

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910825450603321
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Titolo	English fiction in the 1930s : language, genre, history / / Chris Hopkins
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York, : Continuum, c2006
ISBN	1-283-12297-9 9786613122971 1-4411-7289-0
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (189 p.)
Collana	Continuum literary studies series
Disciplina	823.91209
Soggetti	English fiction - 20th century - History and criticism Nineteen thirties
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Modernism and modernity -- pt. 2. Documentary and proletarian pastoral -- pt. 3. History and the historical novel -- pt. 4. Thrillers and dystopias.
Sommario/riassunto	This study approaches the fiction of the 1930s through critical debates about genre, language and history, setting these in their original context, and discussing the generic forms most favoured by novelists at the time. Chris Hopkins uses a series of case studies of texts to draw on, develop or explore the boundaries, contemporary usefulness and complexities of particular prose genres. Generic debates and the political-aesthetic effects of different kinds of representation were live issues as discursive struggles and negotiations took place between modernist and realist modes, between high,