

To learn more about the Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar, or to apply, please get in touch with the contact person on your campus. Applicants are required to submit an application form, an up-to-date college transcript, an essay (500 words, maximum) explaining why they want to take the course and what they hope to gain from it, and a recent research paper completed for a college course (preferably with the instructor's comments and grade). Individual universities may have additional requirements.

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The Newberry Library, an independent research library located on Chicago's near north side, has been free and open to the public since its founding in 1887. The Newberry's holdings number more than 1.5 million volumes, 15,000 linear feet of manuscript pages, and 600,000 maps. The collections concern the civilizations of Western Europe and the Americas from the late Middle Ages to the early twentieth century. For more information on the Newberry's holdings, visit www.newberry.org/core-collections.



Cover image: *Index librorum prohibitorum SSmi [i.e. Sanctissimi] D. N. Benedicti XIV Pontificis Maximi jussu recognitus, atque editus.*
Rome: Camera Apostolica, 1758. CASE Z 8121 .758

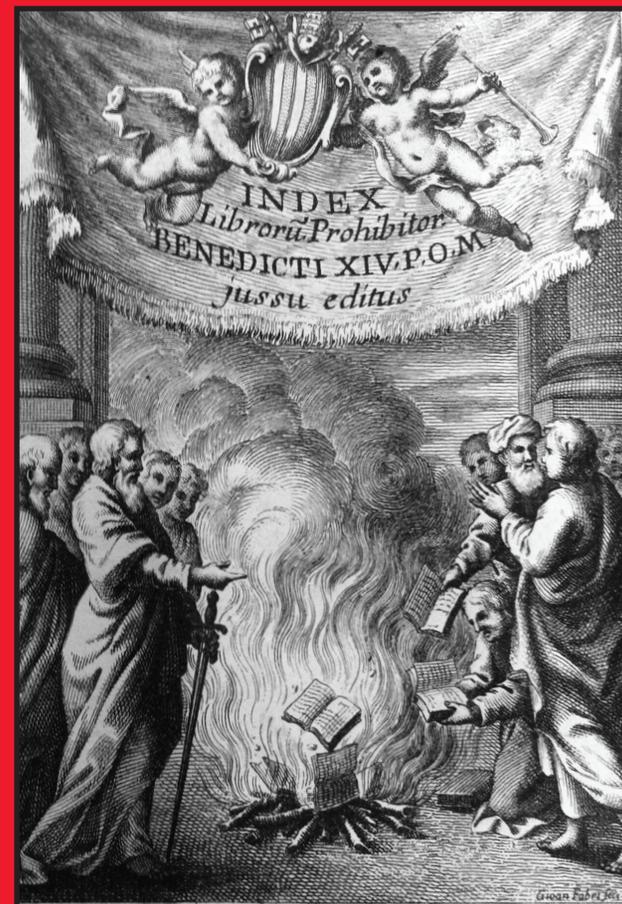
The Newberry Library

Research and Academic Programs
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www.newberry.org
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Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar 2018

CENSORSHIP AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN AN ERA OF RELIGIOUS CHANGE: Western Europe, 1450-1789



Multi eorum, qui fuerant curiosa
sectati, contulerunt Libros, et
combuserunt coram omnibus.
Act. Cap. XIX. V. 19.

The Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar

This seminar is a unique opportunity for Chicago-area undergraduates to explore the humanities at one of America's foremost research libraries. Taught by a team of instructors from sponsoring universities, the seminar is offered each year from January to May and carries the credit of two courses. Seminar topics change each year, but all are related to the Newberry's holdings. Each class is limited to 20 participants who pursue common assignments and individual research projects.

About the Instructors

GLEN CARMAN is Associate Professor and Director of the Spanish Program in the Department of Modern Languages at DePaul University. He specializes in the literature of early modern Spain and Latin America and is the author of *Rhetorical Conquests: Cortés, Gómara, and Renaissance Imperialism* (Purdue University Press, 2006). His current research focuses on the sixteenth-century debates over the wars of conquest.

VALENTINA TIKOFF is Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Programs in the History Department at DePaul University, where she teaches early modern European and Atlantic history. Her research focuses on gender, family, and youth during the eighteenth century, appearing most recently in *Who Writes for Black Children? African American Children's Literature before 1900* (eds. Katharine Capshaw and Anna Mae Duane, University of Minnesota Press, 2017), and *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* (forthcoming).

CENSORSHIP AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN AN ERA OF RELIGIOUS CHANGE: Western Europe, 1450-1789

January 16 through May 3, 2018, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-5 pm

The course will meet at the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL.

When Johannes Gutenberg introduced the printing press to Europe in the fifteenth century, he sparked an information revolution. The new technology accelerated the spread of ideas in Western culture and helped transform science, education, politics, and religion. Print culture played a key role in the expansion of the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century and in the myriad consequences that the Reformation unleashed. Since the press was inextricably linked to the spread of new ideas, it also had profound implications for the suppression of ideas and the regulation of the written word. The various editions of the *Index of Prohibited Books*—itself a printed book—is perhaps the best-known example of censorship in this era of religious turmoil, but it is not alone. Printers, guilds, monarchs, and other civic leaders—as well as Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish authorities—sought to control access to the printed word for economic, political, religious, and moral reasons. At the same time, this control was never absolute and usually involved multiple parties. Authors, artists, and printers employed a variety of strategies—from negotiation to subterfuge—to communicate their ideas through the mass dissemination that print afforded.

This seminar examines censorship and freedom of expression in early modern Western culture, from the beginnings of moveable-type printing in the second half of the fifteenth century through the late eighteenth century, when claims for freedom of the press became a rallying cry for intellectual and political movements. The rich collections of the Newberry Library are

exceptionally well suited to an exploration of this topic, from well-known cases of censorship (such as Luther and Galileo) to more obscure examples of religious and political radicalism. In the first half of the seminar, students will consider important scholarship and selected primary sources in the Newberry's collections. We will investigate the perspectives and roles of multiple players in the world of print culture, including author, printer, and censor; the history of the book and book production; the role of print culture in the development and spread of Renaissance humanism, religious movements, statecraft, philosophy, science, colonialism, and revolutionary causes; as well as the role of gender in both censorship and freedom of expression. In the second half of the seminar, each student will develop an original research project related to the seminar theme and based on materials held in the Newberry's collections. While students do not need to know a language other than English to take this course, those who have reading knowledge of other languages will have the opportunity to conduct research in those languages.

This seminar is linked to the Library's 2017-2018 theme *Religious Change, 1450-1700*, "a multidisciplinary project exploring how religion and print challenged authority, upended society, and made the medieval world modern."