GENERAL WORKS


Part general essay collection, part encyclopedia, this 2-volume set serves as both an in-depth introduction to book history and a handy reference tool for the fact-checking researcher. The 48 essays in volume 1 are substantial, include bibliographies, and cover such topics as the ancient book, bookbinding, and the History of the Book in Germany. The briefer A-Z entries in both volumes often contain at least one bibliographical source, and run from such topics as the African Books Collective in volume 1 to Zanders, a manufacturer of fine paper, in volume 2. Volume 1 contains a thematic listing of entries, as well as a table of contents, while volume 2 offers a general index.


Introducing book history, from early oral texts to electronic titles, Finkelstein and McCleery cover such topics as authorship, the publishing world, readership, and the future of the book.


Packed with more than 650 articles and recommended sources, this book introduces a range of people and places, along with such topics as terminology, printing history, publishing and bookselling, physical book history, and book collecting.


This classic text contains in-depth descriptions of every aspect of antique and modern book collecting from A to Z. All terms are alphabetized for quick reference, including how to take care of pigskin, morocco, or Russian leather, how to tell Japan vellum from India proof paper, and how to determine ‘very good copy’ in a collectable volume.

Illustration in title box: Giuseppe Maria Crespi, Bookshelves (c. 1725), Civico Museo Bibliografico Musicale, Bologna.
[St. Michael's College Library 1st Floor Reference Area - Z118 .G55 2001]

This comprehensive illustrated source contains more than 3,000 entries on terms used in bookmaking, printing, papermaking, and the book trade. Pick up this book for biographical details on printers, authors, bookbinders, and bibliophiles, as well as information on machinery, famous books, printing societies, organizations, customs of the trade, and book lore.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z4 .L58 1995]

Levarie’s book chronologically examines the history of book design and illustration from medieval manuscripts to the twentieth century, touching on social, religious and technological factors. It includes 176 facsimiles from books of special interest.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z1001 .B78 1994]

Considered a standard guide covering hand-printed books up to the 20th Century, this is a comprehensive manual for the description of printed books as physical objects. The appendix includes sample descriptions.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z8 .S64 F73 2008]

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z325 .H83 1999]

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – ML112 .M83 2008]

**PRINTING AND TYPOGRAPHY**

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z124 .C47]

This illustrated book covers the history of printing from the earliest alphabets, and includes such topics as the evolution of the printing press, contributions of great printers and typographers, and twentieth century graphic technology.
[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z250 .A2 D6 1998]

First published in 1961, this is the standard work on the use of type faces over the last five hundred years. It is an illustrated summary on the main stages in the development of type design and also offers practical guidance for identifying types.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z1001 .G37 1995]

This classic manual on bibliography explains the history of book production from 1500 onwards and focuses on type, illustration, paper, formats, binding, and decoration.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z124 .L48 1970]

Starting with a history of printing in medieval Europe, *Anatomy of Printing* surveys the historical influences that have shaped the printed page from the middle Ages to the twentieth century. This illustrated book is based on twenty years of research by a distinguished designer.

[St. Michael’s College Library 1st Floor Reference Area - Z124 .B45]

Chronicling significant events in the evolution and history of printing in Europe, this book explains printing techniques and innovations, including the manufacturing of paper, the development of types, methods of illustration, the printing of music, and the laws concerning printing. Contains maps, illustrations and an extensive bibliography.

**Five Hundred Years of Printing.** By S. H. Steinberg. Oak Knoll Press, 1996.
[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z124 .S8 1996]

This standard beginner’s volume on the history of printing covers type design, the spread of printing in Europe, the effect of printing on society, public and private presses, paper, binding, illustration, the publishing trade, and censorship.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z124 .E374 1993]

Survey of the communications revolution in 15th century Europe. Topics include the implications of the introduction of printing, the shift from script to print, and the effects of printing on Western intellectual thought. Based on the author’s monumental work *The Printing Press as an Agent of Change* which was the first comprehensive treatment of the subject.
This illustrated guide focuses on printing methods and techniques, from the invention of printing in the Far East and Europe to the digital revolution. The book explains how both printing methods and techniques play a role in shaping their end product.

**ILLUSTRATION**


With nearly 300 illustrations, this book describes more than 90 different manual and mechanical print production techniques and provides overviews of the history of printing, the printing trade, and ways to identify different types of print.

**BOOKBINDING**


This work explains how bookbinders are an essential part of the book production cycle. Topics include a history of bookbinding, book decoration, the economics of the binding trade, and the importance of bibliographical description of binding information.


This overview of the development of bookbinding is worthwhile both as an historical survey and as a guide to technique. Written by an expert, the book includes an examination of national styles of book decoration and the contributions of influential bookbinders.
[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z271 .N62 1980]

Drawn from English sources, this was the first American manual on bookbinding, first published in 1856. It explains forwarding, binding and finishing techniques. Intended for craftsmen, the commentaries are also of interest to scholars and collectors.

[St. Michaels’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z269 .M37 1998]

This history of bookbinding in the West from the codex to the twentieth century explains how book bindings are structured and made, and gives an overview of the development of decorative techniques and artistic styles.

**MEDIEVAL BOOKS**

**Scribes and Illuminators.** By Christopher de Hamel. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1992.  

This short illustrated work introduces readers to medieval manuscript production, focusing on several trades people associated with this industry such as paper and parchment makers, ink makers, scribes, illuminators, binders and booksellers.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z113 .B76 1990]

An important and authoritative text. Offers fifty-two examples of major western scripts, accompanied by commentary and a transcription. Useful for students of palaeography.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z6621 .B45 1991]

After beginning with the physical composition of medieval books, Shailor’s work studies medieval manuscript genres and their historical place in the cultures that produced them. While useful to the medievalist, this book will also interest the general reader.

[St. Michael’s College Library 3rd Floor – BS445 .D44 2001]

[St. Michaels’s College Library 2nd Floor – ND2900 .D34 2001]

Besides investigating illuminated manuscripts from The British Library's collection, this guide explores the role of illuminators in the medieval book trade—how books were commissioned, patrons found, illuminators and scribes made to work together, various materials and techniques employed, and time and expertise tapped to produce masterpieces.
BRITISH BOOK HISTORY

The Cambridge History of the Book in Britain. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999 – present. Only volumes 3 and 4 out of 7 have been printed.
[St. Michaels’s Library 2nd Floor – Z8 .G7 C36]

This series explains how texts were created, why they took the forms they did, their relation to other media, and their influence on society. These two volumes contain more than 60 articles.

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z270 .G7 B4 2004]

Focusing on the bookbinding trade during the Early Modern Period, this illustrated book discusses such topics as bookbinding styles.

[St. Michaels’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z325 .F414 2006]

This comprehensive history covering the British book trade from 1476 to the twentieth century explores the role of literacy, the development of the book trade, the role of publishers, and the impact of the industrial revolution and trade laws.

[St. Michaels’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z124 .T89 1999]

[St. Michael’s College Library 2nd Floor - Z270 .E5P44 2005]

This illustrated work guides readers in recognizing and dating English book bindings of the hand press period. Besides helping locate bindings within their time and place, this handbook concentrates on what a binding can tell us about previous owners and their approach to books.

NORTH AMERICAN BOOK HISTORY

History of the Book in Canada Databases.
[Free online at: http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/hbic/index-e.html]

These National Library of Canada databases cover material from the 16th to the 21st centuries related to the history of books in Canada, the Canadian book trade, Canadian imprints, and Canadian textbooks. The print version is listed below.

[St. Michaels’s College Library 2nd Floor – Z206 .H58 2004]

This 3-volume set focuses on the role of print in the political, religious, intellectual, and cultural life of Canada up to 1918.
[St. Michael’s College Library 1st Floor Reference Area – Z1365 .T7 1952]

A record of the production of printing presses in Canada between 1751-1800, including books, pamphlets, leaflets, broadsides, handbills, newspapers and magazines. Contains full bibliographical descriptions, information on technical production, prices, and circumstances of publication. This volume is of interest to collectors and scholars of Canadia.
**PERIODICAL HISTORY**


**KEY DATABASES**

*Book History Online: International Bibliography of the History of the Printed Book and Libraries*  
[Available free online: http://www.kb.nl/bho/]  

*Heritage of the Printed Book Database.*  
[Available online for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca.  
Search for heritageprintedbook (as one word) in the UofT Libraries Catalogue search box.]  
The *Heritage of the Printed Book Database* contains covers early European printed materials from the hand-press period roughly between 1455 and 1830.

*Library Literature and Information Science Full-Text*  
[Available online for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca.  
Search for the title in the UofT Libraries Catalogue search box (search by title).]  
This major database for library and information science helps you keep up with the latest concepts, trends, opinions, theories, and methodologies in the area, including preservation, publishing, rare books, and restoration. The source provides access to more than 200 key library and information science periodicals published in the United States and elsewhere. Full-text coverage of articles begins in 1994.

This research guide is maintained by Richard Carter (richard.carter@utoronto.ca). It was last updated April 2012.
Books printed by Gutenberg's method are ideal for combining text and illustration on the same page. Movable type can be set in any shape round a wood block. The raised surfaces of both type and image will receive the ink together and can transfer it to the paper at a single impression. By the end of the 15th century ambitious publications such as the Nuremberg Chronicle (a 1493 history of the world) have page layouts as elaborate as any modern magazine. The technical brilliance of early European woodcuts is astonishing (and in the hands of masters such as Dürer, the craft becomes great art), but the cutting away of all the white parts of an image is a laborious and perverse way of proceeding. The history of the book became an acknowledged academic discipline in the 1980s, Contributors to the discipline include specialists from the fields of textual scholarship, codicology, bibliography, philology, palaeography, art history, social history and cultural history. Its key purpose is to demonstrate that the book as an object, not just the text contained within it, is a conduit of interaction between readers and words.