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The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies



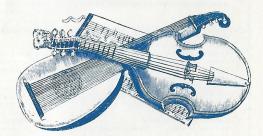
Seminar Program

The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies

A unique collaborative enterprise sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library and twelve universities in the Middle Atlantic region (American University, Catholic University of America, University of Delaware, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland, University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, Princeton University, University of Virginia, and West Virginia University), the Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies was founded in 1970 to promote advanced teaching and research in the humanities, Aided by support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Handrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Surdna Foundation, the Institute offers a growing interdisciplinary program of seminars, workshops, conferences, colloquia, and lectures.

The physical center of the Institute is the Folger Shakespeare Library, located just two blocks from the nation's Capitol and across the street from the Library of Congress. The Folger is preeminent in the world for its Shakespeare collection and second only to the British Library for its holdings of other English Renaissance books; it is also internationally recognized as a repository of materials in late medieval and early eighteenth-century English literature and history, Continental Renaissance literature, Reformation studies, early American cultural history, and English and American theatre history from the beginnings to the twentieth century. Scholars from throughout the world make use of Folger materials for research in fields as diverse as drama, music, philosophy, theology, and history of science, as well as work in such disciplines as textual analysis and literary criticism. Participants in Folger Institute seminars are provided access to the Library's collections, and they are also afforded opportunities to meet and talk with Folger staff members, readers, fellows, and resident scholars. The Library provides frequent social occasions in which a genuine community of interest may be fostered.

Folger Institute seminars meet in the conference room of the Folger or in the Folger Guest House (20 Third Street, S.E.). Enrollment is normally limited to twelve participants per seminar, with priority in admission accorded to advanced graduate students and post-doctoral scholars from sponsoring institutions. Participants from sponsoring institutions register free of charge; other participants are required to pay a registration fee of \$100. The Folger Institute does not directly award grades, credit, certificates, or degrees, but upon request at the end of each semester the Institute office issues letters to participants from sponsoring institutions indicating whether these participants have satisfactorily completed their seminar work. Institute seminars are conducted as symposia of mature scholars oriented toward common goals, rather than as formal graduate courses, and each participant is encouraged to develop his own research interests within the limits, broadly interpreted, of the general topic designated by the seminar leader.



A very limited number of Folger Institute fellowships are available to support participants in the seminars. Fellowships are awarded at the same time that admission decisions are made—normally during the semester preceding the seminars being applied for—by a Central Executive Committee consisting of one representative from each sponsoring institution. Seminar and fellowship applicants from sponsoring institutions are urged to get in touch with their campus representative before applying.

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FALL 1978 Seminars

MUSIC AND POETRY IN THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

Philip Brett

Mondays at 1:00 p.m. September 18-December 4

A study of the changing relationship of music and poetry from 1520 to 1620 offers insights into the nature of both arts at a particularly rich period of their development. The seminar will investigate early court songs, the mid-century partsong and the consort songs of Byrd, the madrigals of Morley, Wilbye, and Weelkes, and the lute songs of Dowland and Campion. (Students of literature with some musical knowledge will be welcome.)

Philip Brett is Associate Professor of Music at the University of California, Berkeley, where he directs the Collegium Musicum. He is general editor of The Byrd Edition (1976) and editor of several major works and collections of English Renaissance music. He is currently engaged on a study of the songs and anthems of William Byrd.

ANALYTICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY: THE PRINTED BOOK

Giles E. Dawson

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. September 19-December 5

The object of analytical bibliography is the knowledge of books as manufactured articles—what can be learned about a book's history and its text from the observation and interpretation of its characteristics. To understand such matters as printing-house procedures, participants in this seminar will examine early printed specimens and discuss them in light of suggested readings in modern secondary books and periodicals.

Giles E. Dawson is Professor Emeritus of English at Catholic University. Formedly Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library, he has taught, written, and lectured extensively on editing Renaissance texts. He is the author, with Laettia Yeandle, of Elizabethan Handwriting, 1500-1650. A Manual (1964)

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ATTITUDES TOWARD ADOLESCENCE

Patricia Meyer Spacks Fridays at 1:00 p.m. September 22-December 8

The proliferating novels and domestic dramas of eighteenth-century England frequently focus on late adolescents. In the same period, the burgeoning literature of good advice (about manners, morals, and education) often addresses the same age group. Using the perspectives of intellectual history and literary criticism, this seminar will examine these images of adolescence to determine their cultural significance and to formulate the methodology for defining relationships between the fantasies embodied in fiction and those of popular recentive.

Patricia Meyer Spacks is Professor of English at Wellesley College. She is the author of a number of books, including Imagining a Self (1976), The Female Imagination (1975), and An Argument of Images (1971).

SPRING 1979 Seminars

THEORIES OF REPRESENTATION: DIDEROT AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

Michael Fried

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. January 30-April 17

This seminar will explore the theory and criticism of painting and theatre from 1750 to 1800. The emphasis will be on Diderot, but texts by Rousseau, Lessing, Burke, and Reynolds will also be read. Texts under analysis will be related to the art of the time, and both texts and art will be read in the light of the other. A reading knowledge of French is required.

Michael Fried is Professor of Humanities and the History of Art, Humanities Center, Johns Hopkins University. The author of studies of theatricality in eighteenth-century French painting, he has lectured at the Hirshnorn Collection, the Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Museum of Modern Art.

RENAISSANCE PALEOGRAPHY IN ENGLAND

Laetitia Yeandle

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. January 31-April 18

This seminar, which is offered regularly by the Folger Institute, is designed to provide an introduction to English handwriting of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and to introduce participants to a wide range of documents of historical and literary interest. Those who are encountering textual problems in their own work will be encouraged to discuss them with the class.

Lactitia Yeandle is Curator of Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library. She is co-author, with Giles E. Dawson, of Elizabethan Handwriting, 1500-1650. A Manual (1960), and she is currently editing the text of Hooker's Tractates for the Folger Library Edition of The Works of Richard Hooker.

THE ORDERING OF MONTAIGNE'S ESSAIS

Donald M. Frame

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. February 1-April 19

After examining theories (such as those of Sayce and Butor) about the order in which chapters of Montaigne's Essais are arranged into books, the seminar will explore (with appropriate division of labor among participants) first the far richer literature concerning the ordering of material within individual chapters, and then finally that ordering itself.

Donald M. Frame is Moore Collegiate Professor of French at Columbia University. He has published numerous studies of Montaigne, including Montaigne's Discovery of Man: The Humanization of a Humanist (1955), Montaignes A Biography (1965), and Montaigne's "Essais": A Study (1969). He is editor of Montaigne: The Complete Works (1957).

SPRING 1979 Workshops

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: THE BEGINNINGS OF COMMERCIALIZED LEISURE IN ENGLAND 1680-1800

J. H. Plumb

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. March 20-29

This is a course of four sessions, each consisting of an introductory lecture and discussion. The course will study the growth of purposeful leisure in eighteenth-century England and of the institutions which helped to cater to leisure activities. The major subjects that will be dealt with are: the growth of communication (newspapers, libraries, book clubs), the country inn and travel, theatre and music, educational entertainment and sport.

J. H. Plumb is Master of Christ's College, Cambridge. A Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery, London, he is the author of numerous books, including Royal Heritage (1977), The Commercialisation of Leisure (1974), In the Light of History (1972), and The Death of the Past (1969).

THE THEATRICAL LIFE OF HAMLET

John Russell Brown

Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

This seminar will consider ways of studying the variety of theatrical life inherent in the text of the play. Critical questions, reference to theatrical history, supporting study of acting and of Elizabethan theatre practice, and analysis of original stage directions will all be relevant to the discussions. Sound recordings, films, and workshop-rehearsals with professional actors will also be considered. Sessions will be organized around the contributions of participants in the form of papers, reports, or practical demonstrations.

John Russell Brown is Professor of English at the University of Sussex and Associate Director of the National Theatre, London. He has published numerous books on Shakespeare, including *Free Shakespeare* (1974), and he has directed some dozen of Shakespeare's plays.

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