

Graduate Course Description Packet

Summer Intersession 2018

Updated: 03-22-2018

ENGL 5173, Advanced Studies in Medieval Literature and Culture: History of the Book

Teacher: J.B. Smith

Texts Required:

The Book: A Global History, ed. Michael F. Suarez and H. R. Woodhuysen (Oxford, 2014). 978-0199679416

Description: Where do bookly standards come from? The Middle Ages? Lascivious Renaissance printers? The book industry? What *is* a book? This course invites students to learn and think critically about writing technologies, from cuneiform tablets to the Kindle. This course won't be like other English courses, as it will have a strong hands-on element. We will be spending half of our time in the Special Collections Library, examining and studying objects from our own archive, including cuneiform, papyrus fragments, medieval manuscripts, early printed books, and all manner of later books. We will learn how writing technology affects literature and literary interpretation. Our digital age, as we will see, is only just the most recent change in reading habits and the materiality of the written word.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for graduate students at the 5000 level: attendance; vigorous participation; one presentation; final project (longer than undergraduates).

MA advisory code: A, 2, 5

M.A. Advisory Coding

The advisory codes indicate what course distribution requirement will be satisfied by the designated listing. If more than one code is listed in the description for a particular class, a student may satisfy only one of those distribution requirements with that class, unless the code is T, for Theory.

For M.A. Students with the Generalist Concentration

Generalist **A**: satisfies **Medieval** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **B**: satisfies **Renaissance** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **C**: satisfies **Restoration and 18th-century** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **D**: satisfies **19th-century British** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **E**: satisfies **British Literature and Culture After 1900** requirement.

Generalist **F**: satisfies **American Literature and Culture Before 1900** requirement.

Generalist **G**: satisfies **American Literature and Culture After 1900** requirement.

Generalist **H**: satisfies **World Literature and Culture Written in English** requirement.

For M.A. Students with the Specialist Concentration

Specialist **1**: satisfies **Comparative** Literature requirement.

Specialist **2**: satisfies **Cultural** Studies requirement.

Specialist **3**: satisfies **Ethnic and Regional** Literatures requirement.

Specialist **4**: satisfies **Gender and Sexuality** requirement.

Specialist **5**: satisfies **Medieval** Literature requirement.

Specialist **6**: satisfies **Modern American** Literature requirement.

Specialist **7**: satisfies **Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy** requirement.

For All M.A. Students

(T): satisfies **Theory** requirement.

(A course can satisfy the theory requirement while also satisfying one of the other requirements in the lists above.)