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**M E M O I R S**  
 O F T H E  
**P L A G U E.**



I T was about the Beginning of *September* 1664, that I, among the Rest of my Neighbours, heard in ordinary Discourse, that the Plague was return'd again in *Holland*; for it had been very violent there, and particularly at *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*, in the Year 1663. whether *they say*, it was brought, some said from *Italy*, others from the *Levant* among some Goods, which were brought home by their Turkey Fleet; others said it was brought from *Candia*; others from *Cyprus*. It matter'd not, from whence it come; but all agreed, it was come into *Holland* again.

We had no such thing as printed News Papers in those Days, to spread Rumours and Reports of Things; and to improve them by the Invention of Men, as I have liv'd to see practis'd since. But such things as these were gather'd

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from

The Center for Renaissance Studies promotes the use of the Newberry collection by scholars in the fields of late medieval, Renaissance, and early modern studies (c. 1300 – c. 1750), making available programs that may not be feasible for individual institutions to mount alone. Founded in 1979, the center works with an international consortium of universities in North America and the United Kingdom. It offers a wide range of scholarly programs and digital and print publications based in the Newberry collection, and provides a locus for a community of scholars who come from all over the world to use the library's early manuscripts, printed books, and other materials.

The Center for Renaissance Studies collaborates with the Folger Institute in Washington, DC, which also works with a consortium of universities. By a reciprocal arrangement, faculty members and graduate students from either consortium may apply for admission to the other's programs, and if they are admitted some fees may be waived.

Faculty and graduate students of Center for Renaissance Studies consortium institutions are eligible to apply for travel grants to participate in programs or to do research at the Newberry Library or the Folger Shakespeare Library. Some member institutions may limit eligibility to certain departments, colleges, or other units within the university, and each member sets its own policies, limitations, and deadlines.

All programs subject to change.  
For further information please visit:  
[www.newberry.org/renaissance](http://www.newberry.org/renaissance);  
call the center at (312) 255-3514;  
or e-mail [renaissance@newberry.org](mailto:renaissance@newberry.org).

The Newberry Center for Renaissance Studies,  
60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610-7324



**For late medieval, Renaissance, and early modern studies, the Newberry collection is especially outstanding in six subject areas:**

- early modern colonialism
- history of the book
- humanism, education, and rhetoric
- maps, travel, and exploration
- music
- religion

**Other strong subjects and genres include:**

- French political pamphlets
- British local history and heraldry
- British political pamphlets, broadsides, and prints
- eighteenth-century periodicals, especially British and French
- languages, historical linguistics, and philology
- biographies
- works by women writers in all genres
- archival materials for Italy, Portugal, and the Spanish Empire

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## STAFF

Director: Lia Markey

Assistant Director: Christopher Fletcher

Program Manager: Rebecca L. Fall

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## PROGRAMS FOR GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

### 2022 Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference in Premodern Studies

Thursday, January 27 to Saturday, January 29, 2022

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2021**

The Center for Renaissance Studies' annual graduate student conference, organized and run by advanced doctoral students, has become a premier venue for emerging scholars to present papers, participate in discussions, and develop collaborations. This supportive, welcoming conference comprises as many as sixteen panels with nearly fifty presenters, plus plenary and professionalization sessions. See our website for further details.

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### Dissertation Seminar

#### The Translocal and the Transnational

Led by Hassan Melehy, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Christina Normore, Northwestern University

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2021**

October 22, 2021; January 21, 2022; March 4, 2022; and May 20, 2022 from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM CT

This seminar provides an interdisciplinary, supportive community for graduate students in the early stages of dissertation preparation. The movement of people, things and ideas deeply shaped medieval and early modern literature, philosophy, art, music and culture. Participants will develop a variety of research strategies to address these exchanges through the consideration of primary source materials in the Newberry collections alongside contemporary and modern theories of translocality and transnationalism. By the end of the seminar each student should have drafted a complete dissertation proposal or chapter.

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### CRS Undergraduate Seminar

#### The World in the Book: 1300 – 1800

Led by Lia Markey, Rebecca Fall, and Christopher Fletcher, Newberry Library

**APPLICATIONS ARE ROLLING THROUGH JUNE 15, 2021**

Tuesday, September 28, 2021-Thursday, December 9, 2021, 1:00-2:30 CT

This 10-week course will use the multidisciplinary field of book history to explore how medieval and early modern people used different media to make sense of a changing world. Through lectures, discussions, and interactive workshops with faculty from CRS consortium institutions, participants will learn how book history can illuminate the ways in which premodern people used religion, science, art, and technology to grapple with new economic, intellectual, and cultural challenges in a rapidly-expanding global community.

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### Ten-Week Graduate Seminar

#### Trans Historical: The Many Genders of the Past

Led by Anna Kłosowska, Miami University

**APPLICATION DEADLINE NOV. 1, 2021**

Thursdays, January 6 – March 10, 2022, 1:30-4:30 PM CT

All too often in popular culture and political media, trans people are misrepresented as “new”—an “invention” of our present moment. But trans, nonbinary, and gender-nonconforming communities have a long and rich history. This seminar will center that history by exploring trans, bigender, and genderqueer historical figures, documents, and literary texts from the Late Antiquity to the 19th century in various parts of Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean, and the Americas. Course meetings will include conversations with visiting scholars in art history, history and literature.

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## RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOPS

### Word and Image in Print and Digital Archives

Led by Jennifer Waldron, University of Pittsburgh and James A. Knapp, Loyola University Chicago

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2021**

October 15, 2021, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

This interdisciplinary workshop takes a long view of the effects of technological change on word-image relations from the early modern period through the present day. Participants will explore how visual and verbal representation were key to organizing early modern knowledge, how digital tools have altered the affordances of image-based archives, and how scholars can effectively share their archival research through digital tools relevant to work in public humanities.

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### Introduction to Early Modern Critical Race Studies

Led by Noémie Ndiaye, University of Chicago

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2021**

December 3, 2021, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

This workshop introduces participants to the history and methods of Early Modern Critical Race Studies (EMCRS). Foregrounding the “Critical” component of EMCRS, we will discuss the theoretical and political roots of the field, the stages and controversies that have marked its history, its major subfields, and new directions for research, such as whiteness studies and transnational critical race studies. By discussing readings, brainstorming best practices, and engaging with Newberry collection materials for a forthcoming exhibition developed in partnership with the “RaceB4Race” conference series, participants will clear pathways to engage ethically and meaningfully with the field of EMCRS.

## Dante, Duns Scotus, and the Crisis of Representation in the Modern Age

Led by William Franke, Vanderbilt University

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2021**

December 10, 2021, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

Dante's *Commedia*, with its emphasis on ineffability, bears witness to a crisis of representation concerning God and the nature of reality in general. Dante's contemporary, John Duns Scotus, feels the same crisis. Whereas Scotus advances a metaphysical doctrine of the univocity of being that leads to a scientific worldview, Dante keeps representation open to another world of mystical-religious experience, in which poetic allegory and metaphor gain access to truth higher and more whole than empirical fact. This workshop explores how these different approaches to a perceived crisis of representation helped produce our contemporary secular world.

## Teaching the Early Modern Book: Ways of Seeing, Ways of Thinking

Led by Michael F. Suarez, S.J., University of Virginia

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

February 11, 2022, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

Participants in this full-day workshop will learn through examples about the constituent elements of books and how to "read" their meanings and significance. They will also undertake a series of exercises—which they might make use of for their own courses and demonstrations—in bibliography, the formal analysis of printed artifacts (viz., format, edition, impression, issue, state, etc.) and in book history (viz., authorship, patronage, intellectual property, censorship, etc.).

## Gage's English-American: from Letter Press to WordPress

Led by Kristina Bross, Purdue University and Cassander Smith, University of Alabama

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

April 8, 2022, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

This workshop will explore the intersections of literary studies, digital humanities, and methods for sharing materials that are not born digital to a wide audience. To stage the conversation, we will use a 1648 publication by Thomas Gage, *The English-American*, housed in the Newberry's collection, as a case study. Because of its interdisciplinary nature, *The English-American* is an incredible research and teaching tool that broadens conversations about the early Americas and Caribbean, transatlantic slavery, early modern religion, literature, and politics, material culture, foodways, cartography, geography, anthropology, and more.

## New Spain at the Newberry Library: Demystifying Colonial Documents in the Ayer Collection

Led by Claudia Brittenham, University of Chicago and Seonaid Valiant, Arizona State University

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Friday April 22, 2022, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

When it was given to the Newberry Library in 1911, the Edward E. Ayer Collection of rare books and manuscripts contained 4,000

colonial documents from New Spain representing early contacts between American Indians and Europeans, including sermons and dictionaries in Indigenous languages, and pictorial court documents created by Indigenous artists. This workshop will use the Ayer Collection and its history to discuss the historical migration of books in the global market. The workshop will also allow graduate students an opportunity to practice reading, contextualizing, and interpreting rare documents in the collection.

## Captured Objects: Studying Premodern Inventories

Led by Jessica Keating, Carleton College; J. Michelle Molina, Northwestern University; and Lia Markey, Newberry Library

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Friday May 6, 2022, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM CT

Inventories of premodern treasuries, collections, households, and libraries have long been crucial documents for art historians, historians, and literary historians. How should these seemingly straightforward lists be read, and what can they tell us about how individuals in premodern society conceived of the world? This interdisciplinary workshop will examine the materiality, content, and design of several inventories in the Newberry collection in order to explore the function of these complex documents as systems for ordering knowledge, assessing the value and legal status of objects, and the movement of objects across space and time.

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# TALKS, LECTURES, AND CONVERSATIONS

## Conversation Series

### 500 Años de Libros Mexicanos: Bibliografía del Libro Colonial en Lenguas Originarias

ONLINE

Thursdays, July 1 – August 12, 2021, 12:00 PM CT

Keynote lectures by Marina Garone Gravier, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México [UNAM]. Roundtable discussions featuring Salvador Reyes, UNAM; Rodrigo Martínez Baracs, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia; Alejandro González Acosta, UNAM; Mario Sánchez, UNAM; Tesiu Rosas, UNAM; and Analú López, Newberry Library.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the so-called "conquest" of Mexico, this series of presentations addresses the relationship between bibliography, the history of the New Hispanic book, and the production Indigenous-language books in Mexico. The series includes two roundtable discussions and five lectures on the print production of New World languages, publishing criteria of Indigenous languages in New Spain, the uses of books in the teaching of Indigenous languages at the Royal and Pontifical University of Mexico, the collaboration of Indigenous calligraphers and typographers in the elaboration of books in New Spain, and the participation of printers as agents of the colonial edition in native languages.

Organized by Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Chicago Campus, in collaboration with the Bibliographical Society of America.

Co-hosted and cosponsored by the Center for Renaissance Studies and the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library.

## Race in Dialogue

### ONLINE

November 5, 2021, 12:00PM CT

Led by Ayanna Thompson, Arizona State University, and Noémie Ndiaye, University of Chicago

January 14, 2022, 12:00PM CT

Led by Stephanie Schrader, Getty Museum, and Heather Hughes, Davis Museum, Wellesley College

May 6, 2022, 12:00PM CT

Led by Phil Deloria, Harvard University, and Tarren Andrews, University of Colorado-Boulder

This series of virtual conversations brings together scholars across professional generations to discuss the past, present, and future of premodern critical race studies and critical Indigenous studies.

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## Roundtable Discussions

### Looking Forward to Attending to Premodern Women

Led by Larissa Brewer-García, University of Chicago; Barbara Newman, Northwestern University; Elizabeth Rodriguez, Northeastern Illinois University; and Tanya Tiffany, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Moderated by Merry Wiesner-Hanks, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Friday, October 1, 2021, 12:00 PM CT

In fall 2022, Attending to Premodern Women will return with a three-day conference focused on the theme of “Performance” at the Newberry Library. In this multidisciplinary “teaser” roundtable, four expert scholars will come together for an invigorating discussion focused on premodern gender, sexuality, and the four thematic pillars of the 2022 Attending conference: “Performing Power,” “Performing Art,” “Performing Gender,” and “Performing Pedagogy and Public Humanities.”

### The Launch of *Trans Historical: Gender Plurality Before the Modern* (Cornell University Press, 2021)

#### ONLINE

Friday, October 22, 2021, 12:00 PM CT

Led by Gabrielle Bychowski, Case Western University; Anna Klosowska, Miami University; Greta LaFleur, Yale University; and Masha Raskolnikov, Cornell University. Moderated by Blake Gutt, University of Michigan.

This roundtable celebrates the launch of *Trans Historical: Gender Plurality Before the Modern*, a multidisciplinary edited collection that explores the politics, poetics, and aesthetics of trans histories prior to modernity. The book argues for an expansive understanding of trans pasts and foregrounds a range of methodologies that acknowledge the plurality of gender experiences in early sources and material records. Essays highlight pre-normative understandings of gender that flourished in the medieval and early modern worlds in a wide range of locations from colonial North America to Renaissance Poland, from Byzantine and Ottoman Greece and Turkey to Korea.

## Dante at 700: The Past, Present, and Future of Dante Studies

Featuring Gary Cestaro, DePaul University; David Lummus, University of Notre Dame; and Paola Nasti, Northwestern University. Moderated by Ted Cachey, University of Notre Dame).

Friday, November 19, 2021, 12:00 PM CT

This roundtable of local Dante specialists will take the various global celebrations of the Dante centenary as a starting point for a discussion of the state of the field.

*Cosponsored with Notre Dame's Center for Italian Studies and Devers Family Program in Dante Studies and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Chicago.*

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## SYMPOSIA

### Processing the Pandemic I: Loss

March – April 2022

This symposium is the first in a series of interdisciplinary programs that will use the past to come to terms with the emotional impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. By creating a dialogue between individuals and communities before 1800 and our current historical and cultural moment, this series aims to trace new pathways of understanding for the pandemic's emotional impact on individuals, communities, and their cultures. For this first program, scholars and mental health professionals will join in conversations to explore historical responses to loss and the lessons we might draw from them today.



*Co-organized with the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies and the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance at the University of Warwick.*

### 20th Annual Cervantes Symposium

April 29 – 30, 2022

Chicago's Cervantes Symposium, now in its 20th year, provides scholars a forum to share and discuss emerging research in the field of Cervantes studies. The 2022 event will include a keynote lecture by Frederick A. De Armas (University of Chicago) and twelve talks by scholars from throughout the United States.

*Organized by Carmen Hsu, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Carmela V. Mattza, Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge.*

*Cosponsored by DePaul University and the Instituto Cervantes Chicago.*

## Stop Making Sense: Reading Nonsense Books and Silly Texts in Premodern Europe

May 2022

What should we make of texts that resist meaning? What might be valuable—or dangerous—about art that is pointless on purpose? How might we interpret speech without sense? This symposium will bring together a multidisciplinary group of experts on nonsense, silliness, and frivolity in the premodern world to explore these questions. To ground our discussion, presentations will focus on the material texts and contexts of this strange and slippery topic: manuscript and print materials that push the bounds of comprehensibility, visual expressions of frivolity for its own sake, and the concrete social and political effects of talking nonsense in both premodern and present-day culture.

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## NEWBERRY INSTITUTE SEMINARS

### Premodern Studies Seminar

This seminar provides a forum for new approaches to classical, medieval, and early modern studies, allowing scholars from a range of disciplines to share works-in-progress with the broader community at the Center for Renaissance Studies. Our sessions feature discussion of a pre-circulated paper and a presentation of materials from the Newberry collections. We meet three times a year. Every meeting is free and open to the public, and participants are encouraged to attend as many seminars as they are able.

*Organized by Lydia Barnett, Northwestern University; Timothy Crowley, Northern Illinois University; Christopher Fletcher, Newberry Library; and Megan Heffernan, DePaul University.*

### Eighteenth Century Seminar

The Eighteenth Century Seminar is designed to foster research and inquiry across the scholarly disciplines in eighteenth century studies. It aims to provide a methodologically diverse forum for work that engages ongoing discussions and debates along this historical and critical terrain. Each year the seminar sponsors one public lecture followed by questions and discussion, and one work-in-progress session, featuring a pre-circulated paper.

*Organized by Timothy Campbell, University of Chicago; Lisa A. Freeman, University of Illinois at Chicago; Richard Squibbs, DePaul University; and Helen Thompson, Northwestern University.*

### Milton Seminar

Meeting since 1986, this seminar brings together interested scholars to read and discuss pre-circulated papers on aspects of Milton studies. Each meeting is conducted by a seminar leader, who delivers a brief presentation that leads to discussion based upon his or her paper.

*Organized by Stephen Fallon, University of Notre Dame; Christopher Kendrick, Loyola University Chicago; Paula McQuade, DePaul University; and Regina Schwartz, Northwestern University.*

## Newberry Seminar in European Art

This seminar series provides a venue to bring together a diverse community of art historians and those in related fields for intellectual exchange, collegial conversation, and debate. We construe art history in broad terms, embracing painting, sculpture, graphic art, architecture, caricature, manuscript illumination, book arts, and material culture.

*Organized by Suzanne Karr Schmidt and Lia Markey, Newberry Library; and Walter Melion, Emory University*

*Sponsored by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.*

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## SUMMER INSTITUTES

**APPLICATION DEADLINES: MARCH 1, 2022**

### NEH Summer Institute: Mapping the Early Modern World

July 2022

Directed by James Akerman and Lia Markey, Newberry Library

Faculty include Niall Atkinson, University of Chicago; David Buisseret, Newberry Library; Jessica Maier, Mt. Holyoke College; Barbara Mundy, Fordham University; Ricardo Padrón, University of Virginia; Katherine Piechocki, Harvard University; Pedro Raposo, Adler Planetarium; and Mark S. Rosen, University of Texas, Dallas.

### Center for Renaissance Studies Institute in Italian Paleography

July 2022

Directed by Maddalena Signorini, Tor Vergata Università di Roma

*Funded by an anonymous gift to the Center for Renaissance Studies.*

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## 2022 – 2023 FELLOWSHIPS

### Newberry Center for Renaissance Studies Consortium Fellowships

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2021**

These short-term fellowships support scholars at Center for Renaissance Studies consortium member institutions. They offer support for one month's work in residence at the Newberry for one PhD candidate with ABD status and one postdoctoral scholar working in medieval, Renaissance, or early modern studies. The postdoctoral scholar could be a full-time faculty member, adjunct faculty, librarian, or curator (with preference given for non-tenured faculty).

**See all the Newberry's long-term and short-term fellowships: [www.newberry.org/fellowships](http://www.newberry.org/fellowships).**

## CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

University of Aberdeen  
Aberdeen, Scotland

University of Akron  
Akron, Ohio

University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona

Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona

University of California, Davis  
Davis, California

University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Claremont Graduate University  
Claremont, California

Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York

DePaul University  
Chicago, Illinois

Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia

Florida State University  
Tallahassee, Florida

University of Illinois at Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

University of Illinois at  
Urbana-Champaign  
Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Illinois State University  
Normal, Illinois

Indiana University  
Bloomington, Indiana

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University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas

Kent State University  
Kent, Ohio

University of Lausanne  
Lausanne, Switzerland

University of Louisville  
Louisville, Kentucky

Loyola University Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Marquette University  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio

University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

University of Mississippi  
University, Mississippi

University of Missouri  
Columbia, Missouri

University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lincoln, Nebraska

University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Northern Illinois University  
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Northwestern University  
Evanston, Illinois

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Notre Dame, Indiana

Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, Oklahoma

University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Purdue University  
West Lafayette, Indiana

Queen Mary, University of London  
London, England

Saint Louis University  
Saint Louis, Missouri

Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, Illinois  
Edwardsville, Illinois

University of Tennessee-Knoxville  
Knoxville, Tennessee

University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, Texas

Tulane University  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, Tennessee

University of Warwick  
Coventry, England

Wayne State University  
Detroit, Michigan

Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, Michigan

University of Western Ontario  
London, Ontario

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Madison, Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



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## Center for Renaissance Studies 2021-22 Programs

Cover Image: Daniel Defoe, *A journal of the plague year, 1772*, Case f4595.217.

Inside Image: Detail, "Office of the Dead," *Book of Hours, Use of Rouen*, c. 1475, Vault Case MS 43.