Required Books:


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  

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 the 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.