The Fall 2013 Seminar

Representing the Other in Image, Text, and Landscape

The fall 2013 Newberry Seminar will focus on encounters between the Old World and the so-called New World from the early-modern period to the 20th century. We will examine maps, literary and philosophical texts, images, as well as historical and anthropological records, as a means of discovering how the encounter with the New World became a transformative force that would leave the Old World forever tormented by the haunting specter of the Other just as it had dramatic, and often shattering consequences for indigenous peoples.

Together we will consider such questions as: How did this New World, this new paradise, come to be transformed? How did Europeans and indigenous American groups view each other at first and over time? What were the long-term environmental and cultural changes wrought from these repeated encounters as Old World met New World? How did European thinkers deploy this vision of otherness in forms of cultural representation? What was the response from indigenous communities? How did the notion of the Other change with the arrival of African peoples into the Americas?

In the first half of the semester students will study texts relevant to our topic, as they become familiar with methods of conducting research and working in the Newberry Library. In the second half of the semester students will conduct their own research, and create their own document of their findings, drawing on the Newberry’s rich resources.

Throughout the semester faculty and students will work closely together in the process of framing a topic of investigation, conducting research, and creating scholarly texts that can share our discoveries with a wider audience.

Above: Newberry Seminar participants on a tour of Chicago’s historic Graceland Cemetery.

Cover: A view of the Newberry Library and the surrounding neighborhood. Photo courtesy of the Newberry Library.
The Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities

**Fall 2013 Seminar**

**Seminar Topic** Representing the Other in Image, Text, and Landscape

**Faculty**
- William Davis, Comparative Literature and German, Colorado College
- Eric Perramond, Environmental Science and Southwest Studies, Colorado College

**The Newberry’s resources**

Students will find the Newberry Library’s collection to be a vast and stimulating resource for exploring encounters between the Old and New Worlds.

The Library’s huge collection of maps will interest students working in a number of areas beyond geography. We might wish to consider how Europeans chose to represent the Americas, what they put in, left out, invented, and imagined. These maps are also aesthetic objects in themselves — artistic encounters, if you will, with the New World.

The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center also offers specific support for the study of cartography and the amazing map collections the Newberry holds.

Students particularly interested in the indigenous peoples of the Americas, and in their interactions with Europeans, will benefit immensely from the Edward E. Ayer collection. This is one of the most important collections focused on Native Americans and indigenous peoples in the world. Scholars from across the globe who are interested in the history and representations of Native Americans come to the Newberry to use the Ayer collection.

The Newberry librarians have created research guides, organized by specific topic, to help scholars work their way through this vast material. The opportunity to work with this rich source material within the context of a vibrant research community can be found nowhere else.

**For more details, go to acm.edu/newberry**

**Research in the humanities at an unparalleled library**

In the ACM Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities, students conduct independent research and writing at one of the world’s great libraries in the exciting city of Chicago.

The program fosters a collaborative spirit among its participants, who work closely with faculty and a select group of colleagues in a seminar that provides context and guidance for their research. Students write a substantial paper on a topic of their choice, based on research in the rich primary collections of the Newberry Library.

The Newberry Seminar gives participants significant research experience that prepares them for graduate study, professional education (such as law school and programs in information sciences), or other careers.

**Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities schedule**

| Introduction to the Newberry collections | Independent research and writing |
| Seminar meetings: Readings and discussion | Meet individually with faculty |
| Write research proposal | Seminar meetings |

**Host institution** The Newberry Library, an independent research library on Chicago’s Near North Side (www.newberry.org).

The Newberry’s collections span the history and culture of western Europe from the Middle Ages to the mid-20th century and the Americas from the time of first contact between Europeans and Native Americans.

**Dates** Fall semester (early September - mid-December)

**Credits** Recommended credit is 16 semester credits or the equivalent.

**Enrollment** Maximum of 20 students

**Eligibility** Juniors and seniors interested in pursuing serious research in the humanities and humanistic social sciences.

**Living arrangements** Students live in furnished apartments near the Newberry Library in the Gold Coast neighborhood.

**Costs** For information about program costs and an expense budget, go to acm.edu/newberry. Students also should check with their Off-Campus Study or Financial Aid Office for information about their college’s pricing policies for off-campus study.

**How to apply**
- Access the ACM application at acm.edu/apply.
- Students should check with their Off-Campus Study Office about their college’s application procedures and deadlines.
- ACM must receive completed applications by March 15.