

ARMA (Postsecondary) Learning Scenario 3

Title

Medieval Book Production: Manufacturing Manuscripts
(The medieval manuscript, the book market, Paris as an important center for book trade, book makers, sellers and consumers)

Author(s)

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Abstract

Combining Digital Humanities, Art History, historical Anthropology and Codicology, this lesson plan introduces post-secondary students to medieval manuscript production, trade and reading culture in the Middle Ages, emphasizing the human processes involved in the manufacturing, selling and use of these artefacts as well as how their purpose (be it monastic, courtly, or urban) determined their material and visual qualities. Students will learn to navigate available digitized manuscript platforms to gain access to these books and consult them in detail. The aim of this activity is to explore medieval manuscripts throughout the Middle Ages, understand their physical qualities, their commercial and symbolic value and how the physical appearance of the manuscript responded to the times, to its readers as well as to its purpose.

*If used in conjunction with Learning Scenario4 (Book Trade in the Early to Late Middle Ages: Manufacturing the Printed Book) students will be able to compare and contrast what they have learned about trade, manufacture and use of the first printed books (*incunabula*) and they will realize that these two methods of book fabrication were not mutually exclusive and that, on the contrary, they influenced each other for decades after the invention of the printing press.

Table of summary

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Subject / Field of study	Medieval Studies, Books and Digital Media Studies, Art History, (Medieval) (European) Language and Literature, Book History, Literary History
Topic	The late medieval manuscript: How was it manufactured? What did it look like (according to its use)? Who were the consumers? The producers? What characteristics defined an important center of trade?
Is Part of ... / Category	ARMA (The Art of Reading in the Middle Ages)
Prior Knowledge of Students	This learning scenario is created for postsecondary students (17-25 years old). First or second-year BA students (e.g. Book and Media Studies, Codicology, Art History, etc.) as well as students in graduating classes at school.



Preparation time	Approx. 60 min.
Teaching time	90 min.
Online teaching material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medieval Book Production: Manufacturing Manuscripts (worksheet and glossary) https://drive.google.com/file/d/189Mrngp7RRkdrbgA4RX7vL0r4s6QYE/view - Videos on: Exploring the Medieval Manuscript Book – UB Leiden https://www.europeana.eu/en/blog/video-series-exploring-the-medieval-manuscript-book - Online digitized manuscripts on Gallica: - [Monastic] Gellone Sacramentary: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 12048 https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b60000317/f38.planchecontact - [Urban] Decretum Gratiani : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 3895 https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8555838f/f32.planchecontact.r=decretum%20gratiani
Europeana resources used	<p>Blog posts for preparation at home :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Europeana Blog: How the Carolingian Dynasty Changed How We Read https://www.europeana.eu/en/blog/how-the-carolingian-dynasty-changed-how-we-read - Europeana Blog: Private and Public Reading https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/private-and-public-reading - Europeana Blog: Monastic vs. Scholastic https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/monastic-vs-scholastic-reading-habits <p>For further reading and preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Europeana Blog: Large to Small (https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/large-to-small) - Europeana Blog: Latin to the Vernacular https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/from-latin-to-the-vernacular

- Europeana Blog: **Luxury Vs. Functionality**
(<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/luxury-vs-functionality>)
- Europeana Blog: **Royal Collections – Louis de Bruges**
(<https://www.europeana.eu/sl/blog/the-bibliophile-of-bruges>)

Digitized manuscripts from Europeana:

- [Monastic] **Auch Troper** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 1118
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b8432314k)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8432314k/f345.planchecontact>)
- [Monastic] **The Missal of Saint Denis** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 9436
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b105511278)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b105511278/f1.planchecontact>)
- [Monastic] **Psalter of Charles the Bald** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 1152
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b55001423q)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53019391x/f17.planchecontact>)
- [Monastic] **In honorem sanctae crucis**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 2422
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b8490076p)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8490076p/f13.planchecontact>)
- [Courtly/Urban production] **Moralized Bible** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 11560
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b10538038j)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10538038j/f1.planchecontact>)
- [Courtly] **The Book of Hours of Anne of Bretagne**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 9474
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b550093038)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b550093038/f39.planchecontact>)
- [Courtly] **Psalter of Saint Louis and Blanche of Castile**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. Ms-1186 réserve
(https://classic.europeana.eu/portal/fr/record/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b52508581r.html?q=+Psalterium+psautier+latin+dit+de+saint+Louis)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b7100723j/f162.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly] **The Travels of Marco Polo** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. Ms-5219 réserve
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b55005891m)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55005891m/f1.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly/Urban] **Roman de la Rose** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Français 25526
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b6000369q)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b6000369q/f160.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly /Urban] **Albucasis, Observations on nature...**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. NAL 1673
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b105380445)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b105380445/f123.planchecontact>)

- [Urban / Courtly] **On the properties of things** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Français 9140
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b10532588f)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10532588f/f1.planchecontact>)

Integration into the curriculum

This LS can be adapted in different curricula and/or sections.

Aim of the lesson

1. To learn how manuscripts were manufactured and what they looked like.
2. To discover who commissioned, who made and who sold manuscripts and what their monetary and symbolic values were.
3. To understand who used medieval manuscripts and how their use determined what they looked like.
4. To get in contact with medieval (digitized) manuscripts present on the Europeana platform as well as to learn how to use the Gallica platform to gain access to medieval manuscripts.

Outcome of the lesson

1. Students will learn how to use online sources to observe and study digitized manuscripts.
2. Students will learn how to identify certain characteristics within the medieval manuscript that provide information about its context (monastic, courtly or urban), its purpose and the way it was used and by whom.
3. Students will explore the Europeana platform as a research tool.

Trends

- Cooperative Learning

Activities

Name of activity	Procedure	Time
<p>Preparation at Home</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your students to prepare at home prior to this lesson. They should read the worksheet, and watch the series of 8 videos on medieval manuscripts linked within each section of the worksheet <p>Worksheet: Medieval Book Production: Manufacturing Manuscripts https://drive.google.com/file/d/189Mrngp7RRkdrbgA4RX7vL0r4s6QYE/view</p> <p>8 Videos on <i>Exploring the Medieval Manuscript Book</i> – UB https://www.europeana.eu/en/blog/video-series-exploring-the-medieval-manuscript-book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They should also read the following three Europeana blog posts: <p>Europeana Blog: How the Carolingian Dynasty Changed How We Read (https://www.europeana.eu/en/blog/how-the-carolingian-dynasty-changed-how-we-read)</p> <p>Europeana Blog: Private and Public Reading (https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/private-and-public-reading)</p> <p>Europeana Blog: Monastic vs. Scholastic (https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/monastic-vs-scholastic-reading-habits)</p>	<p>Approx. 60 min</p>
<p>Introduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing the topic: Guiding questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>How were manuscripts manufactured?</i> <i>What aspects of its production determine the manuscript's monetary value? Its symbolic value?</i> <i>How and where were manuscripts produced (and sold)? In the early Middle Ages? In the late Middle Ages?</i> <i>Who were the readers of these manuscripts and what were some of their different uses?</i> <i>What do the material characteristics of a manuscript tell us about who its readers were and what it was used for?</i> 	<p>15 min</p>

Name of activity	Procedure	Time
Introducing Europeana and Gallica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to find a manuscript on Europeana, following the links to the holding institution: Gallica - Introduce the basic functionalities of Gallica: - First: Access the manuscript through the Archives et Manuscrits page in order to perform more precise object researches (https://archivesetmanuscrits.bnf.fr/) - A first global view of the object is available through its bibliographical record. Here the student will find all the available contextual and bibliographical information in order to start researching a manuscript - Explain how cataloguing numbers and shelf marks work in order to identify where the volume is kept and how to find it - Click on the link to the digitalized manuscript: - Show the different viewing, zoom, crop, page-research, instrumentation - Then: Show the download options (the whole document in .pdf format or single page or image in .jpg format, permanent link, etc.) - Now that you are more familiar with Gallica, let's take a look at some manuscripts! 	10 min
Exploring the medieval manuscript	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring the manuscript: Reading culture in the Middle Ages is generally described as being monastic, courtly or urban. The aspect of the book (as well as its value) largely depended on the context in which it was manufactured and in which it was meant to be used. - Looking closely at 3 of the proposed digitized manuscripts (one from each reading context), which characteristics allow students to identify each book as being monastic, courtly or urban? - The materiality of the book: Based on aspects such as page layout, binding, size, margin width, script, ornamentation, etc., what can we infer about the context in which the book was produced? Used? Its monetary and symbolic values? Who its patron/s might have been? 	15 min
Students work in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students can explore the other manuscripts, writing down the salient aspects of each book 	30 Min

Name of activity	Procedure	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each group takes on 2 or 3 manuscripts and writes up a brief description: Title, date, place of origin, dimensions, and shelf mark - Based on its physical characteristics, ask each group to classify each manuscript under one of these three contexts (monastic, courtly, urban) and justify their answer - Ask them to note any markings or traces of production and use. If they find any, they should download the image and note the page (folio) number - 	
Discussion and final thoughts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each group briefly presents the manuscripts they have explored - Possible questions for further discussion: - What did they discover about these manuscripts via Europeana and Gallica/BnF? - What types of manuscripts did they see? - What reading contexts did the manuscripts belong to? - What were some interesting characteristics of each manuscript? - What aspects of each manuscript allowed them to understand what the book was for and what context it belonged to? - What information did the page layout give them about how the book was made and the way the book was consulted? - Were there any interesting markings on any of the books? - Ask each group to come up and discuss any particular gashes, holes, stitching, bookmarks, signatures, glosses, annotations, etc., and show the images to the rest of the class. What do these traces tell us about the book's history? What can be inferred from them? 	20 min

Annex

(UB Leiden) Videos on Exploring the Medieval Manuscript Book:

Video 1 Scripts: <https://youtu.be/JdyLCh9YvE8>

Video 2 Structuring the Medieval Page: <https://youtu.be/iV5KRMt5o0E>

Video 3 Discontinuous Reading: <https://youtu.be/B0d9sjNtGcE>

Video 4 Traces of Scribes: <https://youtu.be/wcM-kwW1HKY>

Video 5 Traces of Users: <https://youtu.be/N92266QjBic>

Video 6 Bindings: <https://youtu.be/8L5Vs0aZYck>

Video 7 Composite Volumes: <https://youtu.be/VG-2cd5dITl>

Video 8 Dimensions and Forms: <https://youtu.be/UI7SMojthDY>

Europeana Blog: **How the Carolingian Dynasty Changed How We Read**
(<https://www.europeana.eu/en/blog/how-the-carolingian-dynasty-changed-how-we-read>)

Europeana Blog: **Private and Public Reading** (<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/private-and-public-reading>)

Europeana Blog: **Monastic vs. Scholastic** (<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/monastic-vs-scholastic-reading-habits>)

Europeana Blog: **Large to Small** (<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/large-to-small>)

Europeana Blog: **Latin to the Vernacular** (<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/from-latin-to-the-vernacular>)

Europeana Blog: **Luxury Vs. Functionality** (<https://www.europeana.eu/it/blog/luxury-vs-functionality>)

Europeana Blog: **Royal Collections – Louis de Bruges** (not yet published)

Online digitized manuscripts on Gallica and Europeana:

- [Monastic] **Auch Troper** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 1118 (https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b8432314k)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8432314k/f345.planchecontact>)
- [Monastic] **The Missal of Saint Denis** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 9436
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b105511278)
- (<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b105511278/f1.planchecontact>)

- [Monastic] **Gellone Sacramentary**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 12048 (<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b60000317/f38.planchecontact>)

- [Monastic] **Psalter of Charles the Bald** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 1152
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(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53019391x/f17.planchecontact>)

- [Monastic] **In honorem sanctae crucis**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 2422
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b8490076p)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8490076p/f13.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly/ Urban production] **Moralized Bible** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 11560
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b10538038j)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10538038j/f1.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly] **The Book of Hours of Anne of Bretagne**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 9474
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b550093038)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b550093038/f39.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly] **Psalter of Saint Louis and Blanche of Castile**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. Ms-1186 réserve
(https://classic.europeana.eu/portal/fr/record/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b52508581r.html?q=+Psalterium+psautier+latin+dit+de+saint+Louis)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b7100723j/f162.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly] **The Travels of Marco Polo** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. Ms-5219 réserve
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b55005891m)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55005891m/f1.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly/Urban] **Roman de la Rose** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Français 25526
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b6000369q)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b6000369q/f160.planchecontact>)

- [Courtly /Urban] **Albucasis, Observations on nature...**: Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. NAL 1673
(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b105380445)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b105380445/f123.planchecontact>)

- [Urban / Courtly] **On the properties of things** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Français 9140

(https://www.europeana.eu/fr/item/9200519/ark_12148_btv1b10532588f)
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10532588f/f1.planchecontact>)

- [Urban] **Decretum Gratiani** : Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits.
Latin 3895
(<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8555838f/f32.planchecontact.r=decretum%20gratiani>)