

The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies



1980-81 Seminar Program

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The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies Seminar Program 1980-81

*Supported in Part by a Grant from the
National Endowment for the Humanities*

A unique collaborative enterprise sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library and fifteen universities in the Middle Atlantic region (American University, Catholic University of America, University of Delaware, George Mason University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland-College Park, University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, Pennsylvania State University, Princeton University, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, 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 and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Institute offers a growing interdisciplinary program of seminars, workshops, symposia, 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.

Enrollment in Folger Institute Seminars 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.

Fellowships

The Folger Institute awards two kinds of fellowships to participants in its seminars. (1) Applicants from affiliated institutions are eligible to apply for fellowships which are awarded through the representatives on the Institute's Central Executive Committee. Applicants are urged to get in touch with their campus representative. These fellowships may also be used for seminars sponsored by the Newberry Library's Center for Renaissance Studies (see below). (2) Applicants from non-affiliated colleges and universities who hold the Ph.D. degree and are currently members of a teaching faculty are eligible for a limited number of "at-large" fellowships made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and should apply directly to the Folger Institute. These fellowships may be used only for Folger Institute seminars. Priority consideration will be given to applicants from geographical areas outside those represented by the Institute's affiliates.

The Newberry Library's Center for Renaissance Studies

The Folger Institute and the Center for Renaissance Studies enjoy a collaborative arrangement in which applicants from the Institute's affiliated institutions will be given priority consideration in admission to the Center's workshops and seminars. The Center will offer three kinds of seminars in 1980-81. (1) *Summer Institute*. The eight-week Summer Institute on the Archival Sciences in 1981 will focus on reading, transcribing, and editing fifteenth- to eighteenth-century English documents. Ten stipends of \$2,500 each will be awarded to full-time faculty members employed in two- or four-year colleges or universities in the United States. (2) *National Endowment for the Humanities Spring Seminars*. Beginning in 1981, the Center will offer two parallel Renaissance Studies seminars, one in the archival sciences and the other (an interdisciplinary seminar) in a related national field. The interdisciplinary seminar in spring 1981 will be on the topic "Matrimony and Patrimony in Early Modern Europe," and will be directed by Julius Kirshner of the University of Chicago. Harriet Lightman of the Newberry Library will direct a workshop in historiography and teaching methods. Three fellowships of \$6,000 each will be available to participants at the post-doctoral level. (3) *Graduate Seminars*. The Center will offer a series of graduate seminars in the fall and spring semesters, which will be open to post-doctoral fellows as well as to graduate students. For further information contact Harriet Lightman, Center for Renaissance Studies, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois 60610.

The Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies

During most if not all of the 1980-81 academic year, the Folger Shakespeare Library will be closed for renovation. 1980-81 Folger Institute Seminars will be held at the Library of Congress (First Street between East Capitol and Independence Avenue, S.E.), the National Gallery of Art (Constitution Avenue at Sixth Street, N.W.), Appalachian House (22 Third Street, S.E.), and Florida House (Second and East Capitol Streets, S.E.). Exact locations and room assignments for individual seminars will be announced later.

FALL 1980 SEMINARS

ANALYTICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Giles E. Dawson Mondays at 2:00 p.m.
September 15–December 8

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. An understanding of such matters as printing-house procedures is of profound importance for editors and students of Renaissance and eighteenth-century texts. In pursuit of that understanding, this seminar will examine early printed specimens and discuss them in the light of suggested readings in modern secondary books and periodicals.

Giles E. Dawson is Professor Emeritus of English at Catholic University, and former Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library. He is author, with Laetitia Yeandle, of *Elizabethan Handwriting, 1500-1650: A Manual* (1966), and is currently studying the history of minstrels and players in Sussex for publication in the series, *Records of Early English Drama*.

THE STRUCTURE OF SHAKESPEAREAN TRAGEDY

J. Leeds Barroll III Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
September 17–December 3

This seminar will approach the Shakespearean tragedy as art object. It will begin with a survey of the normative possibilities inherent in the aesthetic premises of Roman and medieval culture as received

in Renaissance England. This survey will be followed by an investigation of the manner in which the artist's concepts of personality, his values, and the ideas which he argues interact with the formal requirements of tragedy as a dramatic presentation.

J. Leeds Barroll is Professor of English at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He has published extensively on Shakespearean drama, including *Artificial Persons* (1974), and is editor and originator of *Shakespeare Studies*. He was Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Professor of English Literature at the University of Pittsburgh in 1978-79, and is currently completing a book-length study of Shakespearean tragedy.

THE RENAISSANCE EMBLEM: GENESIS AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Virginia W. Callahan Tuesdays and Thursdays
William S. Heckscher at 1:00 p.m.
November 4–December 11

This seminar will concentrate on the works of two emblematisers, Andrea Alciati and Geofroy Tory, in particular Tory's *Epitaphs*, a set of seven brief love stories often considered to be emblems *avant la lettre*. The seminar will also consider a number of Alciati's two hundred and twelve emblems, ranging in content from personal to political and from moral to religious, which appeared in the author's lifetime in forty-seven editions. Knowledge of foreign languages is not required.

William S. Heckscher, an Emeritus of Duke University and the University of Utrecht, presently serves as Consultant in the Department of Rare Books, Princeton University Library. Virginia W. Callahan is Professor Emerita of Classical Languages at Howard University and author of *Types of Rulers in the Plays of Aeschylus*. Professors Heckscher and Callahan are collaborating on a critical edition and translation (with extensive commentary) of Andrea Alciati's *Book of Emblems*.

MADNESS AND FOLLY IN THE RENAISSANCE

H.C. Erik Midelfort Fridays at 1:00 p.m.
September 19–December 5

This seminar will investigate the moral, medical, theological, and literary problem of madness in Renaissance Europe. Instead of treating these topics separately, the course will examine the connections between court fools and wise fools, demon possession and melancholy, literary form and social reality. Examples will be drawn from Italy, France, Germany, and England, and common reading will include Sebastian Brant, Erasmus, Johann Weyer, and Robert Burton.

H.C. Erik Midelfort is Associate Professor of History at the University of Virginia. In addition to numerous articles on sixteenth-century witchcraft, he is author of *Witch Hunting in Southwestern Germany, 1562-1684* (1972). He is currently working on a history of madness in sixteenth-century Germany.



SPRING 1981 SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

ENGLISH DRAMA IN ITS THEATRES, 1660-1710

Robert D. Hume Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
February 25 — May 13

This seminar will attempt to shed interpretive light on the playtexts by studying the original circumstances of performance. The best plays of Dryden, Wycherley, Congreve, Vanbrugh, and Farquhar (among others) have a wide variety of valid interpretive possibilities, historical and ahistorical. The seminar will make use of contemporary commentary, genre history, and analysis of particular theatre buildings and seventeenth-century casts in an attempt to reconstruct the original interpretation and staging of a number of major plays.

Robert D. Hume is Professor of English at Pennsylvania State University and author of *Dryden's Criticism* (1970) and *The Development of English Drama in the Late Seventeenth Century* (1976). He is editor of the forthcoming volume of essays, *The London Theatre World, 1660-1800*, and is currently working on a revision of the two-volume *The London Stage 1660-1800*.

PASTORAL AND ROMANCE IN STUART ENGLAND

Annabel M. Patterson Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.
February 5–April 23

Beginning with Sidney's *Arcadia* and its role in Stuart culture, this seminar will explore the political implications of two related genres, pastoral and romance, in the seventeenth century. Topics for special consideration will be: literary arcadianism and foreign policy; the "relevance" of Virgil's *Elogues*; historical romances *a claf*; and generic revolution, especially in Milton and Marvell.

Annabel M. Patterson is Professor of English at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her publications include: *Hermogenes and the Renaissance: Seven Ideas of Style* (1970) and *Marvell and the Civic Crown* (1978). She is currently completing a study of *Politics and Literary Theory in the Seventeenth Century*.

THE INGENIOUS CONTRYMAN IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

Joan Thirsk Tuesdays and Thursdays
at 1:00 p.m.
March 24–April 2

This workshop will explore the problems of English rural society, created by the unaccustomed abundance and cheapness of grain, which obliged the farming community to look elsewhere for more rewarding sources of livelihood. It will trace the many ingenious solutions arrived at in agriculture, horticulture, and the handicraft industry, and consider the value of this experience in nurturing the agricultural and industrial revolutions of the eighteenth century.

Joan Thirsk is Reader in Economic History at the University of Oxford and has written extensively on English farming history, rural industries, and more recently, the consumer revolution of the early modern period. Book-length studies include *Seventeenth-Century Economic Documents* (1972) and *The Restoration* (1976).

THE EARLY ENLIGHTENMENT IN FRANCE

Robert Shackleton Mondays and Wednesdays
at 1:00 p.m.
April 6–22

After an examination of literature and thought in the last years of Louis XIV, this workshop will study French intellectual activity from 1715 to 1734, with

particular reference to the early works of Montesquieu and Voltaire and the clandestine writings of the period.

Robert Shackleton is Marshal Foch Professor of French Literature at the University of Oxford and Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He is author of *Montesquieu, A Critical Biography*, and has published widely on French literature. He is the former Librarian of the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, and is currently President of the International Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies.

SPENSERIAN ECHOES

John Hollander Wednesdays and Fridays
at 2:00 p.m.
April 24–May 13

This workshop will consider the allusive and influential presence of Spenser's poetry — *The Faerie Queene* as well as some of the minor poems — in the work of later writers from Milton to Hawthorne and Melville. The discussion and readings will work toward a redefinition of the idea of Spenser as "the poets' poet," and a reconsideration of various ways in which his originality was acknowledged by some of his deepest poetic readers. It will also focus on the relations between the long poem and prose romance, as well as aiming at an overview of the significance of Spenser in our own time.

John Hollander is a poet and Professor of English at Yale University. His critical studies include *The Untuning of the Sky* (1961), *Vision and Resonance* (1976), and the forthcoming *The Figure of Echo*. His most recent volumes of poetry include *Spectral Emanations* (1978) and *Blue Wine* (1979).

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

American University Pierre Han (Literature)
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General inquiries and requests for admission and fellowship application forms should be directed to members of the Central Executive Committee or to the Folger Institute office at the Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone (202) 546-8877.

The deadline for applications for the fall semester is June 1, 1980. The deadline for the spring semester is December 1, 1980.