Palaeography

DIGITAL HUMANITIES FOR MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHICAL SOURCES

7. Bastard gothic minuscule from 14th century

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Course outline: 7. Bastard gothic minuscule from 14th century palaeography

- 1 Evolution
- 2 Characteristics
- 3 Digits
- 4 Example
- Homework

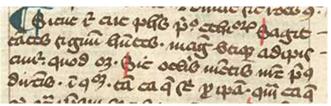
Evolution

In the 14th-15th centuries the shape of the letter continues to evolve.

- *textualis* takes a shape that is easier to write
- the new shape combines elements from rotunda, quadrata and semiuncial
- for this, it is called *bastarda* or *hybrida*
- the most affected is the *glossularis* shape (cursive)

Characteristics palaeography

- the writing is more cursive
- the letters are connected
- the ascendants and descendants are more pronounced
- the letters are slightly inclined towards the right
- the ascendants of some letters are drawn as loops (b, d, h, l)
- the minims are drawn as connected hooks (i, m, n, u)
- preference for certain letter shapes (short s, pointed t)
- usage of new letters or combinations, sometimes to render sounds from vernaculars (w = u+u, $\beta = f+s/f+z$)



Digits

- roman digits (i, ii, iii, v, x, l, c, d, m)
- arabic digits in medieval form

- numbering with letters (a, b, c...)
- ciphers (less often)

Example Palaeography

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Lilienfeld, Zisterzienserstift, ms. 148, f. 1r (1389), IOHANNES DE MIRECURIA, Super Sententiarum

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Kraków, Biblioteka Jagiellońska, Rkp. 1855, f. 1r (15th c.), Aegidius Romanus, *Theoremata de esse et essentia*