

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** **A History of the Book**

**Course Number and Section:**

ENGLISH

2731F 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Scott Schofield

**Instructor Email(s):** sschofi4@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### 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.

### Learning Outcomes:

- to understand key concepts and theories relating to the history of the book.
- to understand and be able to define key terms relating to manuscripts, printed books, and digital media.
- to understand how books have been produced, circulated, and read in different communities and at different time periods.
- to experience how books are made through first-hand observation (i.e. through examining rare books and manuscripts) and through making (i.e. by visiting the Huron Letterpress Studio).
- to design strong thesis statements and structured arguments in persuasive essays, assignments, and presentations using MLA format.

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Michelle Levy and Tom Mole, *The Broadview Introduction to Book History*. Broadview, 2017.  
Sarah Werner, *Studying Early Printed Books: 1450-1800*. Wiley, 2019.

All other readings are available online or as PDFs.

**Methods Of Evaluation:**

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
My Book Assignment	10/07/24	15
My Book Review	11/11/24	15
Our Digital Exhibit	12/04/24	20
Participation	Ongoing	20
Final Exam	TBA	30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Thursday, August 15, 2024