

Information Guide | Philadelphia

Welcome to Rare Book School!

FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS, the bibliographical community has been supported and nourished by the work of Rare Book School (RBS). From its tentative beginnings at Columbia University, the School has educated two generations of librarians, collectors, academics, conservators, and booksellers, producing a network of loyal alumni, talented faculty, and dedicated friends around the globe. In the process, it has also earned a reputation as the world's premier institution for the study of bibliography and book history. We are delighted that you will soon be a part of that distinguished tradition, and of our School's promising future. On behalf of all of us here at RBS, welcome to Philadelphia!

This information guide should answer most of your questions about transportation, housing, and other practical matters. Upon arrival, you'll also receive a copy of the *Students' Vade Mecum* with additional information to ensure that your stay is as productive and enjoyable as possible. (N.B. Please bring the present guide with you when you come to RBS; it contains valuable information not repeated in the *Vade Mecum*.) In the meantime, we eagerly await your arrival, and look forward to another wonderful year!

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About Philadelphia



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, is a city of more than one and a half million, located at the confluence of the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers on land originally purchased from the Lenape. A

hub for North American cultural, artistic, and intellectual life for more than three hundred years, the city also boasts a central place in the history of print: Benjamin Franklin—arguably the most influential printer in early America—owned and operated various presses here during the eighteenth century.

This year, Rare Book School is excited to contribute to this storied bibliographical history with three courses taught at two exceptional satellite locations. At the Library Company of Philadelphia (1314 Locust Street; 215-546-3181), James N. Green offers “The History of the Book in America, c.1700–1830,” a grand tour of the production, distribution, and reception of printed materials in colonial and early national America. Meanwhile, the University of Pennsylvania’s Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books, and Manuscripts (3420 Walnut Street, 6th floor; 215-898-7088) hosts “The Medieval Manuscript in the Twenty-First Century,” taught by Will Noel and Dot Porter, and a new course, “The Bible and Histories of Reading,” taught by Peter Stallybrass.

We’re excited that you’ve decided to join us in Philadelphia this summer, and we want to do all we can to deliver an exceptional educational experience. If you have any questions about the city, or about RBS generally, please email us at rbsprograms.virginia.edu.

The RBS Week

All RBS students are expected to be in attendance and on time for all regularly scheduled classes, labs, and field trips. This is to ensure the quality and community of RBS as a school, and we insist that participants attend all sessions of their courses, unless presented with the most extraordinary of circumstances. Practically speaking, this involves a full-time commitment of 5–6:45 PM Sunday, 8:30 AM–5 PM Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 AM–4 PM Friday. Please make your travel plans accordingly!

SUNDAY, 6 pm **Registration Dinner**

RBS students, faculty, and staff will convene at La Fontana Della Citta (1701 Spruce Street) for registration and dinner. Students will receive a copy of the *Student's Vade Mecum* and a name badge. For this family-style meal, we ask that individuals cover most of the food costs for a three-course, prix fixe meal. (RBS will cover a portion of the total costs.)

Late arrival: We strongly suggest attending the Sunday night registration, but if you are unable to make it, please email us (rbsprograms@virginia.edu) and let us know. If you do not attend, you will need to register at your course location at 9 AM sharp on Monday morning.

MONDAY, 8 am **Daily Breakfast**

Students should arrange to have breakfast on their own each day prior to arriving at the main entrances of the Van Pelt Library or the Library Company of Philadelphia, just before 9 AM each morning.

9 am* **Final Registration**

Registration for those not in attendance Sunday evening. If necessary, this is also the last good opportunity to obtain wireless connection information from the library staff. (N.B. M-95 requires a laptop.)

9–10:30 am* **First Period**

Class will take place in the Cusack Family Seminar Room, Kislak Center, 6th floor, Van Pelt Library, or at the Logan Room at LCP.

10:30–11 am **Morning Break**

Coffee, tea, juice, and other light refreshments.

11 am–12:30 pm* **Second Period**

12:30–2 pm **Lunch Break**

Classes break for lunch. There are several restaurants in the neighborhoods surrounding the University of Pennsylvania and the Library Company. Students will find a short list at the end of this guide.

2–3:30 pm* **Third Period**

3:40–4 pm **Afternoon Break**

Coffee, tea, and other light refreshments.

4–5:30 pm* **Fourth Period**

TUESDAY through THURSDAY

9–10:30 am* **First Period**

10:30–11 am **Morning Break**

Coffee, tea, juice, and other light refreshments.

11 am–12:30 pm* **Second Period**

12:30–2 pm **Lunch Break**

2–3:30 pm* **Third Period**

3:40–4 pm **Afternoon Break**

Coffee, tea, and other light refreshments.

4–5:30 pm* **Fourth Period**

* *Required activities are noted by asterisk*

The RBS Week (continued)

Evening Activity

LECTURE 5:30 pm

Rare Book School students and faculty are invited to attend an evening lecture at the Class of 1978 Pavilion, located on the 6th floor of the Van Pelt Library. A wine and cheese reception will follow. The lecture and reception are free and open to the public.

2:30–4:15 pm* **Third Period**

4:15 pm* **Course Evaluations**

Students receive course completion certificates, and fill out RBS course evaluations.

4:30–6:30 pm **Farewell Reception**

Friday afternoon classes will break by 4:30 PM for a final reception on the Bennett-Gerschwind Terrace at the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library. H-70 students will break early, and bus over to UPenn.

FRIDAY, 9–10:30 am* **First Period**

10:30–11 am **Morning Break**

11 am–12:30 pm* **Second Period**

12:30–2:30 pm **Long Lunch**

Note the longer lunch break. By tradition, though not compulsion, students take their instructors to a group lunch on Friday; consult the *Student's Vade Mecum* for restaurants that can accommodate large parties. Advance reservations are strongly recommended.

** Required activities are noted by asterisk*

Before You Arrive

Reading Lists

All RBS courses have advance reading lists or assignments that RBS instructors expect their students to complete before they arrive. These are outlined at www.rarebookschool.org/reading/.

Students should come to class prepared. Those who have trouble locating required readings might try obtaining them through interlibrary loan (ILL), from used or antiquarian booksellers through the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (ABAA), or online via www.bookfinder.com or www.vialibri.net.

Arrival & Departure Logistics

When thinking about your transportation arrangements, please remember that staying over Friday night after the last day of class can be an excellent idea, if you can swing it. Early-evening ground and air travel is seldom much fun anywhere, but it can be especially difficult in a city the size of Philadelphia. Arriving a day early may also be a good idea, as it can provide an opportunity to settle in, overcome jet lag, &c. RBS first-timers are often surprised by the intensity of the experience, so be sure to get some sleep before classes start!

Problems

Please let one or another of us know if you encounter any problems on any front. If such problems occur before you arrive, email (rbsprograms@virginia.edu) or telephone us (434-924-8851, 8:30 AM–5 PM; voice-mail after hours).

Transportation

Getting to Philadelphia

Philadelphia is well served by its international airport (PHL), which is directly connected to both Center City and the UPenn campus by SEPTA's Airport line (<http://www.septa.org/maps/pdf/click-map.pdf>). Another, and possibly better, option is to take the Lady Liberty Shuttle (www.ladylibertyshuttle.com), which offers direct service from the airport to either location (\$10/person).

As an alternative to air travel, remember that Philadelphia's 30th Street Station (located less than a mile from the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center and about one and a half miles from the Library Company) sits along Amtrak's Northeast Regional, Cardinal/Hoosier, Silver Service/Palmetto, and Acela Express routes. For details, visit Amtrak's website, or call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

Getting to Your Course

Kislak Center

The Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books, and Manuscripts is located on the sixth floor of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, in the heart of the UPenn campus. Its main entrance is located on Locust Walk between 34th and 36th Streets.

The Library Company of Philadelphia

The Library Company of Philadelphia is located at 1314 Locust Street in Center City. The course will be held in the Logan Room, which is just off the entrance of the lobby.

Accommodations

The most inexpensive lodgings—and the most convenient for those attending M-95 or H-105—are available through UPenn's Conference Services (215-898-9319; Mon–Fri, 9 AM–5 PM), which offers short-term summer housing in the UPenn dormitories. For \$45.71/night (plus 15.5% occupancy tax), RBS students can stay in a private bedroom with a shared bath. Each bedroom contains a desk, a dresser, and an *extra-long twin mattress*—an important detail, given that linens are not provided. (While a linen set may be purchased on-site for \$99 plus tax, you would almost certainly be better off bringing your own.) To request housing, visit the Program Costs page on the RBS website, and click on the link to “UPenn Conference Services,” or visit tinyurl.com/rbsupenn2015/. All students interested in staying at UPenn require a sponsorship letter, which RBS will be happy to provide (email rbsprograms@virginia.edu to request the letter).

If you prefer bed-and-breakfast accommodations, visit bedandbreakfast.com/philadelphia-pennsylvania.html.

Hotels in University City

Students attending courses at UPenn have a variety of lodging options, including a number of conveniently located hotels. RBS has reserved blocks of rooms at two of these, the Homewood Suites by Hilton (4109 Walnut Street; 215-382-1111; \$159/night plus tax), and the Inn at Penn, which is also a Hilton property (3600 Sansom Street; 215-222-0200; \$169/night plus tax). Don't forget to mention that you are with Rare Book School to get the discounted rates quoted above.

Hotels in Center City

For students in H-70, we have set aside discounted rooms at two hotels, each located within two blocks of the Library Company: the Holiday Inn Express Midtown (1305 Walnut Street; 215-735-9300; \$134/night plus tax) and Rodeway Inn Center City (1208 Walnut Street; 215-546-7000; \$117/night plus tax). Again, don't forget to mention “Rare Book School” to secure these rates.

Advance Advices

What to Bring

At RBS, dress is business casual for all events. Summers in Philadelphia are generally hot and humid, but the weather can fluctuate wildly: it can be 75 degrees one day, and 100 degrees the next. The rooms we use at both locations tend to maintain a cool temperature, so if you chill easily under air-conditioning, you should certainly bring a sweater. In general, a light rain jacket or umbrella is also a good idea.

RBS participants are encouraged to come to class prepared, and are required to be on time. Bring a watch. If you wish to take notes, plan accordingly. Pencils, paper, and other supplies are available at nearby convenience stores. As the workbook for M-95 will be provided electronically, students attending this course will be required to bring a laptop to class.

Before leaving home, check both your course homepage and its reading list for specific instructions on what to bring. (It is not, for instance, always necessary to bring copies of your advance reading.) Other inside tips on what to bring can be found in the previous year's course evaluations, also available on the course website.

Incoming Phone Messages and Mail

Phone messages can probably be left for you most easily at your hotel or bed-and-breakfast. Mail and non-emergency telephone message coming into the Kislak Center or the LCP will be delivered to students in class.

Pharmacies & Medical Facilities

The nearest pharmacy to the UPenn Libraries is a CVS (215-222-0829; Su-Tu, 7-12 AM; W-Sa, 7 AM-11 PM.) located at 3925 Walnut Street, a ten-minute walk west from the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center.

The most convenient emergency room is at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, located at 3400 Spruce Street, less than a half mile from the UPenn Libraries (non-emergency phone: 212-662-4000).

For those in Center City, a Walgreens is located one block east of the Library Company, at 1227 Locust Street (215-772-2772; M-F, 9 AM-6 PM; closed Su-Sa).

Guests

You are welcome to invite guests to attend the Friday afternoon reception.

Privacy

RBS publishes a list of its participating students in the *Student's Vade Mecum*. If you do not want your name, work information, or email address to appear there, please indicate this in your myRBS profile.

Lost & Found

If you lose something in Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, please note that valuable items are handled differently than non-valuable items. Wallets, cell phones, and similar valuable belongings are turned in to the Library Business Office on the second floor, Room 240, and can be picked up there Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5 PM. If the lost item includes any identifying information, staff from the Business Office will attempt to contact you directly.

Articles of clothing, books, and similar non-valuable items are turned in at the Rosengarten Reserve Desk in the Goldstein Undergraduate Study Center and held there one day before being moved to a secure area for two weeks. Please call 215-546-3181, or visit the Reserve Desk on the ground floor.

If you lose an item at LCP, check the front desk, or call the main number at 215-546-3181.

Problems

If you encounter problems with tuition payments, contact RBS Accounting Specialist Michael Taylor at 434-243-2920, or by email: michael.taylor@virginia.edu. Should problems arise during your course, please bring your concerns to the faculty or to an RBS staff member.

Laptops

The workbook for M-95 will be distributed electronically, and students will need to bring either laptops or tablets to class. Secure accommodations will be provided for all electronics. Laptops are not necessary for H-70 or for H-105, but are allowed.

Weekend Restaurant Guide

There are a number of good and/or interesting restaurants in Philadelphia, including excellent food trucks in the vicinity of both the UPenn Libraries and the Library Company (see pennfoodtrucks.com for details). We hope the list below will give you some ideas to get you started. For a more extensive listing of restaurants within walking distance of your course, consult the *Student's Vade Mecum*. For a complete and detailed discussion of local restaurants, purchase a copy of the Zagat survey of Philadelphia restaurants.

Near UPenn

BABY BLUES. 3402 Sansom Street (215-222-4444). Su-W, 11:30 AM-10 PM; Th-Sa, 11:30 AM-11 PM. \$10-30.

DELICIAS AREPAS TRUCK. Parked at either the corner of 35th & Market, or the corner of 40th & Locust. Latin food. Daily, 11 AM-2:30 PM. Entrees under \$10.

DOC MAGROGAN'S OYSTER HOUSE 3432 Sansom Street (215-382-3474). M-Tu, 11:30 AM-10 PM; W-F, 11:30 AM-12 AM; Sa, 11 AM-1 AM; Su, 11 AM-9 PM. (Kitchen closes at 10 PM.) Entrees under \$10.

PATTAYA THAI CUISINE. 4006 Chestnut Street (215-387-8533). M-Th, 11 AM-9:30 PM; F-Sa, 5-10:30 PM; Su, 5-9:30 PM. \$10-15.

MAGIC CARPET FOOD TRUCK. 34th and Walnut Streets, between the Jaffe Building and Meyerson Hall; also Spruce Street, between 35th and 36th. Delicious vegetarian international food. M-F, 11 AM-3 PM; Entrees under \$10.

NEW DECK TAVERN. 3408 Sansom Street (215-386-4600). Irish pub with salads, sandwiches, burgers, and traditional Irish dishes. Open daily, 11 AM-2 AM. UNDER \$10.

HAN DYNASTY. 3711 Market Street (215-222-3711). Szechuan specialties, as hot as you can handle. M-F, 11:20 AM-10 PM; Su-Sa, 11:30 AM-10:30 PM. Entrees under \$15.

SABRINA'S CAFE. 227 North 34th Street (215-222-1022). Soups, salads, and sandwiches; BYOB. T-Th, 8 AM-9 PM; F-Sa, 8 AM-10 PM. \$10-15.

SANG KEE NOODLE HOUSE. 3549 Chestnut Street (215-387-8808). Su-Th, 11:30 AM-10:30 PM; F-Sa, 11:30 AM-11:30 PM. Entrees \$10-15.

WHITE DOG CAFE. 3420 Sansom Street (215-386-9224). Local, seasonal ingredients from sustainable farms. M-F, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM & 5-10 PM; Sa-Su, 10 AM-2:30 PM & 5-10 PM. Entrees \$10-30.

In Center City

FIVE GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES. 1527 Chestnut Street (215-972-1375). The rapidly expanding DC burger chain serves up classic sliders, delicious fries, and free peanuts. Daily, 11 AM-10 PM. Under \$10.

GREEN EGGS CAFE. 212 South 13th Street (267-861-0314). Sustainable, locally sources sandwiches and brunch food. Daily, 8 AM-4 PM. \$10-15.

THE TAVERN. 243 South Camac Street (215-545-1102). Gourmet burgers, sandwiches, and eccentric snacks. W-M, 6 PM-2 AM (closed Tu). \$10-15.

NOMAD PIZZA. 611 South 7th Street (215-238-0900). Rustic pizzas with local ingredients. Tu-Th, 5-10 PM; F-Sa, 12-11 PM, Su, 12-9 PM. \$10-20.

South of Center City

GENO'S STEAKS. South 9th Street (215-389-0659). Founded in 1966, Geno's competes with Pat's (below) for the best cheesecake in town. Open 24/7. Under \$10.

PAT'S KING OF STEAKS. 1237 East Passyunk Avenue (215-468-1546). The original home of the steak sandwich. Across the street from Geno's; Pat chops his meat, Geno doesn't. Open 24/7. Under \$10.