

Summer II (2009)
 LBSC708B: History of the Book
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Course Outline

Required Books:

John Carter & Nicolas Barker, *ABC for Book Collectors*. 8th ed. (New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 2004). Older editions are suitable as well.

Bamber Gascoigne. *How to Identify Prints*. 2nd ed. (New York: Thames & Hudson, 2004). The first edition is also suitable.

David Pearson. *Books as History*. (New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 2008).

S.H. Steinberg. *Five Hundred Years of Printing*. New Edition, revised by John Trevitt (New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1996).

All of these books are currently available in the University Book Center.

Lecture Schedule:

7/13 Lecture 1: Introduction - A Common Vocabulary
 Reading: Carter, entire (but quickly), Pearson, Chap. 1

7/15 Lecture 2: The Book before Printing
 Reading: Pearson, Chap. 2.

7/20 Lecture 3: Incunabula
 Reading: Steinberg, pp.3-70.

7/22 Lecture 4: Field Trip. Details TBA.

7/27 NO CLASS

- 7/29 Lecture 5: The 16th and 17th Centuries
Reading: Steinberg, Chap. 2. Pearson, Chap. 3
- 8/3 Lecture 6: The 18th Century
Reading: Pearson, Chaps. 4 & 8.
- 8/5 Lecture 7: Book Illustration before 1850
Reading: Steinberg, 70-73. Gascoigne, Sect. 1-6, 9-18, 21-24, 26.
- 8/10 Lecture 8: The Mechanized Book and the Mass Book Trade
Reading: Steinberg, Chap 3. Pearson, Chaps. 5 & 6.
- 8/12 Lecture 9: Book Illustration after 1850: Lithography & Photography
Reading: Gascoigne, 19-20, 27-28, 32-44.
- 8/17 Lecture 10: The Fine Press Book and Book Collecting
Reading: Steinberg, Chap. 4.
- 8/19 Lecture 11: Modern, Post-Modern, and ????
Reading: Steinberg, Chap. 5 and Conclusion. Pearson, Chap. 8.

A Note on the Readings:

Carter is a glossary, but one that is a joy to read. A familiarity with Carter ensures a shared vocabulary with which to approach highly specialized concepts.

Gascoigne is a reference work of great utility to the working librarian. Anyone called upon to deal with illustrated books needs a copy. Section II on the identification of print processes is invaluable.

Assignments:

1. Students will select a printed book from before 1850 and compare it with a modern edition of the same title. A formal collation is not required, but students are expected to comment on type, paper, binding, illustration, method of production, readership (i.e. - target audience), plus any characteristics of special interest. The description should be 3-4 pages in length, and is due at to sixth class meeting (8/3). This assignment is worth 35% of the course grade.

2. Students will select two monographs or four articles (or some similar combination) from the supplemental reading list and write a 10-15 page paper exploring a particular topic in detail. Students may suggest or request additional readings. Topics must be approved by the fourth class meeting (7/22); the paper is due at the last class meeting. (8/19). This assignment is worth 50% of the course grade.

3. 15% of the course grade will be based on class participation, etc.