Instructor
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Class Information
• This is an online class with no face-to-face classroom sessions
• Exam Date: November 4
• Term Paper Due: December 18

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description
The course examines the development of books and libraries from the earliest times to the present with special reference to their relationship to contemporary social, economic, cultural and political trends.

Course Objectives
1. The course aims to provide an introduction to the history of books and libraries from ancient times to the present with particular emphasis on placing their growth and development in historical context.

2. It also aims to convey a familiarity of the basic dates, facts, and events relating to the development of books and libraries, as well as a sense of their historical evolution.

3. Additionally, the course aims to transmit an understanding of the extent to which libraries are an integral part of the cultures in which they arise and that libraries have always been involved with social, political, and economic affairs.

4. In looking at the development of libraries and books and their historical development, an underlying objective is to gain a historical perspective with regard to the present status of libraries and their probable development and direction in the future.
5. Based on a study of book and library history, it will be the goal and objective of the course for students to identify a topic, based on their particular interests in book and library history, and prepare a term paper report on it.

Course Overview
This course will consist of the following basic elements: Blackboard and email communication, midterm examination, and reading and research reports.

Course Outline, Calendar, and Assignments

1. Week of: August 28  
   Topic: Introduction  
   Readings: Course syllabus & Blackboard announcements

2. Week of: September 2  
   Topic: Books & Libraries in Antiquity  
   Readings: MH, pp. 1-68  
   PowerPoint: On Blackboard  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: September 8

3. Week of: September 9  
   Topic: Books & Libraries in Antiquity  
   Readings: BK, pp. 1-84  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: September 15

4. Week of: September 16  
   Topic: Medieval Book & Library History  
   Readings: MH, pp. 71-128  
   PowerPoint: On Blackboard  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: September 22

5. Week of: September 23  
   Topic: Medieval Book & Library History  
   Readings: BK, pp. 85-135  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: September 29

6. Week of: September 30  
   Topic: European Book & Library History  
   PowerPoint: On Blackboard  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: October 6
7. Week of: October 7  
   Topic: European Book & Library History  
   Readings: BK, pp. 136-215  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: October 13

8. Week of: October 14  
   Topic: American Book & Library History  
   Readings: MH, pp. 163-205  
   PowerPoint: On Blackboard  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: October 20

9. Week of: October 21  
   Topic: American Book & Library History  
   Readings: MH, 241-297  
   Task: Email weekly reading report – due: October 27

10. Week of: October 28  
    Topic: Book & Library History, Since 1800 & Beyond  
    Readings: BK, pp. 216-268  
    Task: Email weekly reading report – due: November 3

11. Week of: November 4  
    Task: Exam – due: November 10

12. Week of: November 11  
    Task: Identify a term paper topic and email to the instructor – due: November 17

13. Week of: November 18  
    Task: Work on the term paper and email instructor if questions arise.

14. Week of: November 25  
    Task: Continue work on the term paper

15. Week of: December 2  
    Task: Continue work on the term paper

16. Week of: December 9  
    Task: Complete work on the term paper.

17. Final Week/Week of December 16  
    Task: Email term paper to Instructor by Noon, December 18
Required Textbooks


Supplemental Readings: Will be announced via Blackboard.


STUDENT EVALUATION

Grading Parameters
Course grades will be based on the following components:
    30% - Exam
    40% - Research Paper
    30% - Reading Reports (these do not receive letter grades, but rather a pass/fail mark.

Grading Scale
A (Exceptional Achievement)
B (High Achievement)
C (Average Achievement)
E (Failing)

Submission of Course Assignments

1. Reading Reports: By the Sunday at the end of each week (by 10PM), email to the instructor a reading report of your weekly readings. This should consist of a summary, analysis and critique of what you have read. Limit reports to 3-5 pages (double-spaced).

2. Term Paper in Book & Library – Guidelines

   1. Topics: Select a topic from the field of Library and Book History and prepare a report (ca. 15-20 pages, double-spaced) in accordance with the course schedule.

   2. Basic elements of the paper:
      a. The Introduction: This should state the purpose of the paper and review what research has been done on the topic.
      b. The Report: Discussion and analysis of the topic.
      c. The Conclusions: Summarize your conclusions and state recommendations as to future possible areas of research.