LIS 713

Rare Book and Special Collections Librarianship
Palmer School of Library and Information Science, Long Island University
Professor Chris Filstrup

Syllabus
(Spring 2011)

"Rare book librarians are a happy breed of men and women. We share common experiences and common pleasures, but there is nothing common about us. There is excitement in our lives for we work daily with the fabric of what has made the world what it is. We are an integral part of that world. We are frightfully competitive but almost never vicious or unkind to one another . . . There are no saints among us that I know of, but we are blessed in many ways . . . . We are concerned. We have a sense of human. We are aware that we have a special privilege to understand the motivations of a special mystique."


**Time and place:** At Bobst Library NYU; 2nd floor, West Room, Avery Fisher Center (70 Washington Sq. So., NY NY 10012), Mondays, January 24 through May 2 (except Mar 14), 4:30-6:20pm. Note that decisions about closings made for C.W. Post do not affect NYU-located classes. In general, if the subways are running, this class will meet even if weather is poor.

**Contact information:** Chris Filstrup’s phone numbers: (o) 631-632-9951, (cell) 631-523-4635. Email: Christian.filstrup@stonybrook.edu.

**Office hours:** Since I travel into the city Mondays to teach the class, please make appointments by email or phone. I can meet before or after class. If you live near Stony Brook University, I can meet you there other days of the week. I am almost always available by phone and read my email regularly. The Palmer office in Bobst is Room 707 of the 7th floor. For administrative matters, the Palmer office phone is 212-998-2681. Code to Room 707: 5, then 3, then 1.

**Purpose, scope and method**

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for leadership roles in rare book and special collections. Sessions address the major aspects of the curator’s job. At the conclusion of this course students will be able to join the staff of a rare book and special collections unit, and take part in an informed way in decision-making about professional
issues. Students will be acquainted with the issues, vocabulary, major information sources, and significant documents of the field.

This course is required for the concentration in Rare Books and Special Collections.

Please note that this course does not address the history of the book. Book history courses include the annual History of the Book, and many others including, in recent years, Artists Books, The Joy of Ephemera, Great Collections of New York City, the Antiquarian Book Trade, Library Meets Museum [on exhibitions and related publications], and more. Courses taken at Rare Book School (based at the University of Virginia, with courses in various cities), and courses at the University of London's Rare Book School (including the gradable final project) may count as “history of the book” courses for purposes of the Palmer concentration. For details on that concentration see www.cwpost.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/cics/palmer/rare_books.html.

Assignments and grading

Assignments

1. Students will be given four homework assignments which test their ability to solve typical problems in the rare book and special collections context, with reference to pertinent sources and documents. Each assignment will require the student to deal with these aspects of professional practice: issues, vocabulary, major information sources, and significant documents of the field. Logic and technical aspects of writing will also be evaluated. All assignments must be submitted in a timely manner as an email attachment or hard copy in class and in a professionally appropriate form. If you have a problem with a deadline, please see me in advance.

2. Outside of class, each student will visit a special collection (not in Bobst Library) and write a short report on the collection’s access and security policies and practices.

3. Each student will make a brief ten-minute presentation on an interesting item he/she has read in the syllabus appendix or professional or popular literature or website of a professional organization. Your presentation should include one other published source. In order that you not duplicate another presentation, at least one week before your presentation you must submit your topic to me by email. After the presentation, you will submit to me a one- or two-item bibliography.

4. There will be a mid-term test on selected items from Carter’s *ABC for Book Collectors* and topics covered in class.

Advice to the wise: do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments. The assignments, though not lengthy, take time! It may be that obstacles to access will delay the process of completing assignments. Some materials in the online NYU catalog may be housed off-site and it will take days to recall them for use in the library. Some
reference materials in the NYU catalog may be available only in NYU’s Fales Library which has restricted hours.

Grading

Four homework assignments @ 10 pts each = 40 pts
Visit to outside special collection  20 pts
Class presentation                   15 pts
Midterm test                        15 pts
Class participation                 10 pts

Total = 100 points

Participation: Attendance and participation are important. Students who miss more than three sessions risk a lower grade.

Readings: The syllabus comes in two parts: the syllabus proper and an appendix. The readings listed in the syllabus proper are the basis for class discussion and exercises. Required readings are available on LIU e-reserves, print reserves in Bobst, though LIU’s access to periodical databases, and on the public web. Many of the readings listed here are available in full text through the online database Library Literature and Information Science. Access to Library Literature is through the LIU library website.

All students intending to work with rare book materials should acquire John Carter’s ABC for book collectors (New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books: 2004). 8th ed. rev. or any recent edition. Students will be expected to be familiar with its contents and will be tested on selected items. Highly recommended for the students’ own library is Geoffrey Ashall Glaister’s inexpensive, paperback reference work, Encyclopedia of the Book, 2nd ed., New Castle DE and London: Oak Knoll Press & The British Library, 1996. Students should peruse Carter (see above) regularly throughout the course. In the appendix to the syllabus are many readings and websites pertinent to the course. You may wish to obtain some of the books and articles. It is assumed that students are able to use the LIU online databases and the NYU databases which are available onsite. Be sure to ask librarians for help if you cannot do this already.

Here are professional journals to browse to get a sense of the issues facing special collections and for your class presentation. Libraries and Culture (Bobst Z671 .J67 23:1-1988-.BobCatPlus Electronic Access [onsite only]), Library and Archival Security, Library Quarterly (Bobst Z671 .L8 1- 1931- ), Library Trends (Bobst Z671.L83 1-1952- ), Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America [PBSA] (Bobst Z1008.B5p 7-1913- ), RBM (formerly Rare Book and Manuscript Librarianship) (Bobst Z688.R3 R32 1- [2000]- ) and the RBMS Newsletter (Bobst Z688.R3 R3 Current year only). These
should be available in various research collections throughout the NYC area; see the NYPL catalog and OCLC for locations. Other good sources are the Chronicle of Higher Education and The New York Times.

**Citation formats:** Use current MLA (Modern Language Association) formats consistently for all assignments. Note that the new formats discourage extensive footnotes and generally call for citations within a text that refer to a list of sources at the end of the paper. Examples of the MLA format can be found online, most conveniently at [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01). Examples of MLA formatting can be found at [http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.htm](http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.htm). It is extremely important that you cite your sources in your papers. Anyone found guilty of plagiarism will receive a failing grade. If you have questions about plagiarism, ask the instructor for help before turning in questionable material. LIU’s policies on plagiarism can be found at [http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/exhibits/plagstudent.htm](http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/exhibits/plagstudent.htm).

**Style manual:** If you have questions about grammar or want to insure that your style is clear, effective, and readable, see William Strunk, Jr.’s *The Elements of Style*, online through bartleby.com. This succinct work is available cheaply in used copies at many used book stores or online. Most people prefer the physical form to the online version.

**Codes:** E-reserves at LIU: Filstrup
Schedule

Before we our first class, please watch Eric Hellman’s two-part presentation “Libraries are still screwed”

January 24: Rare books and special collections: what’s rare and what’s special?

Required reading


Schreyer, Alice D. “What’s So Special about Special Collections Librarians?” *RBM*, vol. 7, no. 1 (Spring 2006), 49-54. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/49.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/49.full.pdf)


**January 31: Personal collecting**

Guest speaker: Arthur Schwarz, book collector and member of the Grolier Club. See some of his collection and hear some of his collecting thoughts at: Vivat rex exhibit at the Folger Library: [www.folger.edu/vivatrex](http://www.folger.edu/vivatrex)

**Required reading**


**February 7: Student presentations (2). Describing “rare” books:**

descriptive bibliography, decoding scholarly bibliographies and dealers' catalogues; understanding condition notes; determining value.

**Required reading**

Types: Analytic, descriptive, historical, textual, etc. (in contrast to "enumerative") bibliography. See Terry Belanger’s definitions at [http://www.bibsocamer.org/bibdef.htm](http://www.bibsocamer.org/bibdef.htm).

February 14: Student presentations (2). Institutional collection development

[FIRST HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE]

Guest speaker: Michael Stoller, Head, Collection Development, NYU

Required reading


* Smyth, Elaine B. “A Practical Approach to Writing a Collection Development Policy.” *RBML* 14, no. 1 (Fall 1999). [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/rbml/14/1/27.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/rbml/14/1/27.full.pdf)

Collection development policies


* Fales Library Special Collections CD Policy: [http://library.nyu.edu/collections/policies/fales.html](http://library.nyu.edu/collections/policies/fales.html)

* Grolier Club collection development policy: [www.grolierclub.org](http://www.grolierclub.org) (in the left-hand menu select The Library – Collections Overview – Library Collection Development Policy)

February 21: Student PPT presentations (2). Archival principles of control and processing

Visit Tamiment Archives for examples of archival organization, hosted by Michael Nash, Director (5:00pm)
Required reading


February 28:  Student presentations (2).  Overview of the Fales collections and operations

Visit Fales Collection, hosted by Marvin Taylor, Director

Required reading


[SECOND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE]

March 7:  Student presentations (2).  Management functions of a rare book/special collections curator I: identifying goals and objectives, setting priorities, budgeting, planning

Required reading


Staffing:


March 14: Spring break, no class

March 21: Midterm test. Student presentations (2). Management functions II: hiring, security, supporting the needs of upper management

[THIRD HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE]

Required reading


Rippley, Susan Stekel. “The Education and Hiring of Special Collections Librarians: Observations from a Recent Recruit.” *RBM* 6, no. 2 (Fall 2005). [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/6/2/82.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/6/2/82.full.pdf)

March 28: Student presentations (2). Outreach: public relations, donor relations

Guest speaker: Marvin Taylor, Head, Fales Special Collections, NYU

Required reading

Fundraising and Donor Relations:


Teaching with Special Collections:

* Allen, Susan M. “Rare Books and the College Library: Current Practices in Marrying Undergraduates to Special Collections.” *RBML* 13, no. 2 (Spring 1999), 110-119. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/rbml/13/2/110.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/rbml/13/2/110.full.pdf)


* Smith, Steven Escar. “From ‘Treasure Room’ to ‘School Room:’ Special Collections and Education.” *RBM* 7 (2006), 31-39. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/31.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/31.full.pdf)
April 4:  Student presentations (2). Exhibitions and publications

Guest lecturer:

Required reading


Brannock, J. “Creating an Exhibit in Special Collections and Using it to Promote Collections and Educate Users.” *Mississippi Libraries* 73, no. 2 (Summer 2009), p. 32-34. Available online through LIU.

April 11:  Student presentations (2). Services: reference, research, instruction, ILL

[FOURTH HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE]

Required reading


"ALA-SAA joint statement on access to original research materials" (1994). [www.alaprofessional.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/standardsguidelinestopic.htm](http://www.alaprofessional.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/standardsguidelinestopic.htm)

* Sax, Joseph L. “Not so Public: Access to Collections.” *RBM* 1, no.2 (Fall 2000), 101-114. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/1/2/101.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/1/2/101.full.pdf)

* Traister, Daniel. “Is There a Future for Special Collections? And Should There Be One?: A Polemical Essay.” *RBM* 1 (2000), 54-76. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/1/1/54.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/1/1/54.full.pdf)

Inter-Library Loan:

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries. “Guidelines for the Interlibrary Loan of Rare and Unique Materials.” (June 2004) http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/rareguidelines.cfm

April 18: Student presentations (2). Digital libraries I: creating online access to collections (issues, standards, best practices, tools, copyright)

Required reading


Davison, S. “If We Build It, Will They Come? Strategies for Teaching and Research with Digital Special Collections.” RBM 10 (Spring 2009), 37-49. http://rbm.acrl.org/content/10/1/37.full.pdf


Levy, David M. “Contemplating Scholarship in the Digital Age.” RBM 6, no. 2 (Fall 2005). http://rbm.acrl.org/content/6/2/69.full.pdf

April 25: Digital libraries II

Required reading


May 2:  Trends and career building

[REPORT ON VISIT TO OUTSIDE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DUE]

Trends in Rare Book and Special Collections Librarianship:


http://arl.tizrapublisher.com/pdfdownload/ps047/view

http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/fallforumproceedings/forum09proceedings.shtml
Appendix of additional sources

General sources and readings


"NUCMC," that is, National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections [Rhymes with luck-luck.] Available at http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc. Free from LC. As a result of the ongoing integration of the activities of OCLC and the Research Libraries Group (RLG) which began in July 2006, the migration of records from the RLG Union Catalog to OCLC’s WorldCat is now complete. Currently, from the NUCMC website: "The NUCMC website now provides searching access, via the NUCMC/OCLC gateway, not only to the WorldCat records that were accessible prior to the merger, but also to the RLG Union Catalog records that were previously accessible only via the NUCMC/RLG gateway."


**Organizations Relating to Rare Books and Special Collections:**

Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America [www.abaa.org](http://www.abaa.org). See especially “Research resources” for bibliophilic societies and more.


[http://www.uiweb.uidaho.edu/special-collections/OtherRepositories.html](http://www.uiweb.uidaho.edu/special-collections/OtherRepositories.html)

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries web site: [www.rbms.info](http://www.rbms.info)


Ephemera Society of America: [http://www.ephemerasociety.org/](http://www.ephemerasociety.org/)

Rare Book School: [http://www.rarebookschool.org/](http://www.rarebookschool.org/)

ILAB (International League of Booksellers) [http://www.ilab.org/]

IRLA (Independent Research Libraries Asso.) web site for contact data to its member libraries [http://irla.lindahall.org/]

Society of American Archivists [www.archivists.org]

Archivists Roundtable [note Metropolitan New York Chapter] [note Metropolitan New York [http://www.nycarchivists.org/]

Book collectors’ clubs, partly social in purpose, are represented in the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies (exs., Baltimore Bibliophiles, Caxton Club (Chicago), Grolier Club [NYC], Club of Odd Volumes [Boston], Tichner Society [Boston], etc.) See the individual websites of these elected membership societies. The Grolier Club has a library on book collecting and some programs open to the public. Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies: [www.fabsbooks.org]

Personal Collecting


McManis, Sam. “Auburn Collector has more than 700 Books – All the Same Title [Two years Before the Mast].” *Sacramento Bee* (July 26, 2010 [http://www.sacbee.com/2010/07/26/2913876/auburn-collector-has-more-than.html](http://www.sacbee.com/2010/07/26/2913876/auburn-collector-has-more-than.html)


Antiquarian Book Trade:

* AddALL. [http://used.addall.com/](http://used.addall.com/)

* viaLibri. [http://www.vialibri.net/](http://www.vialibri.net/)
Institutional Collection Development

http://rbm.acrl.org/content/8/1/20.full.pdf

Hyry, Tom, Diane Kaplan, and Christine Weidman, “‘Though This Be Madness, Yet There Is Method in ‘t:’ Assessing the Value of Faculty Papers and Defining a Collecting Policy.” *American Archivist*, vol. 65 (2002), 56-69. Available online through LIU.

http://rbm.acrl.org/


http://rbm.acrl.org/content/8/1/29.full.pdf

Examples of Collection Development Policies:

* Fales Library Downtown CD Policy:  
http://library.nyu.edu/collections/policies/fales_dwntwn.html

* Library of Congress collection development policy for manuscripts:  
http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/manuscri.pdf

Louisiana State University:  
http://www.lib.lsu.edu/collserv/colldev/policies/rarecollection.html
* Wayne State University School of Library and Information Science. LIS 6010 Blog entry on collection development policies:

**Gifts and Donors:**


* Society of American Archivists. “A Guide to Donating Your Personal or Family Papers to a Repository.”
http://www.archivists.org/publications/donating-familyrecs.asp

**Transfers from general collections:**

http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/selctransfer.cfm

**Deaccessioning:**

New York State. “Brodsky Bill”


Stam, David H. Brown Univ. presentation from 1981 summarized by Ellen McCrady’s Abbey Newsletter 6, no. 4 supp. [August 1982])
http://cool-palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/abbey/an/an06/an06-4a/an06-a401.html

*RBML* [Prior journal of RBMS to *RBM*.] 12, no. 1 (1997), with papers by Richard W. Oram, Samuel A. Streit, and David M. Szewczyk; on deaccessioning. LIU databases.
Appraising:


Archival appraisal: aabc.bc.ca/aabc/toolkit_guide_to_archives_appraisal.html

Ethics:


Descriptive bibliography and cataloging

*Encoded archival description (EAD); see especially "Development of the EAD DTD." www.loc.gov/ead/

*Publications: (Descriptive/analytical/historical) Bibliographies (e.g., BAL [Bibliography of American Literature]; Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature; English Short-title Catalogs, known as ESTC [online at NYU]. Also consult bibliographies for individual writers/printers/designers/presses), and other rare book tools (thesauri, handbooks, guidelines, sale catalogues, etc.). See Bloomberg-Rissman (next item) for an explanation of some of these tools. Others are described in Guide to Reference Books, ed. Robert Balay (Chicago: American Library Asso., 1996), available on the librarians' reference shelves (usually behind the counter) of any library; see the subsection on the reference materials relating to rare books, etc.

*See online sources: English Short Title Catalogue available free from the British Library at http://www.bl.uk/collections/early/estc1.html. Also see Early English Books Online [EEBO], and RLIN, a database of the holdings of many libraries on the American continent and abroad (all available at Bobst and at other research libraries, but not through LIU online). Also the National Union Catalog, known as “Mansell” (available in physical form at Bobst, sixth floor, northeast corner –
all 800 volumes; see particularly the ca. 700, green Mansell volumes. The contents of this work are partially represented on the combination of OCLC and RLIN, but those online sources do not provide the search feature that makes this tool invaluable to book historians, that is, for tracing the publication history of a work. Mansell is also available at NYPL and other, large research libraries.) Also see OCLC’s Worldcat at http://www.worldcat.org/ for free access to the combined cataloging of 10,000 libraries worldwide, some of which have special collections.

*Essential is the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) at http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc. Free from LC. Provides access to OCLC bibliographic database for archival and mss., and to RLIN's AMC (Archival and Mixed Collections) file.

*Also see the databases, many including images, from the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester MA. These are described at www.americanantiquarian.org/digital2.htm and available onsite at Bobst and at NYPL. They include: American Broadsides and Ephemera; Early American Imprints – Series I [Evans, 1639-1800]; Early American Imprints – Series II [Shaw-Shoemaker, 1801-19]; Early American Newspapers [1690-1876], and more.

The Incunabula Short Title Catalogue (ISTC) is an electronic bibliographic database maintained by the British Library which seeks to catalogue all known editions of books printed before 1501. http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/istc/index.html


*Essential for rare book scholarship is Studies in Bibliography of the Bibliographical Society of the University of Virginia and other titles at etext.lib.virginia.edu/bsuva

The European Library for four national libraries at libraries.theeuropeanlibrary.org;


Rare Books on the Web: A List of Resources at www.geocities.com/albertmasters/rarebooksontheweb.html;

Repositories of Primary Sources at http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html;

CERL Hand Press Database (European Libraries) at http://www.cerl.org/web/

WorldCat at http://worldcat.org/ for 10,000 items in one billion libraries.

Among highly subject-focused, but broadly useful, tools is the Medieval Feminist Index at http://www.haverford.edu/library/reference/mschaus/mfi/mfi.html.

For many other “vetted” online sources and tools of a scholarly sort, see RBMS’s “Directory of Web Resources for the Rare Materials Cataloger” at http://lib.nmsu.edu/rarecat/.


Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books. 2nd ed. Washington DC: Library of Congress, 1991. Available for purchase at $21 from ALA or LC at http://www.loc.gov/cds/catman.html#dcorb Not necessary for class, but very important to know about to understand current catalogs. Currently under revision as part of the developing standard for Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR).


*The Archivist's Toolkit (Archives Association of British Columbia) aabc.bc.ca/aabc/toolkit.html See especially "Arrangement and description."


See terms from Powell's for describing rare books, with illustrations. Especially see the terms relating to **condition**, on the same web page.

www.powells.com/rarebooks/bookbasics.html#terms

Ascher, James P. “Progressing Toward Bibliography; or: Organic Growth in the Bibliographic Record.” *RBM* 10, no. 2 (Fall 2009), 95-110. Available online through LIU, wilsonweb

*Core Standard for Rare Books (DCRB Core).
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/bibco/coredcrb.html

*Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books).* Washington, D.C.: Cataloging Distribution Service, 2007. (available through *Cataloger’s Desktop*)

*Encoded archival description (EAD); see especially "Development of the EAD DTD."* www.loc.gov/ead/

* RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee web page:
http://www.rbms.info/committees/bibliographic_standards/


**Controlled Vocabularies Used in Special Collections:**

* Getty Research Institute. “Art and Architecture Thesaurus.”
http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/aat/


http://www.archivists.org/glossary/Introduction.asp


**Bibliographic Utilities:**


* OCLC WorldCat. [http://www.worldcat.org/](http://www.worldcat.org/)

* English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC). [http://estc.bl.uk/](http://estc.bl.uk/)

* LibraryThing. [www.librarything.org](http://www.librarything.org)

**Archival organizing and description**


http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/ead/


Copyright:

*Copyright and Fair Use. http://fairuse.stanford.edu/

Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States.
http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/public_domain/


*Copyright Chart - Peter Hirtle http://copyright.cornell.edu/resources/publicdomain.cfm

Library of Congress Section 108 (Fair Use) Spinner
http://www.librarycopyright.net/108spinner/

ALA Copyright Slider http://librarycopyright.net/digitalslider/
Duke University Law - Copyright Primer


* Cornell University. “Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States, 1 January 2010.” http://copyright.cornell.edu/resources/publicdomain.cfm

* “Section 108 of the US Copyright Code: Reproductions by Libraries or Archives for their Users, for Replacement, or for Preservation.” http://www.librarycopyright.net/108spinner/


Contracts (legal title)


Preservation


Sheehan, Jennifer K. “Making the Most of What We Have: A Framework for Preservation Management in Rare Book Collections.” RBM 10 (Fall 2009), p. 111-121. http://rbm.acrl.org/content/by/year


* Northeast Document Conservation Center. The Online Disaster-Planning Tool for Cultural and Civic Institutions. www.dplan.org

Philobiblon (Peter Verheyen's website for organizations, conservation and preservation information, and much more) www.philobiblon.com

* Starmer, Mary Ellen, Sara McGough Hyder, and Aimée Leverette. “Rare Condition: Preservation Assessment for Rare Book Collections.” RBM 6, no. 2 (Fall 2005) http://rbm.acrl.org/content/6/2/91.full.pdf or LIU databases.
• Starmer, Mary Ellen, Sara McGough Hyder, and Aimée Leverette “Rare Condition: Preservation Assessment for Rare Book Collections” *RBM* 6 no. 2 (Fall 2005) available at [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/rbm/6-2/rbmvol6no2.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/rbm/6-2/rbmvol6no2.cfm)

**Diversity and Special Collections:**

*RBM* 8, no. 2 (Fall 2007). [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/8/2](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/8/2) (issue on diversity)


* Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries. RBMS Diversity Committee web page: [http://www.rbms.info/committees/diversity/](http://www.rbms.info/committees/diversity/)


**Security**


Wilkie, Everett. "Weighing Materials in Rare Book and Manuscript Libraries as a Security Measure against Theft and Vandalism," *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage* 7, no. 2 (Fall 2006) p. 146-164. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/by/year](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/by/year) or LIUdatabases.


German firefighter training film from 1965, about the flammability of nitrate movie reels (see the sections on the inutility of water and sand – a kind of horror film) [http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7892683211336574432&ei=sTOjSd6MJpuW2gL6ovCNDg&q=nitrofilm&hl=de#](http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7892683211336574432&ei=sTOjSd6MJpuW2gL6ovCNDg&q=nitrofilm&hl=de#). Also see the history of movie vault

Access


**Public Service:**


“Mr. Bean goes to the Library.” [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGjnuVliIWC](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGjnuVliIWC)

* Special Collections public services links on the library websites of:

  University of Chicago: [http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/](http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/)

  Huntington Library: [http://huntington.org/](http://huntington.org/)


  UCLA: [http://www.library.ucla.edu/specialcollections/researchlibrary/index.cfm](http://www.library.ucla.edu/specialcollections/researchlibrary/index.cfm)

  New York University, Fales Library: [http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/fales/](http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/fales/)

  Beinecke Library, Yale: [http://www.library.yale.edu/beinecke/](http://www.library.yale.edu/beinecke/)

  Cornell University: [http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/services/services_overview.html](http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/services/services_overview.html)

**Fundraising**


**Grant Programs:**


* Stam, Deirdre C. “Bridging the Gap: Education and Special Collections,” *RBM* 7, no. 1 (Spring 2006), 16-30. [http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/16.full.pdf](http://rbm.acrl.org/content/7/1/16.full.pdf)


**Digitization**


Large Digital Libraries of Pre-1800 Printed Books in Western Languages, Archivalia [100+ titles]. [http://archiv.twoday.net/stories/6107864/](http://archiv.twoday.net/stories/6107864/)


**Special Collections and Web 2.0:**

* “Archives 2.0” wiki. [http://archives2point0.wetpaint.com/](http://archives2point0.wetpaint.com/)
“Blog Boot Camp: A Primer for Special Collections Staff,” 49th Annual RBMS Preconference, Los Angeles, Calif., June 2008
http://rbmsblogbootcamp.wordpress.com/ and
http://www.slideshare.net/kathleenburns/blog-boot-camp-slideshow

http://www.slideshare.net/ktheimer/rbms-web-20-workshop

* Special collections blogs from Houghton, Beinecke, and other rare book and special collections libraries

http://www.librarything.com/groups/PLEA


**Ephemera**

* Ephemera Society of America web site: http://www.ephemerasociety.org/


To identify processes, see these videos on production of these forms:

- Relief http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0skLwafpno
- Intaglio: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNKn4PORGBl
- Lithography: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHw5_1Hopsc
- Woodblock printing:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dliF74ojoHo

**Exhibits**
Library and Archival Exhibitions on the Web.
http://www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Online-Exhibitions/index.htm


Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries. RBMS Exhibition Awards Committee web page:
http://www.rbms.info/committees/exhibition_awards/index.shtml

* Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries. “Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections Materials for Exhibition” (January 2005).
http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/borrowguide.cfm

Reed, Marcia. “Blurring the Boundaries: Collaborative Library and Museum Exhibitions in Los Angeles.” RBM 8, no. 1 (Spring 2007).
http://rbm.acrl.org/content/8/1/45.full.pdf

Trends

Cloonan, Michelle and Sidney Berger, eds. Library Trends 52, no. 1 (Summer 2003). Entire issue on special collections.


www.grolierclub.org (select “Public Events” from left-hand menu).

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Association of College and Research Libraries. List and web sites of RBMS Preconferences since 1996.
http://www.rbms.info/conferences/index.shtml