Welcome to Rare Book School!

FOR OVER FORTY 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 several 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. We look forward to welcoming you to Chapel Hill for your Rare Book School course.

This Information Guide will provide general information about what to expect during your course week. More detailed information about accommodations in Chapel Hill, including UNC dorms, will be sent to you soon. We thank you for your patience as we work to finalize this information. Upon arrival, you’ll receive a copy of the Student’s 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 take your RBS course; it contains valuable information not repeated in the Vade Mecum.) We eagerly await your arrival, and look forward to another wonderful session!

RBS in Chapel Hill

CHAPEL HILL, founded in 1793, is the home of North Carolina’s first state university. Chapel Hill offers a unique blend of musical, artistic, and academic history.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which was founded in 1789, holds significance as the first public university in the United States. UNC’s Wilson Special Collections Library houses a variety of interesting collections such as the Southern Folklife Collection. UNC is also home to the Stone Center Library for Black Culture and History. Other attractions in the area include the North Carolina Botanical Gardens, the Ackland Art Museum, and the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center.

This year, Chapel Hill will host the Rare Book School course: “Introduction to Audiovisual Archives Management” taught by Erica Titkemeyer, Associate Head of Repository Services for UNC Libraries, and Steve Weiss, Interim Music Librarian for the UNC Music Library and Curator of UNC Chapel Hill Library’s Southern Folklife Collection.

We’re excited that you’ve decided to join us in Chapel Hill this summer, and we want to do all we can to deliver an exceptional educational experience. If you have any questions about the course, 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 one-and-a-half hours on Sunday evening, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Friday. Please make your travel plans accordingly!

**SUNDAY, 6–7:30 p.m. Opening Reception**

RBS students will convene for registration and a meal (location TBA). Once there, all students will receive a copy of the *Student’s Vade Mecum* and a name badge.

N.B. If you plan to attend this event, RSVP by email (rbsprograms@virginia.edu) no later than 26 May.

*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 the Wilson Library at 8:50 a.m. sharp on Monday morning.

**MONDAY through THURSDAY**

8:50 a.m.* Registration (Monday Only)

RBS students will convene for registration in the lobby of Wilson Library, outside room 504, where all students will receive a copy of the *Student’s Vade Mecum* and a name tag.

9–10 a.m.* First Period

Class will meet in room 504 of the Wilson Library.

10–10:30 a.m. Morning Break

Light refreshments will be provided in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room in the Wilson Library.

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.* Second Period

12–1:30 p.m. Lunch

Class breaks for lunch. There are several restaurants within walking distance of the library.

1:30–3 p.m.* Third Period

3–3:30 p.m. Afternoon Break

Light refreshments will be provided in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room.

3:30–5 p.m.* Fourth Period

**FRIDAY**

9–10:30 a.m.* First Period

Class will meet in room 504 of the Wilson Library.

10:30–11 a.m. Morning Break

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.* Second Period

12:30–2:30 p.m. Lunch

Class breaks for a long lunch. By tradition, students take their instructor to a group lunch on Friday (you are not obligated to attend). Advance reservations are strongly recommended.

2:30–3:40 p.m.* Third Period

3:40–4 p.m.* Course Evaluations

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

Friday, 4:15–6 p.m. Closing Reception

RBS will host a closing reception (location TBA). Drinks and hors d’oeuvres will be provided.

*Required activities are noted by asterisk*
Before you arrive

Reading Lists
Most 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 sites such as 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. 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 class starts!

Problems
Please let us know if you encounter problems on any front. If such problems occur before you arrive, email (rbsprograms@virginia.edu) or telephone us (434-924-8851, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; voicemail after hours). If you encounter issues with tuition payments, contact RBS Accounting Specialist Michael Taylor at 434-243-2920, or by email (michael.taylor@virginia.edu).

Should any difficulties arise during the course, please bring your concerns to a faculty member, an RBS staff member on site, or contact us at Rare Book School.

Accommodations
RBS is currently finalizing a dormitory option for students at UNC this summer. We will share the final information with you once it’s available. Please reach out to rbsprograms@virginia.edu for more details.

There are several hotel options within one mile of the Wilson Library where class will be held. The Carolina Inn (211 Pittsboro St.), Graduate Chapel Hill (311 W Franklin St.), and AC Hotel by Hilton (214 W Rosemary St.) are among the closest, with a Hampton Inn (370 E Main St., Unit 100, Carrboro, NC) about 1.3 miles away by foot. For additional area hotels that would require a car or public transportation to reach campus, visit https://www.visitchapelhill.org/.
Transportation

Air Travel
The closest airport to UNC is Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU), located 16 miles east of UNC (https://www.rdu.com). Alternative options include Piedmont Triad International Airport (https://flyfrompti.com) located approximately an hour from UNC and Charlotte Douglas International Airport (https://www.cltairport.com), approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes from UNC.

Driving to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The main highway into UNC is Interstate 40 / I-40. From Raleigh, one should follow I-40 W until Exit 273A. Another option would be for travelers to take US 15 / US 501 to travel towards campus. From Durham, one would head south on US 15 toward Exit 106.

Taking the Train
The two closest Amtrak stations include Durham (601 W. Main St; 919-956-7932) and Raleigh (510 West Martin Street; 919-833-7594). Durham Station is located 14 miles from UNC and Raleigh Union Station is 27 miles from UNC. From these stations, one can either use GoRaleigh (https://goraleigh.org) to find a bus route, order an Uber/Lyft, or find another means to travel the remaining distance to your accommodations.

Advance Advices
What to Bring
At RBS, dress is business casual for all events. Summer in Chapel Hill can range from mild to warm, with average temperatures ranging from 88 degrees Fahrenheit in the daytime to 66 degrees at night. With these temperatures and classroom comfort in mind, please pack appropriately. In general, bringing comfortable shoes and an umbrella is also a good idea.

RBS participants are expected 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. Before leaving home, check the course description and the reading list on the RBS website for specific instructions on what to bring. (It is not, for instance, always necessary to bring copies of your advance reading.)

Pharmacies & Medical Facilities
The nearest pharmacy is a CVS located at 143 W Franklin St, Ste 120 (919-929-1616). The Official Store of the University of North Carolina also sells medical and personal sundries and is located at 207 South Road CB# 1530 (919-962-5066). For 24-hour service, visit the CVS located at 1718 N Fordham Blvd (919-942-5125). This location is approximately a 7-minute drive from UNC’s campus. The nearest hospital emergency room is the UNC Hospitals Emergency Department located at 101 Manning Drive (984-974-4721). The Emergency Department is located in the basement. As always, if you need immediate assistance, dial 911.