

PUBL90007 History of Books and Reading

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2013. 2 hour seminar per week
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 2 Total Time Commitment: 120
Prerequisites:	Admission to the postgraduate certificate or diploma in Publishing and Communications, Master of Publishing and Communications, Master of Creative Writing, Publishing and Communications
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
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Subject Overview:	This subject introduces students to the history of the book and its relationship to changing reading practices. It will focus specifically on the changing technologies and aesthetics of book production, the relationships between reading and other cultural practices, the changing roles of publishers, booksellers and authors, the evolution of libraries as repositories and gatekeepers of approved knowledge, and the role of government in establishing a legislative framework to regulate the book trade.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # have developed awareness of the long history of the book and its role in the construction of Western concepts of textual authority; # be able to understand the relationship between the form of the book and the social distribution of literacy; and # have been encouraged to form a critical analysis of the iconic status ascribed to the book in Western culture.
Assessment:	A research proposal of 1000 words 20% (due early in the semester), and an essay of 4000 words 80% (due in the examination period). Students are required to attend a minimum of 80% (or 10 out of 12) classes in order to qualify to have their written work assessed. Any student who fails to meet this hurdle without valid reason will not be eligible to pass the subject. All required written work must be submitted in order to pass the subject. Essays submitted after the due date without an extension will be penalised 2% per day. Essays submitted after two weeks of the assessment due date without a formally approved application for special consideration or an extension will only be marked on a pass/fail basis if accepted.
Prescribed Texts:	A subject reader will be available.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	# acquire a capacity for effective teamwork through group discussions and peer review;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # acquire and develop a cultural and ethical understanding through reflection on the role of books and reading in a range of historical and cultural contexts; # acquire skills in research through the preparation of class papers and assignments, including the use of online and print-based materials; # acquire skills in time management and planning through managing workloads for recommended reading, tutorial presentations and assessment requirements; # acquire a capacity for critical thinking through the use of readings, and discussion to develop a critique of received wisdom about the cultural, social and political significance of the book; and # acquire a high-level written and oral communication skills through contribution to class discussions and the completion of assignments.
Notes:	Students enrolled in a cognate postgraduate program may seek approval from the course coordinator.
Related Course(s):	Master of Creative Writing, Publishing and Editing
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	100 Point Master of Publishing and Communications 150 Point Master of Publishing and Communications 150 point program - full time over 18 months 200 Point Master of Publishing and Communications 200 point program - full time over 18 months 200 point program - full time over 24 months