

About Rare Book School

Rare Book School (RBS), located in Alderman Library, is an affiliated foundation of the University of Virginia. Directed by University Professor and Professor of English, Michael F. Suarez, S.J., RBS engages in advocacy, education, and outreach to promote the study, care, and uses of written, printed, and born-digital materials. Every year, RBS offers continuing education opportunities for students from all disciplines and skill levels to study with leading scholars and professionals in the fields of bibliography, librarianship, book history, manuscript studies, and the digital humanities.

RBS-UVA Fellowship Program Activities

Undergraduate and graduate students attend seminars at RBS that directly inform year-long projects (*viz.*, a Distinguished Major's thesis, a scholarly article, a dissertation chapter, a conference paper, a public exhibit) that they are undertaking. Once accepted to the program, Fellows:

- * prepare readings for the RBS course to which they have been accepted;
- * attend an RBS course offered during 2012 (most RBS courses are offered at UVA in June and July).

During their year in the program, Fellows and their UVA faculty sponsors will continue to participate in the program through:

- * visits to RBS and consultation with RBS faculty and staff during the conduct of their research;
- * the submission of final projects (due by 12 April 2013) for the Fellows' interactive module on the RBS website;
- * the program's annual forum and awards luncheon;
- * the completion of a year-end evaluation of the program.

Calendar for Applicants to the 2012-13 RBS-UVA Fellowship Program

15 FEBRUARY 2012

Open House for UVA Faculty 11:30 am–2:30 pm

17 FEBRUARY 2012

Open House for UVA Students 3–5 pm

15 MARCH 2012

Information Session 4:30–6 pm

23 MARCH 2012

Application Deadline. Applications due by 5 pm

Accepted applicants will attend a week-long course at RBS in 2012, and will submit a final project to RBS for publication to its website by 12 April 2013.

Learn More

To view a 2012 summer course schedule, please visit www.rarebookschool.org

For more details about the RBS-UVA Fellowship Program, see www.rarebookschool.org/fellowships or contact RBS Program Director Amanda Nelsen at an2b@virginia.edu

“The teaching materials drawn from the RBS and UVA special collections were better than any I had ever seen in bibliographic seminars given at Harvard or Princeton. What I didn't expect was [...] a sense of camaraderie among us that lasted long after the courses ended.”

Donna Sy

PH.D. CANDIDATE & RBS ALUMNA
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



**The Rare Book School
Fellowship Program at
the University of Virginia**

Thanks to a generous grant made possible by The Jefferson Trust, an initiative of the UVA Alumni Association, Rare Book School (RBS) invites students at the University of Virginia to apply for a fellowship designed to enhance UVA student research employing special collections, including written, printed, and born-digital materials.

The RBS-UVA Fellowship Program provides UVA undergraduate and graduate students with scholarships to attend RBS's celebrated courses on the history of books and printing—classes that are not available through UVA course offerings. The program introduces Fellows and their faculty sponsors to visiting peers and professionals in a dynamic environment that fosters hands-on collaborative research and interdisciplinary learning. The RBS-UVA Program not only provides Fellows with new tools and methods for engaging with primary source materials, it also publishes the scholarship of its participants (via its highly visited website), thereby providing other students with aspirational models of scholarly work and intellectual achievement.

"Nowhere else does an undergraduate have the chance to interact as a fellow student—as an equal—with people who can teach him or her so much."

Theresa Goodman
CLAS 2012

2011-12 RBS-UVA Fellows

In 2011, RBS awarded seven fellowship to two undergraduate and five graduate students at the University. Their projects include:

- * a thesis examining UVA's collection of Borges manuscripts;
- * a papermaking and printmaking project exploring gardens and landscapes, and responding to evidence in gardening books held by UVA Special Collections;
- * an electronic edition, in XML, of the marginalia from the B-text of the Vision of Piers Plowman;
- * a dissertation chapter researching seventeenth-century typography and printing in Italy in conjunction with Propaganda Fide and its Polyglot Press (one of the first presses in Europe capable of printing works in Arabic);
- * a critical edition of 15 poems written by the C17 English poet Katherine Philips;
- * an article-length paper on the printing and circulation history of the literature surrounding New England's 1721 smallpox inoculation controversy;
- * a dissertation chapter on the N-Town manuscript, an English cycle of scriptural (or "mystery") plays dating from the latter half of the fifteenth century.

"Everyone in my course and in the July 4 session in general was very friendly, open, supportive, and willing to make connections across disciplines, age groups, and geographical differences. It's a wonderful community consciously centered around the love and defense of books—what could be better?"

Christine Schott
2011-12 RBS-UVA FELLOW
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Eligibility

Candidates apply to the program during the spring semester. To be eligible for the program, candidates must gain admission to an RBS course, and they must be enrolled at UVA through the spring of the following academic year (e.g., a third-year UVA undergraduate applying in March 2012 would attend a course at RBS in the summer of 2012, complete a project during the semesters spanning fall 2012 and spring 2013, and submit a final project in April 2013). Students cannot apply to the program during the same academic year in which they are graduating.

Financial Support

Fellows attend a course at RBS for free (tuition is currently \$1,095 or \$1,195, depending on the course) and receive a \$250 stipend. In addition, the program will award a \$500 prize to the most distinguished project from each cohort.

Application Process

Applications are due no later than 23 March 2012. To apply to the program, students must:

- * submit a proposal to attend an RBS course offered in 2012 that will substantially inform a year-long project (*viz.*, a Distinguished Major's thesis, an article, a dissertation chapter, a conference paper, an exhibition);
- * secure a letter of recommendation from a UVA faculty member who has agreed to sponsor the project; and
- * complete a standard application to RBS, turning it in along with the proposal and letter of recommendation, plus a c.v.