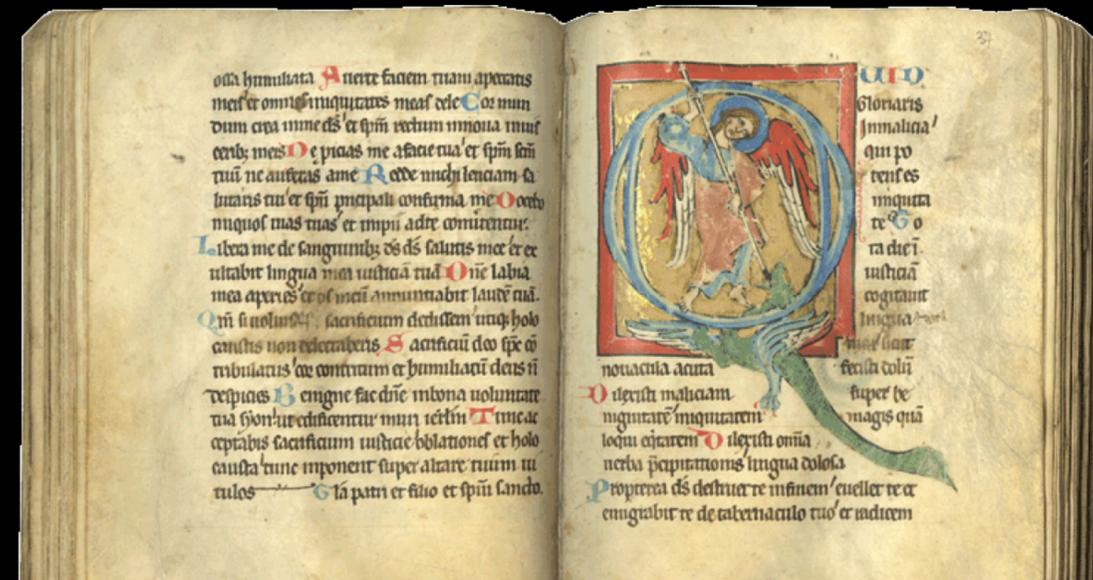
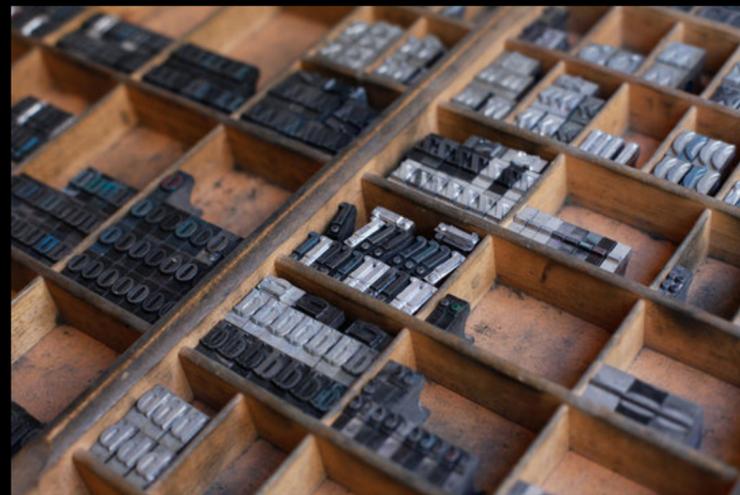


BOOKS!!

ECL 596: Professor Jessica Pressman
Fall 2025

Day 19: Workshopping



ADMIN

- QUESTION: Thursday in classroom for presentation/workshopping OR office hours?
- Final project due 12/14

From your blogs— what you still need to learn in order to build

- At this point, I still have some sources to read. I also need to look back on some of the sources we've read this year that discuss archives.

From your blogs— what you are **really** learning

- DEMREE: But this process of researching has allowed me to observe the scholarly context of the topic I'm discussing first....Eric Lott's *Love and Theft: Blackface Minstrelsy and the American Working Class*, felt particularly dense the first time I read it, but seeing how others summarize his findings made his work more comprehensible to me.

From your blogs— what you are **really** learning

- ALEXIS: With my final project, I've learned a lot about what it means to interpret an artifact. On my midterm, I wrote about the Ethiopian Magic Scrolls that we saw in special collections. I put a lot of time into my paper, but after reading Dr. Pressman's feedback, I realized that my paper wasn't specifically about one of the scrolls. As I've been working on my project, I've picked one specific scroll in special collections to focus on, instead of writing about all of them. But in doing so, I realized that it was up to me to figure out what to write. And it's been a little awkward. There is no outside source for this specific scroll. I had to figure out what it was that I was looking at, and it makes me feel a bit like a fraud. Are my interpretations of the object valid? I want to say no, that I'm not an expert in the field, but I'm still a researcher in my own way. I feel like I'm making stuff up, even with my own observations. I really haven't done anything like this before, and I'm glad to be doing it, but I definitely had to increase my confidence through this process.

From your blogs— what you are **really** learning

- ALIN: Because I am studying abroad, this project feels even more personal. I only brought a few books with me from Germany, and they have become small reminders of home. When I photograph my project book in different places, I see how it slowly collects pieces of my time here, almost like it is sharing this experience with me. I never paid attention to this before....
- Overall, this project is teaching me that books are not just things we read. They move with us, stay close to us, and hold small pieces of our lives without us realizing it. Working on this has made me appreciate those simple, everyday connections a lot more.

Workshop groups for today

History of a Press

Warren, Trinity, Avery,
Nina, JJ

Specific forms of book media:

Janesa: wax tablet
Alexis: Ethiopian healing scroll
Omar: marginalia
Allea: spines

Digital

Demree, Oz, Kaan,
Sierra

Creative Projects- books:

Alin, Raine, Jessica,
Dakota, Micaela

Poems

Vide, Tanya

Specific text/event

Jacob: "After Lorca"
Josue: Babel

Bio of a Book

Delinda, Kiersten, Mario

Take-aways?