



Summer Abroad Program: BMS3** Y0 Topics in Book & Media Studies

The Rise of the Modern Book in Renaissance Italy

Instructor: Prof. Paolo Granata
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Classroom in Siena: TBD

COURSE OVERVIEW

It was a decade after Gutenberg's invention of movable type in the mid-1400s that Italy became the cradle of the European printing revolution. With Venice serving as the Silicon Valley of the Renaissance, dozens of early printing startups transformed the concept of the book. A community of entrepreneurs, inventors, and humanists introduced a number of typographical innovations and editorial ideas that were crucial to the rise of the modern book. This summer course will provide students with an understanding of Italian early printing history and Renaissance Italy as an innovation ecosystem of print culture in the humanistic tradition, from the incunable to the hand-press period, analyzing all components of the life cycle of the book, from paper making to typography and bookbinding.

This course will provide students with the opportunity to visit some of the iconic locations of the Italian print culture tradition. From Siena to Fabriano, Turin, and Venice, following the footsteps of the "Prince of Renaissance printers" Aldus Manutius, under his motto *Festina Lente* ("make haste slowly"), students will be involved in experiential learning activities and workshops held by scholars, experts, and conservationists in these historical places. This course also delves in the practices of bibliography, the features of typography, and the material details of the printing process, while also highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of book history in Renaissance Italy.

Prerequisite: None

Recommended Preparation: BMS331 BR=1

FIELD TRIPS AND VISITS

- Biblioteca Malatestiana, Forlì (FC)
- Fabriano Paper and Watermark Museum (AN)
- Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano, Fabriano (AN)
- Monastero di San Silvestro in Montefano (AN)
- Franco Maria Ricci Print Museum in Fontanellato (PR)
- Biblioteca Guarneriana in San Daniele (UD)
- Scriptorium Foroiuliense (UD)
- House of Aldus Manutius, Venice
- Biblioteca Marciana, Venice
- Museo Bodoniano, Parma
- Royal Palace of Turin and Royal Library, Turin
- Publishing House Enrico Tallone Alpignano (TO)
- Biblioteca Civica Centrale, Turin
- Museo Civico della Stampa, Piazza (CN)
- Biblioteca degli Intronati, Siena

MARKING SCHEME	WORTH	DUE
Field Trip Journal #1 (Fabriano)	10%	August 13
Field Trip Journal #2 (Fabriano)	10%	August 22
Field Trip Journal #3 (Fabriano)	10%	August 27
Bibliographic Analysis	20%	August 29
Group Project	20%	August 31
Participation	30%	Ongoing

BIBLIOGRAPHY (excerpts, available on Quercus):

- E. KWAKKEL, *Books Before Print*, ARC Humanities Press (2018).
- S. WERNER S, *Studying Early Printed Books, 1450-1800: A Practical Guide*, Hoboken (2019).
- S. CLEMOND and H. FLETCHER, *Aldus Manutius: A Legacy More Lasting Than Bronze*, Grolier Club (2015).
- M. LOWRY, *The world of Aldus Manutius: business and scholarship in renaissance Venice*, Blackwell (1979).
- L. HOWSAM, *The Cambridge companion to the history of the book*, Cambridge University Press (2015)



Students are expected to read required readings before class to come prepared to participate in discussions, activities, and workshops. Field trips participation is mandatory.

Paolo Granata is an Associate Professor in Book and Media Studies at St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto. Nurtured by the centuries-old tradition of his Alma Mater, the University of Bologna, his research and teaching interests lie broadly in the areas of media ecology, media ethics, semiotics, print culture, and visual studies.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ITINERARY OF ACTIVITIES

(updated December 5, 2022)

Date	Activity	
Monday July 31	Pre-departure online lecture: Course Introduction 10:00-12:00 pm	The "Prince of Renaissance printers" Aldus Manutius and Rise of the Modern Book in Renaissance Italy. Delivery method: ZOOM (online synchronous) Link: https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/88416697910 Meeting ID: 884 1669 7910 Passcode: McLuhan
Monday August 7	The Manuscript Culture 10:00-1:00 pm	The medieval manuscript and scribal culture: format, materials, writing supports, script, illumination, binding, decorations. <u>This class will take place in Siena. Room TDB.</u>
Tuesday August 8	9:00 am 2:00-5:00 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm	Departure from Siena Visit to the Biblioteca Malatestiana , Forlì (FC) Departure to Fabriano Welcome event in Fabriano
Wednesday August 9	10:00-1:00 pm 3:00-6:00 pm	Visit to the Fabriano Paper and Watermark Museum Papermaking workshop and visit to the Print Workshop Visit to the Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano (Watermark collection)

Thursday August 10	10:00-1:00 pm	Bibliography workshop (the codex) in the ancient library of the Monastero di San Silvestro in Montefano
	3:00-6:00 pm	Meeting with Fabriano's historic papermakers
	8:00 pm	Final social event with the community of Fabriano
Friday August 11	9:00 am	Departure from Fabriano
	10:00-12:00 pm	Visit to the Frasassi Caves in Genga (AN)
	1:00 pm	Departure to Siena (arrival at about 4:00 pm)

Saturday August 12 *No class*

Sunday August 13 *No class*

Monday August 14 *Course Break (Palio dell'Assunta)*

Tuesday August 15 *Course Break (Palio dell'Assunta)*

Wednesday August 16 *Course Break (Palio dell'Assunta)*

Thursday August 17	8:00 am	Departure from Siena
	12:00 pm	Visit to Franco Maria Ricci Print Museum in Fontanellato (PR).
	3:00 pm	Departure to San Daniele del Friuli
	8:00 pm	Welcome event in San Daniele
Friday August 18	10:00-1:00 pm	Visit to the Biblioteca Guarneriana in San Daniele
	3:00-6:00 pm	Visit to the Scriptorium Foroiulense
	8:00 pm	Social event with the community of San Daniele
Saturday August 19	8:00 am	Departure to Venice (one-day trip)
	10:00 am	Pilgrimage to the House of Aldus Manutius in Venice
	11:00 am	Visit to the Biblioteca Marciana in Venice
	2:00-7:00 pm	Free time in Venice
	7:00 pm	Social event in the island of San Lazzaro degli Armeni in Venice
	9:00 pm	Return to San Daniele
Sunday August 20	10:00-1:00 pm	Calligraphy workshop at the Scriptorium Foroiulense
	3:00-6:00 pm	Bookbinding workshop at the Scriptorium Foroiulense
	8:00 pm	Final social event with the community of San Daniele
Monday August 21	8:00 am	Departure from San Daniele
	11:00 pm	Visit to the Museo Bodoniano in Parma
	3:00 pm	Departure to Siena (arrival at about 8:00 pm)

Tuesday August 22 **The Renaissance Book in Italy**
10:00-1:00 pm The incunabular period, the innovations in typography and its social impact; print culture and cultural revolutions.
This class will take place in Siena.

Wednesday August 23	8:00 am	Departure to Turin
	2:00-5:00 pm	Visit to the Royal Palace of Turin and its Royal Library
	5:00-8:00 pm	Free time in Turin
	8:00 pm	Departure to Rivoli (TO)

Thursday August 24	10:00-1:00 pm 3:00-5:00 pm	Visit to the Publishing House Enrico Tallone Alpignano (TO) Visit to the Biblioteca Civica Centrale in Turin
Friday August 25	10:00-1:00 pm 2:00 pm	Visit to the Museo Civico della Stampa , Piazza (CN) Departure to Siena (arrival at about 8:00 pm)

Saturday August 26 *No class*

Sunday August 27 *No class*

Monday August 28 **Analyzing the Book**
10:00-1:00 pm
Practical understanding of books as material objects; bibliographical description and textual bibliography. This class will be in Siena.

Tuesday August 29 **Bibliography Workshop**
10:00-1:00 pm
Bibliography Workshop at the **Biblioteca degli Intronati in Siena.**

Wednesday August 30 *No class* *Working Groups (getting ready for the group presentation).*

Thursday August 31 **Final Class**
10:00-1:00 pm
Course wrap-up. Group Project presentations.

* This syllabus is in Poliphilus, a typeface facsimile of the text of the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili*, after which it is named, published by Aldus Manutius in Venice in 1499, using a type that had been cut by Francesco Griffo da Bologna.

FIELD TRIPS AND VISITS

Biblioteca Malatestiana, Forlì (FC)

The Malatesta Library in Cesena is the only example of a conventual humanist library perfectly preserved in the building, furnishings and manuscript collection, as recognized by UNESCO, which inserted it in its 'Memory of the World' program in 2008, the first in Italy. A little-known jewel, the library is a splendid Renaissance library which retains the original furnishings and an important collection of illuminated manuscripts.

Fabiano Paper and Watermark Museum (AN)

Housed in the monumental complex of the recently restored former Convent of the Dominicans, the Museum represents the image of seven hundred years of local paper tradition. In a large fourteenth-century room on the ground floor, the medieval gualchiera for the manufacture of handmade paper was rebuilt. The Museum is divided into sections, which from the handmade manufacture of the paper and its use of the artefact, pass to the exhibition of the watermarks, with details on the techniques for obtaining them, the visualization of the historical journey of the paper, to the phases of development of this art. in the land of Fabriano, its processing processes and related technology, through historical-thematic documents and cards.

Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano, Fabriano (AN)

The Foundation is based in Fabriano – in the evocative historical Cartiere Miliani building complex – the “city of paper” per excellence, which has been ranked as the first to have ever manufactured and traded paper all over the world for eight

consecutive centuries running, handing down a cultural tradition which has enriched the historiography on paper since the mid-eighteen hundreds, in addition to archive, archaeological and historical assets of inestimable worth pertaining to Cartiere Miliani Fabriano to be conserved . Fabriano is the only head office in Italy which cannot be transferred elsewhere.

Monastero di San Silvestro in Montefano (AN)

The Hermitage of San Silvestro in Montefano of Fabriano was founded by San Silvestro Guzzolini in 1231 near the fount Vembrici, an a new monastic order was called Sylvestrine Congregation. The hermitage currently houses a dynamic monastic community and features an efficient laboratory of restoration of old books, an historical library boasting 70,000 volumes, and the historical archives of the Sylvestrine Congregation and a guesthouse.

Franco Maria Ricci Print Museum in Fontanellato (PR)

Labirinto della Masone, (the Labyrinth of Franco Maria Ricci) in Fontanellato is the largest maze in the world. Across eight hectares of land there are three kilometres of bamboo hedges, belonging to 20 different species, with a total of 200,000 plants. This lush area, created with a plant type uncommon in Italy, bamboo, promises an all-natural experience, and much more. It hosts a museum with a permanent collection alongside an exhibition space dedicated to temporary exhibitions, as well as a library overflowing with rare books.

Biblioteca Guarnieriana in San Daniele (UD)

The library was initially founded by 1445 around the posthumous donation of 173 manuscripts by the vicar of Aquileia, Guarnerio d'Artegna. Some donations increased the collection over the centuries, but not until 1736 when Giusto Fontanini endowed the library with his large collection of manuscripts and over 2000 books, did the local council decide to build a new home for the collection, including a decorative shelves of oak. Presently the antique collections of the library, adjacent to the town's cathedral, include 600 codices, 80 incunabula, and 700 books from the 16th century.

Scriptorium Foroiulense (UD)

The "Scriptorium Foroiulense – Scuola Italiana Amanuensi" (Scriptorium Foroiulense Italian Scribes School) – is a cultural association that was founded in the Italian region of Friuli Venezia Giulia in 2012 for the purpose of rediscovering and teaching the ancient art of calligraphy. The Scriptorium began its calligraphic endeavours with a series of courses teaching the art of Uncial, Gothic, Beneventan scripts, as well as Chancery handwriting, known as Cancellaresca. Soon after, Italic hand and copperplate script were added, as were other courses on miniature, illumination, rubrication, and binding, and the success of the institution flourished.

House of Aldus Manutius, Venice

The house of Aldus Manutius in Venice appears to be inhabited, but we can only gaze upon the plaque and meditate on his brilliance from the street. The plaque state: "In this house that belonged to Aldus Pius Manutius the Aldine Academy gathered and from here the light of Greek letters returned to shine upon civilized peoples. The department of Greek letters of the University of Padua in the year 1876 1877 wished to designate this famous place to future generations."

Biblioteca Marciana, Venice

In the heart of Venice, between Saint Mark's Campanile and the pier, an eminent palace overlooks the Square: that is the Marciana Library. This building is fundamental to understand a tessera of Venice's history, since it is the tangible evidence of a past rich in culture. The Marciana Library is considered one of the biggest ancient libraries in Italy and it hosts an extremely significant collection of classical texts. Moreover, with its architecture, both majestic and light, it is considered a key architecture of the Venice Renaissance and the most important work of its first architect, Jacopo Sansovino.

Museo Bodoniano, Parma

The Museo Bodoniano is the oldest printing museum in Italy. It was opened in 1963, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the death of Giambattista Bodoni, the piedmontese typographer that made Parma the world capital of the press starting from the second half of the eighteenth century.

Royal Palace of Turin and Royal Library, Turin

The Royal Library, founded by Carlo Alberto in 1837, is part of the Royal Museums complex designed by the architect Carlo Amadeo of Castellamonte, residence of the Royal House of Savoy until 1865. It holds important collections of illuminated manuscripts, engravings, more than 2,000 drawings, and, above all, the fund acquired by Carlo Alberto, of Leonardo da Vinci drawings including the Self-portrait, the Face of the Angel, preparatory drawing for the Virgin of the Rocks held in the Louvre, and the Codex on the flight of birds.

Publishing House Enrico Tallone Alpignano (TO)

The aesthetic utopia of producing contemporary books with a Renaissance spirit still lives in Val Di Susa, close to Turin in Italy. Since the 1930s, the publishing house founded by Alberto Tallone in Alpignano has made 500 years old printing techniques its signature. Enrico Tallone, son of Alberto, revives today his father's passion as well as the tradition of the great historical printers and typographers such as Aldo Manuzio and Giambattista Bodoni. Handset and handmade, Tallone books can count on one of the most excellent collections of lead movable types, used to print on rare paper from the most important makers around the world. Their catalog of limited edition titles is where Renaissance and contemporary meet.

Biblioteca Civica Centrale, Turin

The Biblioteca Civica Centrale of Turin, Italy, is a public library established in 1869. It belongs to the Biblioteche Civiche Torinesi library system. Among its collections are manuscripts produced by Vincenzo Gioberti.

Museo Civico della Stampa, Piazza (CN)

Located in the evocative rooms on the ground floor and, in part, on the first floor of the Liber Complex – Polo Culturale delle Orfane, the Civic Museum of Printing in Mondovì allows the public to retrace the history of books and printing, two elements that have a strong identity for the city of Mondovì where, in 1472, the first dated book printed in Piedmont using movable type was produced. The new exhibition, completely renovated and inaugurated in 2022, combines tradition and innovation: multimedia installations, video projections, animations, interviews and 3D reconstructions dialogue with the civic collection of printing machines, one of the richest in Italy, in an immersive and dynamic itinerary, not only to visit, but to experience and discover.

Biblioteca degli Intronati, Siena

The origins of the Library date back to 1758, when the archdeacon Sallustio Bandini donated his library (2,886 volumes) to the University, to finally provide it with an appropriate space for books, hitherto non-existent despite several attempts carried out to build it. Bandini included between the conditions of the bequest the public use of the library and the donation gave birth in the premises of the Sapienza to a pole of cultural attraction of great importance, not only for the significance of the donation, but also for the museum, given the interest long cultivated by the librarian Ciaccheri of collecting drawings of the "primitive" Siennese, with a new and deeper attention to the artistic culture of Siena.