



## PREMIS seminar, 8 April

Roger D. Sell (Emeritus Professor, English  
Language and Literature, Åbo Akademi University)

**Where?** Arken, Jöns Budde (M218) or online via Zoom:

<https://aboakademi.zoom.us/j/6950507660>

**When?** Wednesday 8 April 2026, 16:15 –17:45

Welcome to another PREMIS seminar this spring. At the seminar, **Emeritus Professor Roger D. Sell** will speak about his research in communicational criticism and literature.

### Communicational Critics and Literary Époques

Communicational criticism explores literature as one among other forms of human communication, and the title of Roger's upcoming talk for PREMIS is:

“Communicational Critics and Literary Époques.” In the first half of this he explains that communicational critics see literature as a status awarded within a larger or smaller community. Another key point is that communicational critics invoke one main criterion, a communicational-ethical criterion, plus many other criteria as well, whereas other kinds of critic are far less pluralistic. Such differences between the types of criteria employed by critics correlate with what Roger describes as the four main époques of literary activity from Aristotle to Rushdie.

*Roger D. Sell has been Professor of English Language at the University of Gothenburg and Professor of English Language and Literature at Åbo Akademi University. He has published on a wide range of English-language literature and led several research projects in the field of communicational criticism.*

What is PREMIS? It stands for Post-graduate Research in English: Multimodal and Interdisciplinary Studies, and refers to a literary and cultural seminar which promotes research at all levels. While the emphasis is on new developments in literature, the seminar also keenly appreciates multi-modal, interdisciplinary or multi-cultural input.

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