Conduct independent research at one of the world’s great research libraries – the Newberry Library – in the dynamic city of Chicago.

The Associated Colleges of the Midwest’s Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities offers a significant research experience that will prepare you for graduate study, professional education, and other careers.

FALL 2021 SEMINAR

VISITING FACULTY

John Garrison, English, Grinnell College
Kelly Maynard, History, Grinnell College

THE POLITICS OF PERFORMANCE

Politics and performance have always been intertwined. From street corners to smoky jazz bars to opera houses and courtly masques, stages have offered unique places to comment upon social issues, reconcile (or not) with historical trauma, and even incite revolution. Similarly, political power and practice have always been rooted in theatricality. This seminar explores the fertile ground of political performance and the performance of politics, asking how authors, performers, and audiences make meaning.

The semester will explore the evocative overlap between the performative and the political. You will examine materials from the Newberry’s vibrant collection that capture the essence of the history of theatre, music, dance, and opera; interrogate the theatrical aspects of political; and experience the difference between live performance and archival materials.

The seminar’s focus on “performance” will allow you to pursue innovative questions in your independent research projects. These questions can draw from disciplines typically associated with performance – literature, history, music, dance, opera, and theatre – as well as from fields that have come to see “performance” as a lens through which generate new insights: anthropology, critical race studies, economics, gender and sexuality studies, political science, and sociology.

DATES

Fall Semester (late August to early December)

CREDITS

Recommended credit is 16 semester credits or the equivalent.

HOUSING

Students live in furnished apartments near the Newberry Library in Chicago’s Gold Coast neighborhood.

WORKING AT THE NEWBERRY

Part-time internships at the Newberry Library are available for students, providing valuable experience and an opportunity to learn more about the inner workings of a major research library.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

MARCH 15, 2021

Apply at ACM.edu/apply and check with your Off-Campus Study Office about your college’s application procedures and deadlines.