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Bilingualism, Code-switching and Language Mixing in the History of English

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The study of mixed language texts from earlier periods of English has become an increasingly attractive field of linguistic research. These texts not only document the close contact of English with other languages, but also show historical bilingualism and code-switching in action. But they also raise numerous questions on the function of mixing and on the relation between contact phenomena like code-switching, borrowing and mixed languages. This seminar will address these issues from all periods of English up to Late Modern English.