Dear UIC Students,

I am delighted to announce the topic for the Spring 2015 Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar: **Mexico and Peru through Word and Image, 1492-1820**. The Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar is a team-taught interdisciplinary course that is open to undergraduates from four Chicago-area universities (DePaul, Loyola, UIC, and Roosevelt). The six-credit course provides undergraduate students an unparalleled opportunity to conduct archival research in one of the country's foremost public research libraries. The topic this year will look to the robust cultures of the Aztec and Inca empires and examine the rise of the Spanish empire. Language, religion, literature, and art all played a significant role in the multiple, layered and intersecting histories of Spanish America, and the course will make use of the Newberry's extraordinary collection of primary documents on the history and culture of Europe and the Americas, including early maps, texts and other cultural artifacts, to explore the complex cultural dynamics that evolved over a period of more than three centuries.

The course will meet at the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-5:00 (January 13-May 7) and will be taught by Professor Priscilla Archibald, associate professor of Latin American Literature at Roosevelt University, and Professor Delia Cosentino, associate professor of the History of Art and Architecture at DePaul University.

Each student who is accepted into the seminar will be awarded a $250 scholarship to cover the cost of transportation and other research related expenses. Any junior or senior at UIC is eligible to apply. Students who enroll in the seminar will also be eligible to apply for a study-abroad program in Peru co-led by Professor Archibald in mid-May.

To apply for the course, simply fill-out an application form and submit it electronically with the required materials to: Professor Lisa A. Freeman, lfreeman@uic.edu. The application **deadline is Monday, November 3**.

If you have questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am eager to ensure a strong contingent of students from UIC and would be more than happy to meet with you to discuss the course.

Yours,

Lisa A. Freeman

Associate Professor and Associate Head

Department of English