

Scientific & Secular Manuscripts

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UCLA
TBA

Description: While biblical, liturgical, and devotional manuscripts survive in the greatest number, religious texts tell only one part of the vibrant intellectual history of the Middle Ages in Europe. This course will focus upon the varieties of scientific and secular manuscripts, among which are medical, astronomical, and mathematical texts; bestiaries and natural histories; herbals and agricultural manuals; itineraries, chronicles, romances, and collections of poetry. Usually illustrated and often lavishly illuminated, these manuscripts formed the minds of the Middle Ages for several centuries. Using a combination of the resources in UCLA's Special Collections, online sources, and field trips to UCLA Special Collections, UCLA Biomedical Library, and the Getty Museum, this course will provide an overview of these too-often overlooked aspects of the history, production, distribution, and survival of scientific and secular manuscripts. By the end of the class students will be familiar with important examples in each genre, and the range of resources for continuing their deeper study and appreciation of the field. The class will culminate with student presentations on one of the manuscripts in the UCLA collection.

Required text:

Transformations of Knowledge: Early Manuscripts from the Collection of Lawrence J. Schoenberg, ed. Crofton Black. Paul Holbertson publishing, London, 2006. Out of print, **but available online** at: <http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/ljscatalog/>. *N.B.:* Full descriptions of all manuscripts in the Schoenberg Collection, and more than 300 *complete facsimiles* are available on line at <https://schoenberginstitute.org/schoenberg-digital-resources/>

Recommended texts:

1. Raymond Clemens and Timothy Graham, *Introduction to Manuscript Studies*. Cornell University Press, 2007. While there will be no required readings from this text during the class, as the most comprehensive guide to manuscript production available in print, it is an excellent reference and self-teaching resource. This book is available through Amazon for \$35.95
2. *The Cambridge History of Science, Volume 2: Medieval Science*, ed. by David C. Lindberg and Michael H. Shank. Cambridge University Press, 2013. This volume comprises twenty-seven essays by leading History of Science scholars on specific aspects of medieval science across various cultures. This volume would be most useful after you complete this course, as the essays go into much greater detail on topics we'll be introducing this week. It is available on Amazon for \$36.89.

Assignments:

Before class begins:

1. Watch this Getty Museum website video on manuscript production:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aDHJu9J10o>

or the HD version

https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_3325523639&feature=iv&src_vid=1aDHJu9J10o&v=nuNfdHNTv9o

2. Watch this video on paper production: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMr-WOzFjuU> Read the University of Iowa site titled "Paper Through Time": <http://paper.lib.uiowa.edu/european.php>;

Reading for Day 1:

1. *Transformation of Knowledge*, Introduction, pp.8-9; Overview, p.10. Chapter I/Responses to Aristotle: 5 (LJS 439); 9 (LJS 264); Chapter III/Mathematics: 6 (LJS 37); 9 (LJS 286); 11 (LJS 464); 12 (LJS 481); 18 (LJS 27); Chapter IV/Astronomy, Astrology and the Calendar: 1 (LJS 268); 2 (LJS 478); 3 (LJS 412); 8 (LJS 408); 38 (LJS 400); Chapter V/Medicine: 14 (LJS 189); 15 (LJS 49); 16 (LJS 435).

Reading and assignment for Day 2:

1. *Transformation of Knowledge*, Chapter V/Medicine: 11 (LJS 444); 14 (LJS 189); 15 (LJS 49); 16 (LJS 435); 18 (LJS 24); 23 (LJS 198); 17 (LJS 195); 38 (LJS 62); 39 (LJS 475); 40 (LJS 419); 41 (LJS 46); 42 (LJS 278); Chapter VIII /Agriculture and Animal Husbandry: 3 (LJS 265).
2. Find a digital surrogate of a manuscript with text(s) and illustrations for teaching part or all of the Trivium [Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric]—**or**—part or all of the Quadrivium [Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, and Astronomy], and prepare a ten-minute presentation. (A premium will be placed on finding a completely digitized manuscript.)ⁱ

Reading, video viewing, and assignment for Day 3:

1. In anticipation of the field trip to the Biomedical Library,
2. Preparation of your fifteen-minute presentation on an online resources for manuscripts, one of which will be assigned, and one chosen by the student.

Reading and assignment for Day 4:

1. In anticipation of the field trip to the Getty Museum, explore the images of the Getty's holdings of scientific manuscripts at <http://www.getty.edu/art/collection/search/?view=grid&query=YToyOntzOjU6InF1ZXJ5IjtzOjEwOjIzY2llbnRpZmljIjtzOjEzOjE6ZXBhcncRtZW50LmlkIjthOjE6e2k6MDtpOjY7fX0%3D&options=YToxOntzOjk6ImJlaGF2aW91ciI7czo2OjI2aXN1YWwiO30%3D. s>
2. Explore the link to varieties of secular manuscripts at the Getty Museum at <http://getty.edu/art/exhibitions/bookshelf/>
3. Discussion of one manuscript from the Getty's Ludwig Collection.

Assignment for Day 5:

Preparation of a fifteen-minute presentation on your assigned digitized manuscript leaf from UCLA Special Collections' holdings. (While *not* required, some attempt at translation of your leaf will be instructive for us all!)

Syllabus and schedule:

Day 1: Monday, August 12, 2019

8:30 a.m.: Coffee and welcome remarks in GSEIS Salon

9:00-10:30 a.m.: 1st period

Outline of the chronological and geographical parameters covered in this course. Definitions of Scientific and Secular Manuscripts; Review of the Components of the Medieval Codex (MC); Manuscript Abbreviations (CKW);-The History of the History of Science in the Middle Ages (MC)

10:30-11:00 a.m.: Break

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: 2nd period

Historical Context and Background: The History of Science from Antiquity to the Fall of Rome, especially Greek and Roman Medicine (CKW)

12:30-1:30 p.m.: CalRBS Group Lunch,
GSE&IS Salon, 2nd Floor

Catered by Sunnin Lebanese Café (vegetarian options available)

1:30-3:00 p.m.: 3rd period

Historical Context and Background: Islamic Science (MC); The Carolingian Renaissance (MC)

3:00-3:30 p.m.: Break

3:30-5:00 p.m.: 4th period

Natural History in the Bestiary (CKW)

Day 2: Tuesday, August 13, 2019

9:00-10:30 a.m.: 1st period

Ten-minute student presentations on manuscripts on the Trivium or Quadrivium.

10:30-11:00 a.m.: Break

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: 2nd period

Agricultural manuals (CKW); Herbals (MC)

12:30-1:30: Lunch

1:30-3:00 p.m.: 3rd period

3:00-3:30 p.m.: Break

3:30-5:00 p.m.: 4th period

Field trip to the Lois M. Darling Biomedical Library for session with **Russell Johnson**, Curator of History and Special Collections for the Sciences.

(We will need to plan at least 20 minutes to travel on foot from GSE&IS and Bio-Med. Because Bio-Med is undergoing retrofitting, Russell Johnson has provided very specific directions to help us find our way. Directions appear at the end of this syllabus.ⁱⁱ)

Day 3: Wednesday, August 14, 2019

9:00-10:30 a.m.: 1st period

Calendars (CKW)

10:30-11:00 a.m.: Break

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: 2nd period

~~Alchemy (MC)~~

Secular manuscripts: Chronicles, manuals of chivalry, romances, (MC and CKW)

12:30-1:30 p.m.: Lunch

1:30-3:00 p.m.: 3rd period

Itineraries, grammars, poetry of Rome (CKW)

3:00-3:30 p.m.: Break

3:30-5:00 p.m.: 4th period

Ten-minute student presentations on an online resource (as assigned) and a second online resource of their choice.

5:30 p.m.: CalRBS Lecture : TBA

Day 4: Thursday, August 16, 2019

9:50 a.m.: Board bus for Getty Museum field trip. **Bus pickup location: MacGowan Hall (across the street from the UCLA Guest House).**

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Session with Getty Museum manuscript curators

12:30 noon to 3:45 pm: Lunch and exhibitions on your own at the Getty

Recommended exhibition: TBA

3:00 p.m.: Board bus for UCLA return.

4:00 to 5:00 pm 4th period

Student presentations on one Getty manuscript from the Ludwig Collection

Day 5: Friday, August 16, 2017

9:00-12:30 a.m.: 1st period and 2nd periods

Field Trip to Special Collections and Archives, Young Research Library, Lower Level.
(Meet outside YRL).

10:30-11:00 a.m.: Break

12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch

2:30-4:00 p.m.: Final class

Presentations on digitized individual manuscript leaves from UCLA Spec-Coll (cont'd), Q/A session, class wrap-up, and class-evaluations

4:00 Reception with light refreshments in GSE&IS Salon, 2nd floor

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- Do not go under another (Dentistry) building; instead, turn right and walk straight ahead all the way to the end of a path to a double door (do not take either of the two doors on your right; that is the Factor Building/School of Nursing)
 - Enter through these doors; Biomed Library is 100 feet ahead on your right
 - Ask at the Public Services Desk how to get up to History & Special Collections or ask them to call us (310.825.6940)

Directions to LSC-Biomed

- You are on the 1st floor of the library.
- Ask how to get to the elevator to go to special collections.
- It is just beyond the desk; take a left to enter the stacks; the elevator is straight ahead.
- You are on level 4 of the stacks. There are more Stacks levels than floors, and their numbering is different!
- Press "9" to go to Stacks level 9.
- Exit the elevator; turn right; turn immediately left, walk up the ramp
- You are on the 4th floor of the Library. Our office (310.825.6940) is just to your left, as is the Rare Book Room. We'll hear you arriving!
