

Dominican University
School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS)
Room: Crown 340
Winter 2008

LIS 713.01
Preservation and Conservation

Professor: James Twomey

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

An introduction to the history of recorded information and the consequences historical variables have had on the preservation and conservation requirements of library and archival material. Prerequisite: 701.

The general public is increasingly aware of the intrinsic quality of older objects. However, environmental and chemical decomposition often make antiques too fragile to use and enjoy. This holds true for books, maps, engravings and documents in both public and private collections. Since the general public sees librarians and archivists as book and paper experts, the course attempts to increase the level of preservation awareness among those who aspire to these professions. This will help ensure that patrons receive accurate information and appropriate referrals. It will also add value to the institutions that employ these professionals.

The purpose of this course, therefore, is to introduce the student to the history of books and paper, how preservation problems have developed, and to foster an understanding of the theory and application of the myriad preservation options currently practiced by conservators and curators. Practical "hands-on" solutions to 20th and 21st century circulating collections will be the focus of the second part of the class.

Tentative Class Schedule

Lecture 1:	The manuscript book as preservation
Lecture 2:	The printed book as preservation
Workshop 1:	Preservation of paper. Feel free to bring something from your home or work that you would like preserved.
Workshop 2:	Preservation of books. Artifacts from your home, work, or class will be analyzed in terms of printing, folding, sewing, boards, covering materials, conservation and value. We will review for the exam.

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Mid-term Exam & Book Repair 1	Exam first one-half of the day. Followed by “Setting up Shop” and “Resewing”
Book Repair 2	Demonstration of book repair techniques; review for final project.
DEADLINE	Projects must arrive in Kenosha by May , 2008.

Mid-term exam

The examination is 85% objective and 15% essay. The review for the exam occurs for the last hour of “Workshop 2^h”.

Required Readings

The textbook for lectures is *The Smithsonian Book of Books* by Michael Olmert. The textbook for workshops is a compilation of relevant printed sources and costs \$18.00.

Final Project

The final project is a “how-to” manual based upon lecture and demonstrations for setting up and supervising an in-house book repair department.

Help available

Students who need any assistance may call me at 800-228-1943 or email me at twomey@uwm.edu. I am available prior to and after each class session.

Grading

There are 100 points available.
The mid-term is worth 65 points.
The “how-to” manual is worth 35 points.

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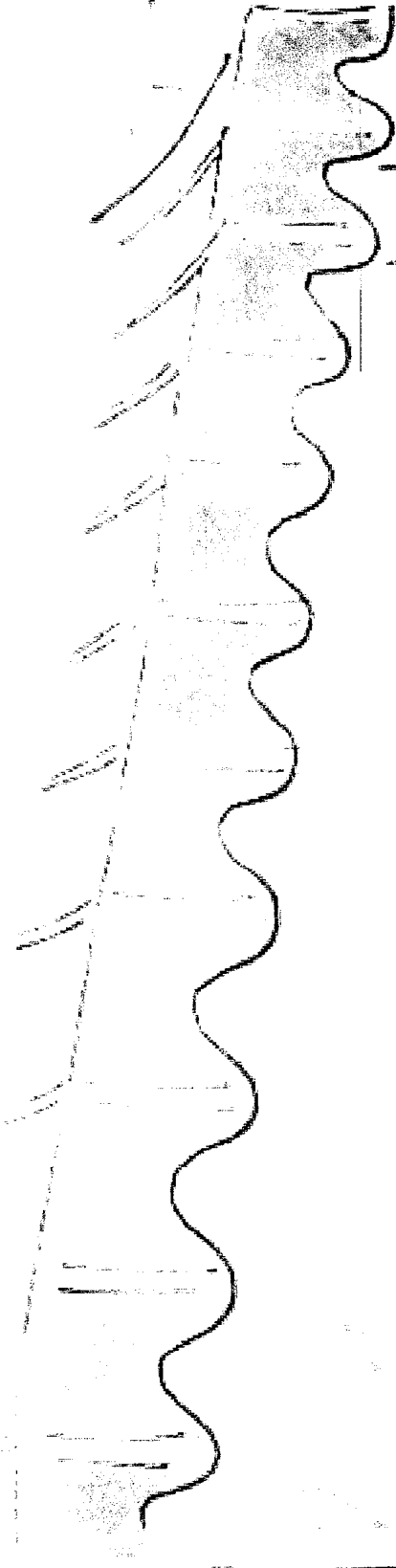
Extra-credit opportunities are offered.

The assignment of letter grades is based upon a norm-referenced scale:

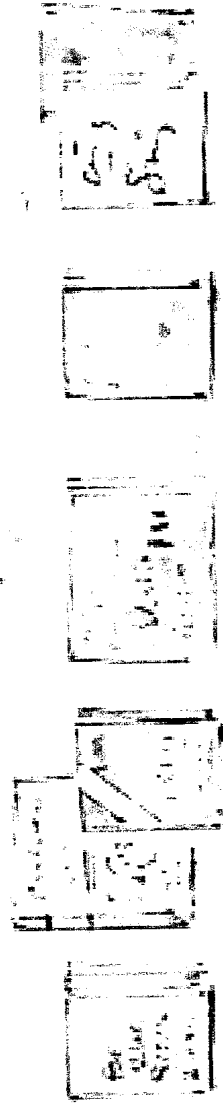
90-100 points A

80-89 points B

70-79 points C



BOOKS ON PAPER



My Book