IRLS588-011 History of the Book

Updated Mon, 10/05/2009 - 10:26

COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

IRLS588-011, Fall 2009

Jana Bradley, Instructor

Prerequisite: IRLS 504 or consent of the instructor

*This is the advanced copy of the syllabus and is subject to change. The final copy is in the D2L website, available to registered students.

*If you are interested in taking this course, and would like to view an orientation that explains what the course is about, please email me at janabrad@email.arizona.edu and I will send you the link to the orientation.

*The D2L site is now open to registered students.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the history of the book, primarily in the West, with a focus on England and America, although the first week gives a rapid introduction to the book before printing began in Western Europe.

The goals of the course are both intellectual and practical. Intellectually, it is basically a history course covering the book in society during this period. Practically, it gives you a base of knowledge that will be useful to you in careers that deal with the book as an object. If you are interested in book-selling, rare books, special collections, or the book trade in any period of history, or its future into the 21st century, the course will be interesting and useful. Again, practically speaking, you will learn to look at books in the way they are analyzed in the rare book trade and in special collections. Archivists also benefit from understanding the history of the book materials that often accompany archival collections.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This is an online course. It meets from August 22, the first day of class, to August 8, the last day of class. The D2L website...
will be open on August 17. There will be an orientation module ready for you there, which you can take any time through the first week of class. However, the first week plunges right into the class routine and workload, so if you can view the orientation materials before August 22, it would get you up to speed before things start in earnest.

The course week starts on Sunday and ends on the following Sunday. You are free to use Sunday to wrap up the previous week, to start the new week, or both. Each Sunday, from 3-5 pm, I will record the week’s lecture for that week. I will be using Breeze, so that any of you who wish to participate in that weekly lecture, in real time, can log in via a url I will send you. You will be able to ask questions via chat and I will be able to answer real time by video and voice. For those of you who can’t log in at that time, the recorded session will be available to you immediately, via another url, and you can see and hear the lecture. It is strongly recommended that you attend the lecture either in real time or recorded time within the first two days of the week, as an overview for the rest of your work.

In addition to viewing the lecture, the rest of the week’s work consists of the following:

- Required readings;
- Required writing and posting of a description of a physical book of the period (instructions and examples will teach you how to do this, and what to look for in the books of each period);
- Required reading of all book descriptions, and posting a substantive post about the physical book in the period;
- Small group discussion and reporting back to large group;
- Terminology quizzes.

More information is available in D2L as instructions for each type of assigned work.

**Terminology**

Each week’s work will include learning a list of terms related to the weekly area of study. The terms will come from the lectures and the readings. The terms will help you build an understanding of each period. If you don’t understand a term, it is acceptable to ask on the discussion list, but you must include in your question what you do know and understand, and then ask specifically what you want to know. Your small groups are a great place to discuss terms.

**Terminology Quizzes**

There will be a terminology quiz available on Sunday night of the beginning of the module, at 5 pm Arizona time. The quiz will be open for 2 weeks, closing on Sunday at 5 pm Arizona time at the end of 2 weeks. The quiz provides your score immediately after taking it, and you can take it as many times as you want within the 2-week period to improve your score. The last score recorded before the quiz closes will count.

**Terminology Final**

There will be a final exam on ? over the terminology covered in the course. The exam will consist of 150 questions taken from the weekly quizzes, or approximately 10+ from each module and 25 “A list” terms, which will either be harder versions of weekly terms, which have not appeared in the quizzes, or new terms that have not been in the quizzes. These terms will come from main points of the lectures or readings. The meaning of the terms is also a good topic to discuss in your small groups. Discussing possible A-list terms is also a good activity for your small groups.

**Individual Semester-Long Paper**

Each student is required to write a 7-10 page paper, due after the last class, on a topic of their choice and prepare an annotated bibliography of the articles or book chapters they read. The paper will be a comparison of your topic over at least three time periods in the syllabus.

**Course Topical Structure**

The topical structure below is tentative. The final structure will be in the syllabus on D2L, as well as in a separate document.

Pre-Class Orientation: The D2L class site will be open on August 17, including the recorded Orientation to the course. Students will benefit from having a jump start on the course structure and activities, since real class work beings on August 23 (actually week 1 session will be available August 22)

For each of these historical time frames, we will be covering, albeit briefly
· The Society and Politics of the Time
· Book Production
· Book Trade and Finances
· Books and Gender
· Consumers and Literacy

Week 1: August 23 - August 30: Ancient Books-3500 BC- 450AD

Week 2: August 30 – September 6: Early Manuscript Books 450AD – 1200 AD

Week 3: September 6-September 13: Late Manuscript Books1200 AD – 1450 AD

Week 4: September 13- September 20: Early Printed Books: 1450 AD - 1509


Week 7: October 4-11; Early Modern Books, Part III: 1703-1800

Week 8: October 11-18: Books in America 1600-1800

Week 9: October 18-25: American Indigenous Cultures: Oral tradition, alphabets and writing, and documenting


Week 12: November 8 - November 15: Golden Age of Modern Publishing:, 1920-1960


Week 14: November 22- 25 :November: Abbreviated Week; Documenting Alternative Culture: An African American Example. Lecture but no reading, book description or posts. Terminology from this unit will be included in the quiz for week 15.


**Final Terminology Exam:** The terminology exam will open on Sunday, Dec 13 at 5pm and will remain open until Tuesday, Dec 15, at 11:59 PM. Although the exam will be open during this entire period, you will be allowed to take it only one

**Final Paper and Annotated Bibliography:** Due Friday, Dec 11, by 11:59pm (Arizona Time) in the D2L drop box. The drop box will close then.

**Due dates for all assignments:** I stick very closely to deadlines. No late assignments will be accepted without gaining the instructor’s approval beforehand. All late papers approved for late submission will be subject to a late penalty of one whole letter grade. the event of a serious calamity, the instructor will consider waving the late penalty.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The overall goal of the course is for the student to begin to appreciate the complex relationship between the book and society and to see how these change over the centuries. Specific objectives for each period of time include learning

- to describe a book in each time period, what to look for and how to "read" the book's production history
- to understand the basic elements involved in the making of a book and how these changed over time
- to know the terminology associated with the book and the book trade for each period
- to identify the various functions involved with the book trade and how they change over time
- to appreciate the interaction between powerful historical and social factors and the medium of print
- to be able to construct an historical narrative, buttressed by facts, about changes in one topic related to the book
over three historical periods

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:**

**REQUIRED READING**

There are four required books that you will need to buy or borrow from a library other than the UA library. All four are available on Amazon, with used copies more reasonably priced than new. I believe you will be able to purchase all four for between 80 and 100 dollars by buying used. The Gaskell book is the most hard to get and therefore the most expensive.


Each of these texts serves of different purpose in our learning.

Diringer (*The Book Before Printing*) is the text for the first week. Although it is old, and some of his opinions are dated, it is the best compilation of material about the global book before printing. Different sections will be assigned to different groups. So, although you only have to read 60 pages for week 1, you will also want to look at the illustrations for the sections other than yours.

Eisenstein's *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe* is arguably the most influential book on printing in the 20th century. A person cannot be taken seriously as knowing anything about printing in early modern Europe if he/she has not read Eisenstein. She represents the best and the most comprehensive analysis of the effects of printing from the point of view of a social historian. You are asked to read the entire book by October 11, which is about 50 pages per week, if you space it out over the weeks.

Gaskell (*The New Introduction to Bibliography*) will also have to be read in its entirety. This book presents the information that is the basis of understanding and the production of books. This knowledge is necessary for Special Collections and sometimes archives. You will be asked to read pages 5 - 185 by October 11 and pages 190 - 309 by November. Again, I suggest weekly reading to make the total manageable.

Steinberg and Trevitt (*Five hundred years of Printing*) will be your general text for the history of printing. It gives an excellent balance of historical knowledge, as well as some useful illustrations.

Reading note: In general you will find that readings divide up historical periods differently from each other and differently from the topical schedule. That will require you to read and take notes somewhat across our weekly divisions.

Other readings are assigned and access will be provided.

Overall, there will be about 100 - 130 pages of assigned reading per week, sometimes more or less.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Weekly Course Assignments**

- Logging in multiple times a week to the D2L site
- Listening to a recorded lecture at the beginning of each week
- Required reading: about 100-130 pages a week
- Required discussion (in small groups) a minimum of 3-5 substantive postings per student per week
- Weekly summary by one group member, on a rotating basis, of the group's discussion
- Terminology quiz taken once a week
- Reading other students' posts (reading 75% of the course posts is required for a B)

**Other Assignments**
Four group projects: Describing Books
5000 to 7000 page paper due at the end of the semester on a topic of your choice
Annotated bibliography with the paper

COURSE, SCHOOL, AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Academic Code of Integrity

Students are expected to abide by The University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity. 'The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own.' If you have any questions regarding what is acceptable practice under this Code, please ask an Instructor.

Accommodating Disabilities

The University has a Disability Resource Center. If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center and request that the DRC send me, the Instructor, official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Course and Assignment Policies

Revising the Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus for reasons of improving the learning experience. The students will be consulted about alterations. In general, I have found that alterations of the syllabus work in the student's favor.

D2L Participation Requirements

Be aware that just as instructors monitor attendance in face 2 face class, the instructor monitors participation in this online class. The instructor reserves the right to drop a student who does not log-in to D2L and participate during the first week. Lack of regular logging in, reading content, and participating will affect a student's grade.

Submitting Assignments:
- Final Paper: Drop Box. The drop box closes at 11:59 pm, Arizona time, Dec 11.
- Discussion assignments: All discussion posts are due by 11:59, Arizona time, on the Sunday ending the week's topic. The discussion area will remain open posting for one more week, closing at Sunday, 11:59 Arizona time, one week after the end of that topic. Students who are frequently late may occur a penalty.

Late Assignments: In online courses, I feel it is very important to be strict with dates. Here are my policies for various kinds of deadlines.
- lectures: all lectures should be read by Sunday at the end of the week, by 3 pm, before the new lecture is available. The lectures will remain available for review, but late readings endanger an A.
- Quizzes: The quizzes will be open from 3 pm Sunday at the start of the week, for two weeks, closing at 3 pm that Sunday. Quizzes will reopen on Dec 8 for study, and close an hour before the final is available.
- Postings: All postings should be done the week of the assignment. The discussions will remain open for one week afterward, but late postings endanger an A.
- Paper and Annotated Bibliography: The paper and annotated bibliography are due at 11:59 pm on Friday Dec 11. Late papers will incur a penalty of one letter grade below the assigned grade.

Writing style: As long as postings are understandable by the average English speaker, they can be written in informal English. The paper and annotated bibliography are to be written in academic English at the level of graduate work. Standard English usage, grammar, spelling and expression are expected. Students who know they need help with their writing should go to the Writing Center or locate sources in their own area for improvement.

All bibliographies are expected to use the most recent edition of APA

Incompletes
The current Catalog reads

The grade of I may be awarded only at the end of a term, when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed. The grade of I is not to be awarded in place of a failing grade or when the student is expected to repeat the course; in such a case, a grade other than I must be assigned. Students should make arrangements with the instructor to receive an incomplete grade before the end of the term ...

If the incomplete is not removed by the instructor within one year the I grade will revert to a failing grade.

As an instructor, I only grant incompletes when real health or family emergencies at the last minute prevent completion of the paper and bibliography, and then only if students obtain my approval before the last day of classes, Dec 8. No makeup of closed discussions will be allowed. If an incomplete is warranted and I will negotiate a due date not to exceed the first day of classes for the next semester.

GRADING:

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Final Paper and Bibliography........25%
- Book Descriptions and summary...25%
- Terminology Final..................25%
- Participation
  - Substantive posts in small groups...................10%
  - Individual summary of small group activity .......5%
  - Number of other students posts read...............10%

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:

Jana Bradley
janabrad@email.arizona.edu

SIRLS Office: please go to the office and ask for directions
520-609-6448

Office Hours:

Virtual Office Hours: I will have virtual office hours on Monday afternoons from 3-5 pm. I will send the class the url and by clicking on it, you can enter my virtual office. You may make an appointment in advance, in which case I will post them on my screen. This is my first try at virtual real-time office hours, so we'll see how it goes. You can also make an appointment with me for a specific time. Be sure to understand that while I will be using Breeze software for the lectures and office hours, students do not have to have Breeze installed. All they have to do is click on the URL I send them. If you do have Breeze, then we can see each other as we talk.

Face-2-Face Office Hours: I will try to be in the office at SIRLS from 2-4 on Wednesday. Please make an appointment if at all possible. If you are going to drop in, please call the office first to determine if I am there.
Courses

- Syllabi
  - Fall 11
  - Summer 2011
  - Spring 11
  - Fall 10
  - Summer 10
  - Winter 10-11
  - Spring 10
  - Winter 09 10
  - Fall 09
    - IRLS506-001 Research Methods (On Campus Higgins)
    - IRLS506-010 Research Methods (Virtual Atkinson)
    - IRLS506-011 Research Methods (Virtual Seavey)
    - IRLS515-001 Organization of Information (On Campus Frické)
    - IRLS515-010 Organization of Information (Virtual Cui)
    - IRLS515-011 Organization of Information (Virtual Frické)
    - IRLS520-001 Ethics for Library and Information Professionals (On Campus Mathiesen)
    - IRLS520-010 Ethics for Library and Information Professionals (Virtual Fallis)
    - IRLS524 Information Resources and Services
    - IRLS532-001 Online Searching
    - IRLS533 Issues in Culture & Information Technology
    - IRLS561 Academic Libraries Practice and Administration
    - IRLS570 Database Development and Management
    - IRLS571-010 Introduction to Information Technology
    - IRLS571-011 Introduction to Information Technology (Smith)
    - IRLS572-010 Government Information
    - IRLS574 Digital Libraries
    - IRLS575 User Interface and Web Site Design
    - IRLS588-011 History of the Book
      - IRLS608 Planning and Evaluation of Libraries and Information Centers
      - IRLS617-010 Social Epistemology and Information Science
      - IRLS671 Introduction to Digital Collections
      - IRLS675 Advanced Digital Collections
      - IRLS696E Human Rights to Information
  - Summer 09
  - Spring 09
  - Winter 08 09
  - Fall 08
  - Archive of Old Syllabi

- Schedules
  - Core Courses
  - Course Delivery Options
  - Course Descriptions
  - Distributed Electives
  - Individual Studies: Internships, Independent Studies & Practica
  - Registration
Guided exploration

Click a term to initiate a search.

Audience
- for Students (92)
- for Faculty (28)
- for Alums (24)
- for Staff (17)
- for Prospective Students (7)

Course
- IRLS417 (2)
- IRLS418 (1)
- IRLS432 (1)
- IRLS470 (2)
- IRLS488 (6)

People
- Adjunct Faculty (152)
- Faculty (150)
- Staff (17)
- Friends (6)

Semester
- Fall 11 (29)
- Summer 11 (27)
- Spring 11 (30)
- Winter 10 11 (1)
- Fall 10 (20)

Task
- Choosing Courses (27)
- Advising (5)
- Applying (5)
- Registering (2)
- Submitting Final Paperwork (2)

Topic
- Index (33)
- Masters (33)
- Research (20)
- Knowledge River (16)
- News (14)