Book and Digital Media Studies

Information meeting

Peter Verhaar

2 november 2018

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OM TE BEGINNEN, HOE OPENEN WE EEN BOEK?
Aim of the Programme

- Students develop a good knowledge and understanding of the specific nature of the different historical and contemporary media for textual transmission and their meaning for the cultural, political, socio-economic and commercial exchange in society.
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Book and Digital Media Studies

- One-year MA programme
- Taught in English
- Introductory, elective, and advanced courses on book history (manuscript and print), modern publishing, library management, digital media, textual editing, typography, and cultural heritage.
Programme 2018-2019

First semester

6 introductory courses
(5 ects; elective*):
Book History 1
Digital Media Technology
New Media and Society
Bridging Theory and Practice
The Manuscript Book in the West
The Library*
Textual Form and Content*
The Islamic Book*

Total 30 ects

Second semester

2 advanced courses
(5 ects; elective*):
Publishing Studies*
Book History 2*
Digital Access to Cultural Heritage*
Digital Text and Data Processing*
+
MA Thesis (20 ects)

Total 30 ects
Staff

- Prof. Paul Hoftijzer
- Fleur Praal MA
- Dr. Peter Verhaar
- Dr. Irene O’Daley
- Prof. Adriaan van der Weel
- External lecturers
The Manuscript Book in the West

- An introduction to the history and development of the Western manuscript book
- Scribal habits, practices of readers, physical features of medieval books
- Practical classes in the University Library
Book History

- The history of the printed book in the West.
- Central themes include the transition from manuscript to print, censorship, the development of copyright, historical developments in book production and distribution.
New Media and Society

- The implications of communication technologies
- A philosophical perspective on the implications of the use of specific media
- Salient properties of print are compared to the salient properties of digital media
Digital Media Technology

- Practical introduction to the technologies that are used most commonly in the publishing industry and in the heritage sector
- Classes on XML encoding, programming in XSLT and relational database theory
Specialisations

- Publishing Studies
- Book History 2
- Digital Access to Cultural Heritage
- Digital Text and Data Processing
Facilities
Leiden University Libraries
Bibliotheca Thysiana

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Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Museum Meermanno

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Koninklijke E.J. Brill
Press Room
Extracurricular activities
Frankfurt Buchmesse

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Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp
Guest Lectures: Irma Boom et al.
EXPLORING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE BOOK

http://www.txtleiden.org/
Leiden-Münster Seminar
Placements

Students are encouraged to do a placement (20 ects), but only after the completion of their MA thesis and on an extracurricular basis. Placements are available at libraries, publishing houses, museums, bookshops, government institutions, etc.
Recent theses

- Sophie Boisvert-Hearn, *The Future of the Scholarly Monograph in the Humanities: Open and enhanced*.
- Elli Bleeker, *On Reading in the Digital Age: Establishing the Paradigms in a Hyperbolical Discussion*. [Online version](#).
- Anastasia Dorofeeva, *Towards Digital Humanities Tool Criticism*. [Online version](#).
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Job and Career Perspectives

- Publishing (e.g. Brill, Elsevier)
- Libraries / Special Collections (e.g. Leiden University Library, Koninklijke Bibliotheek)
- Booktrade
- Academic research
- ICT
- Communication / Teaching / Training
- Journalism
Book and Digital Media Studies (MA)

The master’s programme in Book and Digital Media Studies introduces you to the history of the written and printed word, and to theories and practices of publishing as well as textual media.

Part of
Media Studies (MA)

Questions?