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PDL C-255
Office hours: Wed 1-3 and by appt.

AUTUMN 2016 – FRENCH 551 / C LIT 551 / ENG 501

Theories of the Text from Medieval Manuscripts to Digital Media

Tuesday, 12:30-3:20; PDL C-242

Description: This course investigates key articulations in the history of textual and literary interpretation, from humanistic efforts to establish “correct” texts to contemporary transformations brought by digitization. As a core course in the Textual Studies program, the focal and starting points will be the English and Continental traditions of textual scholarship, defined by the effort to account for the text in light of the history of its production, materialization, publication, transmission and reception, in the form of manuscripts, printed editions, performances, digital texts, or combinations thereof. We will consider debates and polemics “internal” to these fields (eg. the critiques of McGann and McKenzie), the relation of textual scholarship to contemporaneous and sometimes conflicting theorizations of the text (such as New Criticism and post-structuralism), and newer approaches which have sought to integrate the insights of traditional textual scholarship, critical editing, and bibliography into more expansive scholarly investigations, such as book history, reception studies, media studies, and the digital humanities.

Readings: The following books are required:

David Greetham, *Textual Scholarship: An Introduction* (Garland, 1994)
Neil Fraistat and Julia Flanders, eds., *The Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*
(Cambridge, 2013)
Optional: D.F. McKenzie, *Bibliography and the Sociology of Texts* (Cambridge, 1999)

Other readings will be distributed as scans through the Canvas site.

Requirements and break-down:

- Final project: 40%.
This is normally a traditional research paper (10-12 pages). Other projects are possible, such as a critical edition of a short text or part of a text (with introduction and notes), “published” either as a paper text or online.
- Intermediate exercises: an abstract (posted to discussion board in Canvas);
annotated bibliography: 10%
- Commentary on at least 2 colleagues’ abstracts: 5%
- Leading discussion on one reading (or set of readings): 15%
- Presentation of final project: 15%
- Participation in class discussion: 15%

Syllabus:

Tues, Oct 4 – Historical Backdrop

- Grafton, “The Humanist as Reader,” from *A History of Reading in the West*, 178-196
Leah Marcus, “Textual Scholarship” in *Introduction to Scholarship in Modern Languages and Literatures* (2007), 143-159
Greetham, “Introduction” and “Textual Criticism,” from *Textual Scholarship: An Introduction*, 1-13 and 295-322
[or ----, “A history of textual scholarship,” in *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*, 16-41]
Warren, “The politics of textual scholarship,” in *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*, 119-133

Tues, Oct 11 – Textual Scholarship. Visit to Special Collections

- Greetham, “Enumerative and Systematic Bibliography” and “Descriptive Bibliography” in *Textual Scholarship: An Introduction*, 1-46 and 153-168 (in addition, skim chs 2 and 3 on the bibliography of manuscript books and printed books, 47-152)
Kathryn Sullivan, “Anglo-American editorial theory,” in *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*, 42-60.
Lernout, “Continental editorial theory,” in *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*, 61-78.

[optional readings:

- Roger Laufer, “Pour une description scientifique du livre en tant qu’objet matériel,” *Australian Journal of French Studies* III, 3 (1966): 252-272
And Dominique Varry, “Qu’est-ce que la bibliographie matérielle”: <http://dominique-varry.enssib.fr/node/31>
WW Greg, “The Rationale of Copy-Text,” in *Studies in Bibliography* 3 (1950-1): 19-36]

Tues, Oct 18 – Textual Scholarship II

- McGann, “The Socialization of Texts,” from *The Textual Condition*, 69-87
Wimsatt and Beardsley, “The Intentional Fallacy,” *Sewanee Review* 54 (1946): 468-488
DF McKenzie, “Bibliography and the Sociology of Texts,” in *Bibliography and the Sociology of Texts*, 1-77.

Tues, Oct 25 – The Text and its Meanings

- McGann, “Shall These Bones Live?” *TEXT: Transactions of the Society for Textual Scholarship* (1981): 21-40

Barthes, "Death of the Author" and "From Work to Text," in *Image, Music, Text*, 143-148; 155-64

Jonathan Culler, "Language, Meaning and Interpretation," from *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*, 55-68

De Man, "Resistance to Theory," *Yale French Studies* 63 (1982): 3-20

Heather Love, "Close but not Deep: Literary Ethics and the Descriptive Turn," *New Literary History* 41 (2010): 371-91

Abstract due: Friday, Oct 28

Tues, Nov 1 – Book History; Material Texts; Material Philology

Margreta De Grazia and Peter Stallybrass, "The Materiality of the Shakespearean Text," in *Shakespeare Quarterly* 44, 3 (Autumn 1993): 255-283

Chartier and Stallybrass, "What is a book?" in *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship*, 188-204.

Randall McLeod, "Spellbound Typography and the Concept of Old-Spelling Editions," *Renaissance and Reformation*, 3 (1979): 50-65

Masten, "Pressing Subjects; Or, The Secret Lives of Shakespeare's Composers," in *Language Machines: Technologies of Literary and Cultural Production*

Stephen Nichols, "Why Material Philology? Some Thoughts," *Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie* 116 (1997): 10-30

Tues, Nov 8 – Curation; Archiving; Binding. Guest: Justin Johnson, Senior Conservator, UW Libraries (we'll meet in Special Collections)

Paris, Jan. "Conservation and the politics of use and value in research libraries." *The Book & Paper Group annual*, no. 13 (1994), pp. 61-65: <http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/bpg/annual/v19/bp19-16.html>

Pickwood, Nicholas. "Determining how best to conserve books in special collections." *The Book & Paper Group annual*, no. 13 (1994), pp. 35-41: <http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/bpg/annual/v13/bp13-07.html>

Henderson, Cathy. "Curator or Conservator: Who Decides on What Treatment?" *Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarianship*, vol. 2, no. 2 (1987), pp. 103-107: <http://rbm.acrl.org/content/rbml/2/2/103.full.pdf>

Cullison, Bonnie Jo & Jean Donaldson. "Conservators and Curators: A Cooperative Approach to Treatment Specifications": https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/bitstream/handle/2142/7511/librarytrendsv36i1p_opt.pdf?sequence=1

David McKitterick, "Restoration and Invention," from *Old Books, New Technologies: The Representation, Conservation and Transformation of Books since 1700* (2013).

Jeffrey Todd Knight, "Special Collections. Book Curatorship and the Idea of Early Print in Libraries," in *Bound to Read*

Tues, Nov 15 – Process and Publication; Authorship; Genetic Criticism

- Charter, “Figures of the Author,” from *The Order of Books*
George Hoffmann, “The Company of Secretaries” and “The Art of Proofreading,” in *Montaigne’s Career* (1991), 39-62, 85-107
Foucault, “What is an Author,” in *The Foucault Reader* (1985; orig. 1969), 1-20
Louis Hay, “Genetic Criticism: Origins and Perspectives,” in *Genetic Criticism: Texts and Avant-Texts* (2004), 17-27

Annotated bibliography due: Friday, Nov 18

Tues, Nov 22 – Reception; Transmediation; the Networked Text

- Matt Cohen, “Introduction,” in *The Networked Wilderness. Communicating in Early New England* (2010), 1-28
Roger Chartier, “From Court Festivity to City Spectators,” in *Forms and Meanings. Texts, Performances, and Audiences from Codex to Computer* (1995), 43-82
-----, “The Text between the Voice and the Book,” in *Voice/Text/Hypertext*
Peter Stallybrass, “Printing and the Manuscript Revolution,” in *Explorations in Communications and History*, ed. Barbie Zelizer (2008), 111-118.
Heidi Brayman Hackel, from *Reading Material in Early Modern England: Print, Gender and Literacy*

Tues, Nov 29 – The Digital/Digitized Text. Guest: Helene Williams, Information School

- Matthew Kirschenbaum, “What is Digital Humanities, and What’s It Doing in English Departments,” *ADE Bulletin* 150 (2010), 1-7
Ted Underwood, “Seven Ways Humanists are Using Computers to Understand Text,” blog post, June 4, 2015: <http://tedunderwood.com/2015/06/04/seven-ways-humanists-are-using-computers-to-understand-text/>
Laura Mandell, “Gendering Digital Literary History: What Counts for Digital Humanities,” in *A New Companion to Digital Humanities*, 511-523
Stephen Nichols, “Materialities of the Manuscript: Codex and Court Culture in Fourteenth-Century Paris,” in *Digital Philology: A Journal of Medieval Cultures* 4, 1 (spring 2015): 26-58

Tues, Dec 6 – Analyzing the Digital Text

- Franco Moretti, “Style Inc. Reflections on Seven Thousand Titles (British Novels, 1740-1850),” *Critical Inquiry* 36 1 (2009): 134-158.
Matthew Jockers and Ted Underwood, “Text-Mining the Humanities,” in *A New Companion to Digital Humanities* (2016), 291-306
Glenn Roe, Dan Edelstein, Robert Morrissey, “To Quote or Not To Quote: Citation Strategies in the *Encyclopédie*,” *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 74, 2 (2013): 213-236

Final Paper due: Mon, Dec. 12