

ENG 2731F 550: A History of the Book
Fall, 2024

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Course Description:

This foundational course provides a survey of the core concepts, backgrounds and theories relating to the History of the Book. Through a close consideration of a wide range of media, including manuscripts, printed books and digital texts, students will gain knowledge of how books and other textual forms were produced and disseminated in different geographic settings from ancient times to the present. This course will focus on a wide range of topics, including the history of print; readers and reading; the publishing, selling and circulation of books; the history of collectors and collecting; editors and editing; book illustration, digitization, and more. In this hands-on course, students will work directly with rare books and manuscripts in Western's and Huron's Special Collections.



Above: A close-up of an illuminated initial from the 15th-century *Llangttock Breviary* in Western's Special Collections.