

M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources



Informational Session
25 October, 2023

About the Fellowship

Mr. Michael Lang's goal in creating this fellowship program is to reanimate humanities teaching by equipping educators with the skills to enlarge their students' historical sensibilities through bibliographically informed instruction with original historical sources.

In particular, humanities teaching at liberal arts colleges and small universities.

Inculcate wonder!



The Fellowship Includes

- Two Rare Book School Courses
 - One course in each year of the two-year program (more on this in a minute)
 - Tuition is waived
- Annual stipend of \$1500 for travel, housing, and food
- Matching funds of up to \$1000 each year of the Fellowship program
 - Matched by the Fellow's home institution
 - Build the book-historical community at home institution
 - Examples: teaching collection, vitrines for exhibition space, speaker series, symposium, etc.
 - Projects may be undertaken with other Lang Fellows

Building Community

Lang fellows will take two Rare Book School courses, and will, in turn, be charged with building a book-historical community at their institution. The Fellows will also be given opportunities to build a community within their cohort; a support system.

"[The H-165 class] has the two-fold benefit of being a chance to learn from an RBS faculty member and to learn from the other educators in the course simultaneously. I feel that Michael Suarez imparted a lot of information to us about how to teach, the importance of bibliographic and book historical approaches, and skills on how to leverage that knowledge to educate undergraduates. Additionally, this Lang cohort has been a really marvelous resource that I have felt forming over this week and that I look forward to continuing to rely on after this." ~A current Lang Fellow

The Courses



1. The first course must be H-165 *History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching*
 - a. Fellows must be able to take this course during the set week in their first year (9–14 June 2024)
 - b. Guaranteed admission, open only to Lang Fellows
2. The Second course is an elective
 - a. Can take equivalent of one full-length course (i.e. two short online courses)
 - b. Cannot take H-90 *Teaching the History of the Book*

The Multiplier Effect



Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources

"Watching Michael Suarez teach in Special Collections with rare books helped give me new ideas as to how I might approach teaching with special collections materials (in both similar and different ways!).

I also appreciated that Suarez emphasized collaboration as part of the Lang Fellowship—between faculty and librarians, across campus, &c. The conversation on how we will transform book historical culture on our campus with the matching funds gave me ideas on both projects for how to spend the money, and who to approach as partners/collaborators." ~A current Lang Fellow



Eligibility

Qualifications & Eligibility

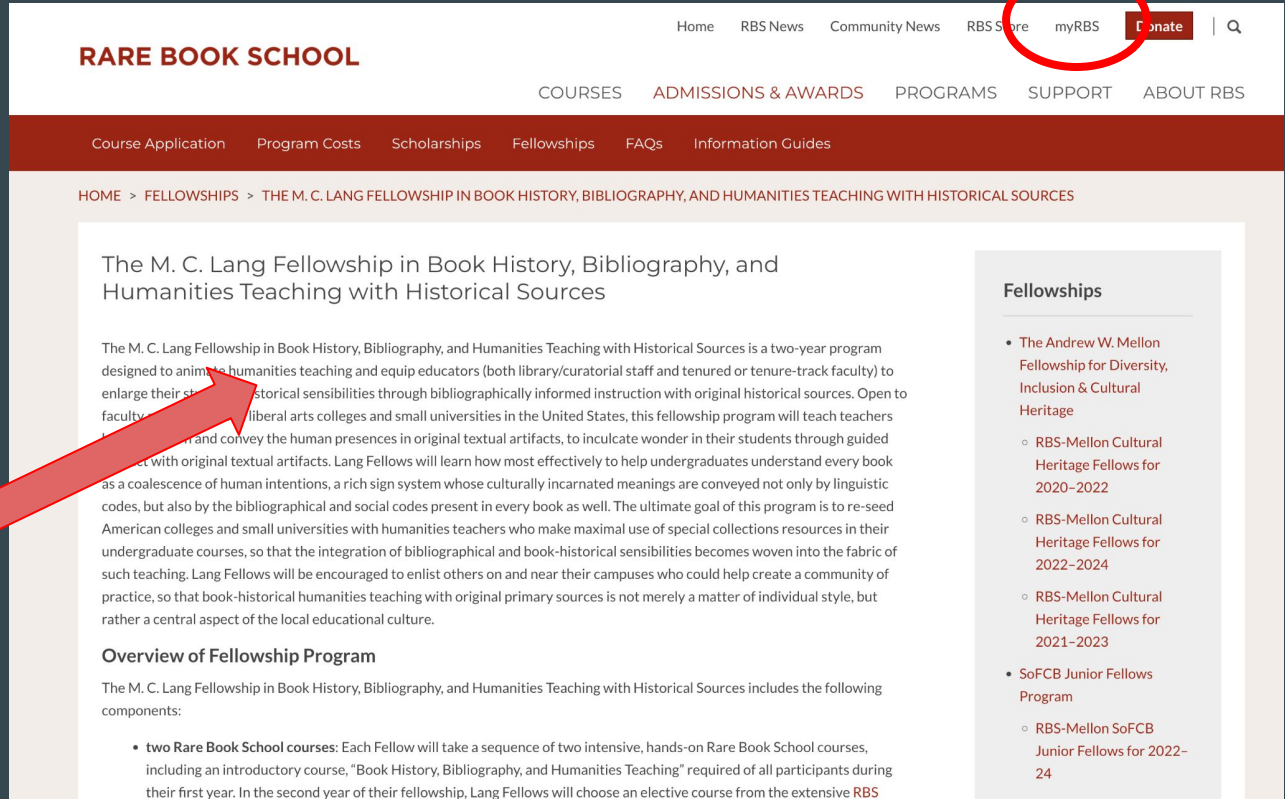
The Lang Fellowships are open to full-time tenured faculty; full-time tenure-track faculty who have passed the third-year review; or full-time library/curatorial staff members, at liberal arts colleges and small universities (i.e., 5,000 or fewer undergraduates) located in the United States.

The following classes of applicants are ineligible for this fellowship program:

- individuals based at institutions located outside the United States
- individuals employed by universities that award earned doctorates (exceptions will be made for institutions that only offer doctorates in fields *outside* the humanities, such as medical fields, law, and education)
- anyone who has previously taken more than two Rare Book School courses, or who has taken RBS course H-90, [Teaching the History of the Book](#)
- past or present members of RBS's full-time, year-round staff

The Application Process

1. Go to rarebookschool.org
2. Click “MyRBS”
(upper right hand corner)



The screenshot displays the Rare Book School website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, RBS News, Community News, RBS Store, myRBS, and Donate. The myRBS link is circled in red. Below this, a secondary navigation bar lists COURSES, ADMISSIONS & AWARDS, PROGRAMS, SUPPORT, and ABOUT RBS. A third navigation bar contains links for Course Application, Program Costs, Scholarships, Fellowships, FAQs, and Information Guides. The main content area shows the breadcrumb path: HOME > FELLOWSHIPS > THE M. C. LANG FELLOWSHIP IN BOOK HISTORY, BIBLIOGRAPHY, AND HUMANITIES TEACHING WITH HISTORICAL SOURCES. The title of the page is 'The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources'. The text describes a two-year program designed to animate humanities teaching and equip educators. A red arrow points to the 'Fellowships' section on the right side of the page, which lists various fellowship opportunities including the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship for Diversity, Inclusion & Cultural Heritage, RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2020-2022, RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2022-2024, RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2021-2023, SoFCB Junior Fellows Program, and RBS-Mellon SoFCB Junior Fellows for 2022-24.

RARE BOOK SCHOOL

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COURSES ADMISSIONS & AWARDS PROGRAMS SUPPORT ABOUT RBS

Course Application Program Costs Scholarships Fellowships FAQs Information Guides

HOME > FELLOWSHIPS > THE M. C. LANG FELLOWSHIP IN BOOK HISTORY, BIBLIOGRAPHY, AND HUMANITIES TEACHING WITH HISTORICAL SOURCES

The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources

The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources is a two-year program designed to animate humanities teaching and equip educators (both library/curatorial staff and tenured or tenure-track faculty) to enlarge their students' historical sensibilities through bibliographically informed instruction with original historical sources. Open to faculty at liberal arts colleges and small universities in the United States, this fellowship program will teach teachers how to understand and convey the human presences in original textual artifacts, to inculcate wonder in their students through guided contact with original textual artifacts. Lang Fellows will learn how most effectively to help undergraduates understand every book as a coalescence of human intentions, a rich sign system whose culturally incarnated meanings are conveyed not only by linguistic codes, but also by the bibliographical and social codes present in every book as well. The ultimate goal of this program is to re-seed American colleges and small universities with humanities teachers who make maximal use of special collections resources in their undergraduate courses, so that the integration of bibliographical and book-historical sensibilities becomes woven into the fabric of such teaching. Lang Fellows will be encouraged to enlist others on and near their campuses who could help create a community of practice, so that book-historical humanities teaching with original primary sources is not merely a matter of individual style, but rather a central aspect of the local educational culture.

Overview of Fellowship Program

The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources includes the following components:

- **two Rare Book School courses:** Each Fellow will take a sequence of two intensive, hands-on Rare Book School courses, including an introductory course, "Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching" required of all participants during their first year. In the second year of their fellowship, Lang Fellows will choose an elective course from the extensive RBS

Fellowships

- The Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship for Diversity, Inclusion & Cultural Heritage
 - RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2020-2022
 - RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2022-2024
 - RBS-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2021-2023
- SoFCB Junior Fellows Program
 - RBS-Mellon SoFCB Junior Fellows for 2022-24

Instructions can be found at:

<https://rarebookschool.org/admissions-awards/fellowships/lang/>

RARE BOOK SCHOOL

Welcome! The myRBS system has been renewed as of February 2022. The first time you log into this new system as a student applicant, whether you have a pre-existing myRBS account or not, you should start with the "Need an account?" link below. On subsequent visits you may log in from this page. If you are a member of RBS's faculty, please view your course information via the [Faculty Portal](#).

Log in

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Need an account?](#)

3.

Log in with your MyRBS account information

First time users should click "Need an account?" (lower right)

MyRBS Log in page

Welcome to myRBS, Rare Book School's student information and application system! To navigate to different sections of myRBS, use the red menu bar at the top of the site. Within a section, you can use your browser's back button to return from viewing individual records.

RBS staff members look forward to helping you with admissions and enrollment for this summer's courses. We recommend that you contact us using our [Request Information](#) form if you have any questions.



RBS provides continuing-education opportunities for students from all disciplines and skill levels to study the history of written, printed, and digital materials with leading scholars and professionals in the field. Pictured above, from the teaching collections of RBS in Charlottesville: nineteenth-century color woodblock-printed map of Japan; leaf from the 1469 *Catholicar*; decorative motif on eighteenth-century Ottoman hilyah; Bosse, *Traité des manières de graver*, 1645.

Scholarship & Fellowship Applications

4. Scroll down

MyRBS Student Landing Page (after you log in)

Scholarship & Fellowship Applications

Scholarships:

Applications for all RBS scholarships are accepted via a single application. See the main [Scholarships](#) page for more information about each type of scholarship. If your question is not answered there, please email rbs_scholarships@virginia.edu.

Applications are due 1 November 2023.

[Click here to apply for our scholarships.](#)

SoFCB Junior Fellows Program:

See the main [Society of Fellows](#) page for more information about the Society and the application process.

If you need assistance with the application, please email the SoFCB Administrative Director at rbs-mellon@virginia.edu.

Applications are due 17 November 2023.

[Click here to apply for the SoFCB Junior Fellows Program.](#)

M. C. Lang Fellowship:

See the [M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources](#) page for more information about this fellowship and the application process. If you need assistance with the application, or have questions about the program, please email rbs_lang@virginia.edu.

Applications are due 17 November 2023.

[Click here to apply for the Lang Fellowship.](#)

The application links will route you to Interfolio, where you will be asked to create a free account in order to complete the application. If you have any trouble creating a free Interfolio account, please contact the Interfolio support line at 877-997-8807, or the [Interfolio support page](#), and they'll be happy to help. **Please note that you do not have to pay to submit an application for any RBS awarded scholarship or fellowship.**

You will receive a confirmation email once your application has been successfully submitted. If you do not receive a confirmation email, we have not received your application. Please contact Interfolio Support at 877-997-8807 if you believe you have submitted your application but have not received a confirmation email.

Participation in scholarship and fellowship programs implies acceptance of the scholarship/fellowship [Terms and Conditions](#). For general queries about scholarships or fellowships, see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Applying for Courses

“Click Here” to apply for the Lang Fellowship

MyRBS Scholarships & Fellowships

5. After scrolling down, the Lang Fellowship is in the right hand column

M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources (2023)

Rare Book School: RBS: Lang Fellowship Selection Committee

Location	Open Date	Deadline
Rare Book School	Sep 15, 2023	Nov 17, 2023 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Description

The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources is a two-year program designed to animate humanities teaching and equip educators (both library/curatorial staff and tenured or tenure-track faculty) to enlarge their students' historical sensibilities through bibliographically informed instruction with original historical sources. Open to faculty and librarians at liberal arts colleges and small universities (i.e., 5,000 or fewer undergraduates) in the United States, this fellowship program will teach teachers how to discern and convey the human presences in original textual artifacts, to inculcate wonder in their students through guided contact with original textual artifacts. Lang Fellows will learn how most effectively to help undergraduates understand every book as a coalescence of human intentions, a rich sign system whose culturally incarnated meanings are conveyed not only by linguistic codes, but also by the bibliographical and social codes present in every book as well. The ultimate goal of this program is to re-seed American colleges and small universities with humanities teachers who make maximal use of special collections resources in their undergraduate courses, so that the integration of bibliographical and book-historical sensibilities becomes woven into the fabric of such teaching. Lang Fellows will be encouraged to enlist others on and near their campuses who could help create a community of practice, so that book-historical humanities teaching with original primary sources is not merely a matter of individual style, but rather a central aspect of the local educational culture.



Application Process

This institution is using Interfolio's Faculty Search to conduct this search. Applicants to this position receive a free Dossier account and can send all application materials, including confidential letters of recommendation, free of charge.

[Apply Now](#)

6.

Click "Apply Now"

Lang Fellowship Landing Page

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A valid email address is required.

Password *

Sign In

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7.

If you have an Interfolio Account, **sign in**

If you do not,
Create an account

You do NOT need to pay
for an Interfolio account

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M. C. Lang Fellowship:

See the [M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources](#) page for more information about this fellowship and the application process. If you need assistance with the application, or have questions about the program, please email rbs_lang@virginia.edu.

Applications are due 17 November 2023.

[Click here to apply for the Lang Fellowship.](#)

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Applying for Courses

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Interfolio Support Page

MyRBS Scholarships & Fellowships Application Page

Application Materials

- A brief contact information and eligibility form
- A *curriculum vitae*
- Invite a colleague to submit a confidential letter of recommendation
- Four short essays, submitted as four documents (one page maximum, single spaced)
 - Why do you want to be part of the M.C. Lang Fellowship?
 - What interests you most about participating in Rare Book School courses?
 - Describe your experiences of and commitment to undergraduate education. How does working in a Liberal Arts environment contribute to your efficacy?
 - How might you work with others to help create an educational culture of book-historical humanities teaching with original sources?

Letter of Recommendation

The letter should be written by a colleague who can speak to your suitability for the Lang Fellowship—to your teaching, outreach, impact potential, dedication to teaching with primary sources, bibliography, book history and inculcating wonder.



The Letter of Support at the Finalist Stage

Applicants who are selected for the Fellowship will need to submit a signed letter of support (we'll supply the form) from their supervisor before the fellowship is awarded. This form confirms that the home institution will support the Fellow's efforts to build a bibliophilic community and will consider applications for matching funds.

The Selection Process



The Experience of Being a Lang Fellow

“You demonstrated... through the exercises and object lessons—how creatively as well as deliberately one can teach. While I was hopeful that the class would be terrific, I had not anticipated how eye-opening it would be, a regenerative experience that will have ramifications well beyond my teaching in book history.” ~A past Lang Fellow

Recent Projects by Lang Fellows:

- Book historical panel discussion
- Faculty learning community
- Transcribe-a-thon and speaker series
- Speaker/workshop series
- Acquisition of materials for teaching collections



Direct any questions to:

rbs_lang@virginia.edu