Syllabus
SLIS S584
Manuscripts

Fall 2013
Tuesday, 2:00 PM—4:45 PM
Lilly Library, Ellison Room

Instructor:
Cherry Williams, Curator of Manuscripts, Lilly Library
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Office hours: by appointment at the Lilly Library
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Course Description
This seminar course is an introduction to the nature, functions, and methodology of the organization and administration of manuscript collections and personal papers. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, and special projects.

Course Objectives
At the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate a general understanding of:

1. the principle historical periods, styles, social, and economic contexts involved in the creation of collections of manuscripts and personal papers

2. the components of manuscripts administration including appraisal, acquisitions and collection development

3. types of manuscript collections, methods of arrangement and description, including processing procedures

4. the elements of intellectual control of manuscript collections used to facilitate access and use of collections

5. the variety of ways in which scholars use manuscripts and personal papers

6. the basic principles of conservation and preservation of manuscript materials

7. the basic principles of exhibition design, techniques, mounting and presenting an exhibition of manuscript materials
8. the use of manuscript collections in outreach, public relations, fund raising and donor cultivation

Course Materials

Textbooks: Readings will be drawn from the required texts listed below and from additional readings as assigned from time to time which may be posted on the Oncourse Resources site. The required and recommended texts are available for purchase from the Friends of Art Bookshop in the Fine Arts Building Room 120 and the Society of American Archivists. The required and recommended texts are also available on the class reserve shelf in the Lilly Library Reading Room.

Required text:


Recommended texts:


Course Organization

All class meetings will be held in the Ellison Room at the Lilly Library, and class assignments will require use of its collections. While an orientation to the Library and the Reading Room will be offered during the first class meeting, students also are expected to familiarize themselves with the Lilly Library’s policies and procedures regarding use of the collections and normal operating hours.

This syllabus, class assignments, readings and announcements are available on Oncourse (https://oncourse.iu.edu/portal). Any course updates, assignments, announcements and changes to the schedule will also be posted on Oncourse. I recommend you routinely check the site on Mondays prior to class.

General Requirements

Since this class will be conducted as a seminar, you each share responsibility for the quality of the discussion we can have in class. It is important that you come prepared to attend all class meetings, to read all of the required materials, to actively engage in classroom discussions and to complete all assignments.

Written Assignments (50% of the final grade)

Collection description and exhibition proposal (20% of final grade):

**Due Tuesday September 17th at 5:00 PM**

Write a concise but thorough 5-6 page description of the manuscript collection that you have chosen to work with this semester and your rationale for that choice. Be sure to include the LMC# (Lilly Manuscript Collection #), name of the collection, size (number of items in the collection), presence of any unusual objects, i.e. photographs, realia; identify any areas of concern or special interests. You may also choose to add one or two print items if they add value to your proposed exhibition topic. If they are print vault items, you will need to obtain permission to use from the Curator of Rare Books, Joel Silver in advance.

Your paper should include the theme or topic of your exhibition, a preliminary list of items you anticipate exhibiting, and any special display or conservation needs.
**Final paper (30% of final grade):** 8-10 pages.

**Due Friday December 13th by 5:00 PM**

The final paper is meant to be an opportunity for you to reflect upon your experience this semester working with manuscripts and personal papers. It should be an insightful discussion of your work with the materials and your exhibition. It should include the following items:

1. LMC #: content; size, i.e. number of boxes, linear feet, etc.

2. Describe collection in detail: subject matter, who, what and why this collection is important; why would you choose to accept this as a gift or purchase? Note the presence of images, photographs, realia. Does this present any issues or problems for access, use or preservation?

3. Access: intellectual control--is this well done? Is it effective? How would you do it better/differently? Why? Is there a finding aid? If not, why not? How long would it take to create a finding aid? What would be the best arrangement for the finding aid?

4. Access: physical control--is this collection a candidate for digitization? Is the collection properly and safely arranged and housed? Are there items that need additional attention?

5. Exhibition review and discussion: what worked and what didn't? How would you do it differently? Use it for fundraising? Increase community awareness? What kind of preservation was needed if any? Conservation issues?

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**Exhibition installation and presentation (50% of final grade)**

The major project of this course is the curation, installation and presentation of an exhibition using the Lilly Library manuscript collections with which you have chosen to work this semester. You will be given one case in the Lilly Library’s Lincoln Room to use for your exhibition. There are two styles of case: foyer style and flat glass. The display area is equal even though the shape is quite different. The exhibition will remain in place for approximately one week following your presentation. In addition to the installation, you will be expected to present a 20 minute gallery talk to the class showcasing your exhibit. The talk will consist of a discussion of your exhibition and may include a PowerPoint presentation if desired. Handouts, posters and other exhibition items may also be created to accompany the exhibition at your discretion.

It will be your responsibility to schedule meetings with me and with Jessi Steiner, the Lilly Library Conservation Assistant in order to arrange for assistance with the installation and any conservation/preservation needs identified during the course of the exhibition preparation.
A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class on **Tuesday, September 17th** to arrange for the scheduling of the exhibitions. An example of the sign-up sheet is available on our Oncourse site. There will be two presentations a week beginning on **Tuesday, October 8th** with the final exhibition presentations on **Tuesday, November 19th**.

**Class Schedule**

**August 27th  Session 1: Introduction to Manuscript Studies and the Lilly Library**

Introduction to the class. Introduction to manuscript culture, personal papers, and archives. Descriptive terminology.

Orientation to the Lilly Library Reading Room:
Rebecca Baumann, Reference and Public Services Librarian
rbaumann@indiana.edu

**Required readings for next week:**

Bradsher, James. *Managing Archives and Archival Institutions*.  
Chap. 1: Introduction to Archives, pp.1-17  
Chap. 6: Personal Papers, pp. 78-91.  
Chap. 17: *Archival Exhibits*, 228-240.

**Recommended readings for next week:**

(Available on the class hold shelf in the Lilly Library & Oncourse)

Clemens & Graham. *Introduction to Manuscript Studies*. Part One, Chapter 1 & 2 pp. 3-34. (Available on the class hold shelf in the Lilly Library Reading Room)


**September 3  Session 2: Orality, literacy, writing; the Manuscript in Antiquity**

**Orientation to conservation & exhibition preparation**
Jessi Steiner, Conservation Assistant, jksteine@indiana.edu

**Recommended readings for the next three weeks:** All are available on the class hold shelf in the Lilly Library Reading Room & ILL

Clemens & Graham. *Introduction to Manuscript Studies*. Part Three, Chap. 11, 12, & 13, pp. 181-220.

Clanchy, M.T. *From Memory to Written Record*. Introduction, pp.1-20 & Chap. 4 & 5, pp. 116-186.

**September 10**  
Session 3: From Scroll to Codex: Introduction to the Medieval Manuscript

**Recommended reading for next week:**


**September 17**  
Session 4: Medieval and Renaissance manuscripts

**Sign up for exhibition presentation**

**Collection description and exhibition proposal due at 5:00 PM**

**September 24**  
Session 5: Medieval and Renaissance manuscripts

**Required reading for next week:**

Bradsher: Chap. 7: *Managing Cartographic and Architectural Archives*, 92-103.


**Oncourse Resources**


**October 1**  
Session 6: Maps, charters, cartularies and scientific collections

**October 8**  
Session 7: Modern manuscript culture

**Exhibition presentations begin**

*Guest speaker:* Professor Christoph Irmscher, Dept. of English

**Required reading for the next two classes:**

Hackbart-Dean: Chap. 3: *Managing Processing*, 24-56.

Bradsher: Chap. 13: *Archival Ethics*, 174-184
October 15  Session 8: Processing archival collections--physical control, security and theft issues

Arrangement; respect du fonds; housing, equipment, supplies and care of manuscript collections

Resources to review for next class:

NEDCC (Northeast Document Conservation Center) Fall Workshops: http://www.nedcc.org/home.php

Conservation On Line: Resources for Conservation Professionals http://cool.conservation-us.org/

October 22  Session 9: Flat paper care and conservation

Guest speaker: Doug Sanders, E. Lingle Craig Preservation Lab, Paper Conservator

October 29 Session 10 Manuscript collections and personal papers—intellectual control

Guest speakers: Lori Dekydspotter—Head Technical Services Lilly Library

Craig Simpson—Manuscripts Processing Archivist, Lilly Library

Required reading for next class:

Bradsher: Chap. 8: Managing Audio-Visual Archives, 104-120

Recommended reading for next week:


Hackbart-Dean: Chap. 3: Beyond Paper, pp. 46-54
November 5 Session 11: Other formats: AV materials, photographs, films & realia

**Required reading for next class:**


November 12th Session 12: The historical record in the digital world

*Guest speakers:* Erika Dowell, Head of Digital Projects, Lilly Library and Head of Public Services, Lilly Library

**Required reading for next week:**

Bradsher: Chap. 16: *Public Programs*, 218-227


November 19th Session 13 Outreach, donors, Friends groups, public relations

**Final exhibition presentations**

November 26 Session 14: NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING BREAK

December 3 Session 15: Manuscripts curatorship

December 10th Session 16: **Final Paper due Friday December 13th by 5:00 PM**
**Academic Dishonesty and Grades at SLIS:** All SLIS instructors have been asked to include the following information in their syllabi. Please take note of it.

**Academic dishonesty**
There is extensive documentation and discussion of the issue of academic dishonesty in the Indiana University "Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct". Of particular relevance is the section on plagiarism:

3. Plagiarism

A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, words, or statements of another person without appropriate acknowledgment. A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge an indebtedness whenever he or she does any of the following:

a. Quotes another person's actual words, either oral or written;
b. Paraphrases another person's words, either oral or written;
c. Uses another person's idea, opinion, or theory; or
d. Borrows facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.

From: http://www.dsa.indiana.edu/Code/index1.html

Indiana University and School of Library and Information Science policies on academic dishonesty will be followed. Students found to be engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other types of dishonesty will receive an F for the course. As a rule of thumb, when in doubt, cite the source!
Recommended texts


