INFO 6150: History of the Book
Winter 2017
Wednesdays, 2:35pm-5:25pm
Rowe 5001

Instructor: Jennifer Grek Martin  
Office: Rowe 4028  
Telephone: 902 494 2462  
email: jgrekmartin@dal.ca  
Office hours: 12:00 – 2:00pm Wednesdays, or by apt.

Note: the syllabus may be subject to minor changes before and/or throughout the term.

Course Description:
The History of the Book encompasses the study of book and print culture from Antiquity to the present, with emphasis on the Western world. This field is anything but stodgy; book and print history is a vibrant and fascinating discipline and this course will refract this intellectual excitement through reading and discussion of recent relevant research. Throughout the course, students will investigate shifts from orality to literacy, from writing to printing, and finally from analog to digital media. The creation, production, distribution, and reception of books, serials, and ephemera will be discussed, and aspects of humanities and scientific scholarship will be explored in relation to the development of the history of book and print culture.

Course Pre-Requisites: none.

Learning Objectives:
- To introduce students to the study of book and print culture and to survey the literature and scholarship of this field.
- To discuss and evaluate the theoretical models for the study of both print and digital culture.
- To provide intellectual and historical context for the history of books and print culture for information managers and professionals.

Learning Objectives:
With successful completion of this course, students should be able to...
I. Explain the processes of book creation, production, dissemination, and reception – through various media – through different cultural, social-economic, and political contexts over time.
II. Describe, evaluate, and discuss theoretical models of book and print history, including the role of memory institutions (libraries, archives, and museums) and other information services in those models.
III. Analyze, apply, and critique research on book and print history.
IV. Examine the evolving nature of book and print history and implications for future resources and research in the field.
V. Comprehend the study of book and print culture, and survey the literature and scholarship of this interdisciplinary field.
VI. Assess the intellectual and historical context for the history – and future – of books and print culture for information managers and professionals.

Technology Used:
Books. And this thing called The Internet. The course Blackboard site (BbLearn/BbL/OWL) has several functions, including discussion boards and announcement notifications, which I expect you to monitor frequently for course updates and announcements.

Instructional Methods:
The course is designed as a graduate seminar course that will include instructor-led discussions, field trips, guest speakers/participants, and consideration of a variety of resources related to book and print history. Students will examine a topic of their choice through the course major paper. A BbL course site will be maintained as resource and vehicle for announcements and notifications.

Learning Materials:
There are three required texts (below) for this class and they will be used extensively throughout the course. You can find them at the Dalhousie University Bookstore (and elsewhere).


Additional readings are provided for each class in the syllabus below; you should expect to read ~3 per class and be prepared to discuss the readings in conjunction with class topics. Additionally, you are encouraged to investigate other sources (books, articles, blogs, listservs, Twitter feeds, etc.) - be curious! If you find something awesome, tell me and the class about it.

The following references I have shamelessly pilfered from Dr. Bertrum MacDonald (thank you!)

These texts provide extensive coverage of a broad range of topics in book history:


The following scholarly journals publish research on book history topics:

Amphora
Book History
Devil’s Artisan
Information & Culture: A Journal of History
Information & Library History
Mémoires du livre / Studies in Book Culture

Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America
Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada
The Library
The Library Quarterly
Logos: Journal of the World Book Community
Printing History
Publishing History

Quadrat

Studies in Bibliography

Textual Cultures

Victorian Periodicals Review

Additional journals that feature book history research are listed at the following site:

For Canadian book history topics, consult the suite of databases created by the History of the Book in Canada / Histoire du livre et de l'imprimé project available at the following site:
http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/hbic/index-e.html

Websites and Digital Resources

An increasing number of History of the Book resources are being made available in digital format. The following are some informative websites:

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP), established in 1990, is the leading international scholarly association for book history. If you wish, you may join the international discussion list SHARP-L (details at www.sharpweb.org)

The website of The Bibliographical Society of Canada / La Société bibliographique du Canada provides access to its journal (early volumes to 2008 in scanned format; post2008, table of contents only)
www.bsc-sbc.ca/index.html

The website of The Bibliographical Society of America (www.bibsocamer.org) provides information about the activities of the society, including its journal and other publications.

The website of The Bibliographical Society of America (www.bibsoc.org.uk), a British society, provides digital access to its journal, The Library, as well as other information about the society’s activities and other scholarly news.

The website of The Bibliographical Society of the University of Virginia (www.etext.virginia.edu/bsuva/) provides digital access to Studies in Bibliography up to volume 55 (2002). Subsequent issues of the journal are available via Dalhousie

Method of Evaluation:

Each assignment will be graded by the instructor in accordance with posted School of Information Grading Policy (see below, or here). All assignments due at the beginning of class (except Major Paper).

Assignment %
Annotated bibliography & draft outline on the topic of the major paper (due 28 Jan) 10
Book review (due 25 Feb) 15
Evaluation of digital resources for the history of print culture (due 18 Mar) 20
Major paper and presentation (due 15 Apr, 5pm) 40
Participation (continuous: 5% leading seminar; 10% attendance & discussion) 15

Participation

History of the Book is predominately a seminar class; therefore students will be expected to contribute to discussion. 5% of the Participation mark will be devoted to leading a seminar discussion one week within the term. Other hallmarks of participation include: consistent attendance and preparation for
class, with readings completed and related to each other and to other course material (discussions, presentations, guest speakers, etc.). Comments during discussion should be relevant and reflect understanding of readings and other course material.

**Assignment format:**
- All papers must be submitted in print format, with an informative title page that includes an original title, your name and student number, the name of the assignment, and due date.
- All body text must be double-spaced.
- 12pt, legible typeface, (either serif or sans serif,) with reasonable margins and kerning.
- The field of Book and Print Culture uses the **Chicago Style** for bibliographic citation, so it is good practice to become familiar with it. Please use this style **for all assignments**, as outlined in *Chicago Manual of Style 16th Edition*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010. (Failure to do so may result in grade deduction!)

**Back-up copies:** It is your responsibility to keep a digital copy of every assignment you submit.

**Grammar and expression:** Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar are expected. Your writing style should befit the academic environment; keep colloquialisms and slangs to a minimum (be sure they are warranted).

**Integration of MLIS Competencies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM COMPETENCY</th>
<th>COURSE LEARNING OUTCOME</th>
<th>COURSE ASSESSMENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Management of Information Technology</td>
<td>I., IV., VI.</td>
<td>Evaluation of Digital Resources; Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Information Management Leadership</td>
<td>II., VI.</td>
<td>Annotated Bib, Major Paper &amp; Presentation; Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Risk and Change Management</td>
<td>I., II., III., IV., V., VI.</td>
<td>Evaluation of Digital Resources; Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. User-centred Information Services</td>
<td>I., II., IV., V., VI.</td>
<td>Annotated Bib, Major Paper &amp; Presentation; Book Review; Evaluation of Digital Resources; Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Research and Evaluation</td>
<td>I., II., III., IV., V., VI.</td>
<td>Annotated Bib, Major Paper &amp; Presentation; Book Review; Evaluation of Digital Resources; Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a. Workplace Skills &amp; Attributes: Collaborate and communicate</td>
<td>I., II., III.</td>
<td>Major Paper &amp; Presentation; Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>6b. Workplace Skills &amp; Attributes: Organize, Plan &amp; Manage</td>
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<tr>
<td>6c. Workplace Skills &amp; Attributes: Develop Personally &amp; Professionally</td>
<td>I., II., III., IV., V., VI.</td>
<td>Annotated Bib, Major Paper &amp; Presentation; Book Review; Evaluation of Digital Resources; Participation</td>
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**Class Policies:**
**Attendance and participation:**
Class attendance is required in all MLIS courses and is included in the participation mark, therefore attendance records will be kept by the instructor. Additionally, the evaluation of a Participation mark includes an assessment of the demonstrated quality of engagement of the student in in-class or online discussions or exercises, knowledge of assigned readings, and adherence to stated assignment deadlines.

**Note:** I do not (generally) prohibit laptop use for note-taking, but please be mindful that you may be inhibiting other students if you are “multi-tasking.” I do ask that all phones and texting devices be turned off during class.

**SIM Grading Policy**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>Represents very high achievement. Signifies original work of distinction, well organized and presented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>Superior performance indicating high level of command of the subject matter and an ability for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>Very good. Has firm command of course principles and techniques.</td>
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**Absence from class (one class)**
Students are required to inform the instructor ahead of time of any absence from class. This absence may affect participation marks or class activities.

**Extended absence from class (two or more classes)**
- **Emergencies:** Contact the MLIS Program Coordinator (currently, JoAnn Watson) and provide a list of the courses you are taking and your instructors’ names.
- **Illness:**
  - Contact your instructor(s) as soon as possible prior to class in inform him or her of your illness
  - All absences due to illness must be supported by a physician’s note to be submitted to the MLIS Program Coordinator (currently, JoAnn Watson) with a list of the courses you are taking and your instructors’ names.

**Late penalties for assignments**
A penalty for late assignments will be assessed, unless prior permission has been given by the instructor to submit an assignment late, which normally will be for extended illness, medical, or family emergencies only (see above).

Late submissions will be assessed a penalty of five percent (5%) per day, including weekends. Assignments will not normally be accepted seven (7) days or more after the due date; in such cases the student will receive a grade of zero (0%) for the assignment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>Above average performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>Satisfactory. Acceptable performance for a Master’s program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>Marginal performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;70</td>
<td>Failure. Unacceptable for credit towards a Master’s degree.</td>
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**Other:**

**ACCOMMODATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation.

Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access) for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student’s accommodation. There is an honorarium of $75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 494-2836 for more information or send an email to notetaking@dal.ca.

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to fully participate in the class.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

**In general:**
The commitment of the Faculty of Management is to graduate future leaders of business, government and civil society who manage with integrity and get things done. This is non-negotiable in our community and it starts with your first class at Dalhousie University. So when you submit any work for evaluation in this course or any other, please ensure that you are familiar with your obligations under the Faculty of Management’s Academic Integrity Policies and that you understand where to go for help and advice in living up to our standards. You should be familiar with the Faculty of Management Professor and Student Contract on Academic Integrity, and it is your responsibility to ask questions if there is anything you do not understand.

Dalhousie offers many ways to learn about academic writing and presentations so that all members of the University community may acknowledge the intellectual property of others. Knowing how to find, evaluate, select, synthesize and cite information for use in assignments is called being “information literate.” Information literacy is taught by Dalhousie University Librarians in classes and through Dalhousie Libraries’ online Citing & Writing tutorials.

Do not plagiarize any materials for this course. For further guidance on what constitutes plagiarism, how to avoid it, and proper methods for attributing sources, please consult the University Secretariat’s Academic Integrity page.

Please note that Dalhousie now subscribes to SafeAssign.com, a computer based service that checks for originality in submitted papers. Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a very serious academic offence that may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been
derived. At Dalhousie, there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course; students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar.

Furthermore, the University’s Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student assignments be submitted in both written and computer readable format, e.g.: a text file or as an email attachment, and to submit any paper to a check such as that performed by the SafeAssign anti-plagiarism software. As a student in this class, you are to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course instructor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand. Use of third-party originality checking software does not preclude instructor use of alternate means to identify lapses in originality and attribution. The result of such assessment may be used as evidence in any disciplinary action taken by the Senate.

Finally:
If you suspect cheating by colleagues or lapses in standards by a professor, you may use the confidential email: managementintegrity@dal.ca which is read only by the Assistant Academic Integrity Officer.

Faculty of Management clarification on plagiarism versus collaboration:

There are many forms of plagiarism, for instance, copying on exams and assignments. There is a clear line between group work on assignments when explicitly authorised by the professor and copying solutions from others. It is permissible to work on assignments with your friends but only when the professor gives you permission in the specific context of the assignment. University rules clearly stipulate that all assignments should be undertaken individually unless specifically authorised.

Specific examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Copying a computer file from another student, and using it as a template for your own solution
- Copying text written by another student
- Submitting the work of someone else, including that of a tutor as your own

An example of acceptable collaboration includes the following: When authorised by the professor, discussing the issues and underlying factors of a case with fellow students, and then each of the students writing up their submissions individually, from start to finish.

Statement on the use of scented products:

Dalhousie University and the organizations which represent students, faculty and other employees support the efforts of the Dalhousie University Environmental Health and Safety Committee to create a scent-free University. In consideration of the difficulties that exposure to these products cause sensitive individuals, the University encourages faculty, staff, students and visitors to avoid the use of scented personal care products.
Course Schedule – Note! Readings and/or Topics Subject to Change

**Week 1 - Introduction to the Course (11 January)**
Introduction to the course, discussion of the course syllabus, and the general subject of book history as an international research subject.

*Readings:*


**Week 2 - Book and Print History Models (18 January)**
Book and print history models, origins of writing and books; Field trip to the Archives (rm 2616, Killam Library, 4pm)

*Readings:*


**Week 3 - Book Culture in the Ancient World (25 January)**
Book and print culture in Antiquity, literacy, and the early manuscript period

*Readings:*


**Week 4 - Books in the Medieval Period: Part 1 (1 February)** Annotated Bibliography and Outline Due!!
Books and their uses in the Medieval period, illuminated manuscripts. Field trip to Saint Mary's University to view *The Book of Kells*. Patrick Power Library, First floor classroom, 4pm-sh (there may be an author reading there before us.)

Readings:

The following websites:
Trinity College Dublin: [www.tcd.ie/about/trinity/bookofkells](http://www.tcd.ie/about/trinity/bookofkells)


**Week 5 - Books in the Medieval Period: Part 2 (Literacy); Gutenberg and the Beginning of Printing in Europe: Part 1 (8 February)**

Literacy in the Medieval period; Gutenberg and books in the hand-press period (Europe)

Readings:

[www.bl.uk/treasures/gutenberg/homepage.html](http://www.bl.uk/treasures/gutenberg/homepage.html)


**Week 6 – Class Cancelled in support of the Information Without Borders (IWB) conference (15 February) – see you there!**

~ Study Break 20-24 February ~

**Week 7 - Gutenberg and the Beginning of Printing: Part 2 (1 March) Book Review Due!!**
The mechanics of printing, continued. Public Lecture by Stijn van Rossem and Andrew Steeves (4:30pm, Dalhousie Art Gallery)

Readings:


**Week 8 - Early Modern Print Culture (8 March)**
Creation and circulation of print in Britain and Europe in the early modern period

Readings:


Graham Perry. “Patronage and the Printing of Learned works for the Author,” p. 174-188.

**Week 9 - The Printing Press as an Agent of Change (11 March)**
The printing press as an agent of change; print culture in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries
Readings:


Then read one the sections listed below from A History of the Book in America. Volume One ...


...and one from the History of the Book in Canada. Volume One.


Michael Peterman. “Literary Cultures and Popular Reading in Upper Canada,” p. 395-408.

Week 10 - New Printing Technologies (15 March) Evaluation of Digital Resources Due!!

The beginning of the machine press period, circulation of information in Europe and North America, and the rise of the author

Readings:


**Week 11 - Readers and Reception in the Victorian Period (22 March)**
Field trip to The Kipling Collection, with discussion regarding book appraisal by Karen Smith, Dalhousie Special Collections (2:30pm-4pm).

Readers and reception in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and popular culture and print culture - including cheap printing and periodicals

Readings:


**Week 12 - Methods of Research in Book History (29 March)**

**Student Presentations** (maximum eight students to be confirmed by sign-up)

Readings:


**Week 13 - Library History and Print Culture in the Digital Age (5 April)**

Library History within the context of Book History; print culture in the twentieth century and the launch of the digital age; course wrap up

**Final Student Presentations**

**Readings:**


**Major Papers Due 10 April 2017, 5pm**

Syllabus created in MS Word: Hightower Text, French Script, Gill Sans