



## *Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen*

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The '**Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen**' was founded in 1846 and is the oldest specialized periodical for modern language studies still in print, and it continues to be an internationally-orientated scholarly forum for German, English, Romance Language and Comparative studies. The essays, smaller articles, and reviews in '**Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen**' reflect the variety, and the present state and tendencies, of the disciplines which the periodical represents, and, in addition, of the interdisciplinary cooperation between them. Alongside literary research, attention is paid to linguistics. The periodical publishes articles in German, English, and all the Romance languages. It offers you

- an internationally orientated scholarly forum for German, English, Romance Language and Comparative Studies
- the variety, and the present state and tendencies, of the disciplines which it represents in essays, smaller articles, and an extensive selection of reviews
- in addition to literary research, articles about linguistics

Quality is guaranteed by the peer-review process.

**Editors:** Jens Haustein, Christa Jansohn, Barbara Kuhn, and Manfred Lentzen

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## *A potted history of the 'Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen'*



The *'Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen'*, founded by Ludwig Herrig and Heinrich Viehoff in 1846, is rightly regarded as being the oldest periodical for Modern Language Studies. It was founded during a period when the academic study of modern languages and literatures left virtually everything to be desired:

There are some universities where *German* can be studied; but there are no staff for French and English at most universities...and the paucity of so-called modern language 'lectors' who are qualified to be university teachers is equalled only by the dearth of those intellectuals who read – here and there – modern literature.

is how the philologist Karl Mager summed up the situation in 1843.

So far as schools were concerned, Ludwig Herrig set the pace by acquiring permission to set up a department for modern language teachers in Berlin. This was followed at the end of the 1860s by similar departments in universities throughout Germany. The popularity of modern language courses, which conferred on students of English and French teaching a specialized academic qualification, was increased by the foundation of a new kind of school, in which – along with the natural sciences – there was an important place for modern European foreign languages, whereas the teaching of Greek, and even to a certain extent of Latin, was abandoned.

This sort of thing had, in its turn, an effect on the universities, on the way they organized their disciplines, and eventually on the sort of periodicals they published. Manifestations of this were, on the one hand, the creation of chairs for English and Romance Languages, on the other hand, the foundation of scholarly specialized periodicals focusing on a single language, e.g. the *'Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie'* (1868), which is still published today, the *'Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie'* (1877) and *'Anglia. Zeitschrift für englische Philologie'* (1878).

The periodical, whose original purpose had been 'to promote modern language and literature teaching in schools, and to give such teaching greater substance and educational thrust' changed after Ludwig Herrig's death (1889), so that it became a scholarly periodical of the first rank, with articles increasingly dominated by academics.

Increasing specialization within the study of modern languages led to a division into distinct editorial sections, each under the direction of important scholars in the relevant area. That, and lively participation in the scholarly disputes of the day, helped the '**Archiv für das Studium der neueren Sprachen und Literaturen**' gain the great respect it enjoyed on the international scene.

By now '**Archiv**' has become a periodical characterized by the successful integration of different specializations and an increasingly international perspective, thus doing justice to the demands of interdisciplinary scholarship. The essays, smaller articles and reviews reflect the variety of language and literary research in English, American, Romance-language, and German studies. Current trends can be detected in the main themes on which the individual volumes concentrate.