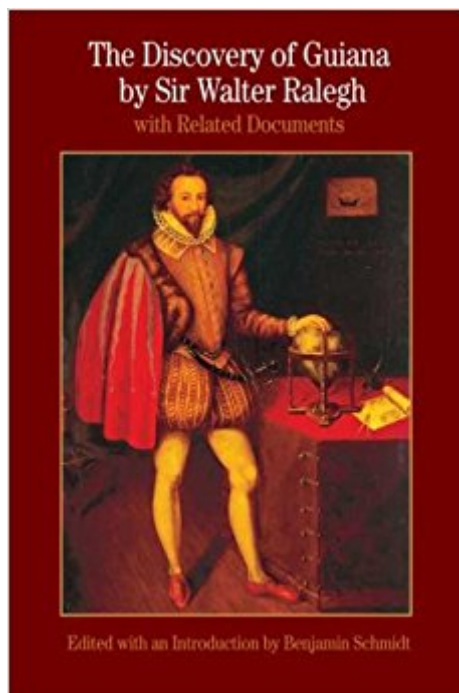




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Synopsis

Sir Walter Raleigh's *The Discovery of Guiana* is a masterpiece of early travel literature that brings together important themes of Renaissance exploration, the European encounter with the New World, and the culture and politics of early modern Europe. Part travel journal, part geography primer, part political tract, Raleigh's account offers insight into a time of worldwide transformation. Benjamin Schmidt's insightful introduction places Raleigh's 1595 American adventure against a backdrop of sixteenth-century colonial rivalry and Elizabethan court intrigue. The volume includes additional documents from the Age of Exploration, including contemporary engravings that illustrate prevailing images of the New World and portraits of Raleigh that emphasize the importance of Renaissance self-fashioning. Document headnotes, a chronology, questions for consideration, and a selected bibliography offer additional pedagogical support.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

BENJAMIN SCHMIDT (Ph.D., Harvard University) is professor of history at the University of Washington. He has published widely on early modern cultural history, including *Innocence Abroad: The Dutch Imagination and the New World, 1570-1670* (2001), which received the Gordan Prize for best book in Renaissance studies and the Hendricks Prize for best book in colonial Dutch studies. He is co-editor of *Making Knowledge in Early Modern Europe: Practices, Objects, and Texts, 1400-1800* (2007) and is completing a book on European exoticism and globalism around 1700. A former member of the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton), he has also received fellowships

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