School Context*  
(MA Thesis, with Mario Klarer)
- Oral Sources to Translation: William Okeley's Captivity Narrative Eben-ezer (1675) in Johann Frisch's Schauplatz Barbarischer Schlaverey (1666 and 1694) and its Teaching Perspectives*  
(MA Thesis, with Mario Klarer)

2017

*Transcript of Emmanuel de Arandas Relation de la Captivite en Algiers*  
*including a genesis of further translations*  
(MA Thesis, with Mario Klarer)

Innsbruck, 23 October 2019