

Dot Porter
L-160: Digital Codicology & Book History
1-6 June, 2025, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1) *Were the pre-course reading assignments useful? Are there any readings that you would like to see added or removed in future years?*

1. Readings were helpful—maybe more material introducing the basics of manuscripts & terms (didn't know what a quire was going into this).
2. N/A—no pre-course readings.
3. There were no pre-course reading assignments listed in the course description; readings were issued the day before the course started and were useful in providing context to the course.
4. Yes.
5. {no response}
6. Readings were broadly useful.
7. No pre-course readings.
8. Yes. Good setup to get you in the mindset for the course. Wish they had been shared earlier.

2) *What are your thoughts on the course workbook and/or other teaching materials distributed during class? Was the content appropriate and useful? Will it continue to be useful for you after the course?*

1. The in-class activities using various digital tools were helpful and informative.
2. Yes, teaching materials were useful.
3. Yes, the coursework/teaching materials were useful and relevant to each class session.
4. Great. Yes. Yes.
5. {no response}
6. Materials were excellent and will be of future use to me.
7. great, curated readings that were useful during and will use after.
8. Everything will be useful after the course. I look forward to reviewing the materials again.

3) *Which aspects of the course were most intriguing and relevant for you as an individual? Did you walk away with any new insights, ideas, or project plans?*

1. Loved learning about different digital visualization tools & databases for digitized manuscripts—will also change the way I image manuscripts (importance of binding, &c.).
2. Yes, yes, and yes—I have lots of concrete ideas about tools to use and plans to explore. This course also provided conceptual grounding for current and future digital projects.

3. Discussion regarding ways to digitize books, especially those in alternative bindings/formats—what is lost/gained through digitization, &c. Yes—loved the live demos and practical exercises
4. I was delighted by the visit to SCETI & multispectral imaging lecture.
5. Everything about the course was, without exception. Yes to all.
6. All were great. Loved the hands-on activities.
7. Everything! So excited to report back to my team about ways we can engage with our collection and students with the skills and ideas that I learned.
8. {no response}

4) *Did the instructors help you to acquire all the skills and information promised in the course description? Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?*

1. Yes!
2. Yes, and more!
3. Yes.
4. Yes!
5. {private response}
6. Yes and yes.
7. Yes.
8. Yes and yes!

5) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your time here?*

1. I'm excited to have new tools to contextualize digitized books - videos! Metadata!
2. I'll use the skills I acquired in proving and expanding digital projects. I'll use the knowledge I acquired in future project design and institutional plans.
3. Plan to inform my institution of the relevant information as a future digitization {illegible}.
4. Bring back to my institution, hopefully inspire new projects.
5. {no response}
6. Many of the tools shown can be used to expand the project of my institution. Also personal hobbies..
7. In my Titian humanities and medieval studies classes to share with my students and future research.
8. {no response}

6) *Who might benefit the most from taking this RBS course?*

1. Digital archivists and digitizing specialists!
2. Anyone with interests in digital humanities, I think, not necessarily manuscripts or even book history.
3. {no response}
4. Graduate students/researchers/instructional staff/librarians and curators.
5. {no response}
6. I'm a computer scientist who learned a lot about physical manuscripts, but I believe humanities-focused professionals wanting to learn about digital technology would benefit as well.

7. Students, digital humanities scholars.
 8. Those involved in digitization in any capacity.
- 7) *If applicable, what were the most original, powerful, or otherwise noteworthy educational moments in the course? Were there any "aha!" moments you'd like to share?*
1. Loved hands-on manuscript crafts and seeing {illegible} and multi-spectral imaging.
 2. I especially liked the balance between various elements—theory, practice, and making.
 3. {no response}
 4. MISHA demo and practical exercises.
 5. Very appreciative of hands-on learning—Digital Mappa, VCEditor, and MSI demos were fantastic.
 6. Yes to all.
 7. {no response}
 8. Seeing how you can take a manuscript, collect data, then fabricate the data visualization, it felt like such an important connection.
- 8) *Are there any other ways in which the course could have been improved?*
1. {no response}
 2. No—this course was excellent.
 3. No, the course was great as it was
 4. {no response}
 5. {private response}
 6. {no response}
 7. No. It was great. DP is an excellent teacher. No. DP and her class are perfect.
 8. {no response}
- 9) *Do you feel that you got your money's worth? How likely are you to recommend this course to others? On a 1-10 scale, 1 would indicate that you disagree that you got your money's worth, 5 would indicate a neutral response, and 10 would indicate that you agree that you got your money's worth.*
1. 10
 2. 10. Yes, but hotel was expensive.
 3. 10
 4. 10
 5. {no response}
 6. 10
 7. Yes, except for the dorm. Do not stay in dorm.
 8. 5
- 10) *If your course made any (virtual) field trips outside of the classroom or had guest speakers, do you feel that they enhanced the course experience?*
1. They were all great!

2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. Yes!
5. 100%, so good!
6. Absolutely.
7. Yes.
8. Absolutely! Love to the SCETI & MISHA teams!

11) *Do you have any additional thoughts or advice for anyone considering taking this course in a future year?*

1. Offer different dorms or accommodations
2. DP created a welcoming and informative classroom where experts and novices can learn together. Digital tools are presented clearly—if a little quickly—and then used, so students can quickly decide if they'd work for current projects.
3. N/A.
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. If you're on the fence, just go for it.
7. Do not stay in dorms. Class is great.
8. Fantastic course that will be amazing for anyone who is a bit anxious moving from learning about physical manuscripts to learning about digital possibilities.

12) *If you had to sum up your RBS experience with a single sentence, phrase, or haiku, what would you say?*

1. The dorms were quite sad. But the course was amazing.
2. Intense, varied, effective.
3. Excellent.
4. The class was great. Gold leaf will follow me forever but that's fine.
5. {no response}
6. Like flakes of gold leaf, the knowledge gained from this course will stick forever.
7. {no response}
8. Like ink on my hands/the connections and knowledge/long outlast the class.