Center for the Book Courses (UICB)

This is a list of all University of Iowa Center for the Book courses. For more information, see Center for the Book.

**UICB:2100 Creative Writing for Book Arts** 3 s.h.
Creative writing in context of book arts; text and image, typography, visual sequence, graphic narrative; zines, chapbooks, broadsides, and artist’s books.

**UICB:2110 Introduction to Book Arts** 3 s.h.
Topics related to artist books, hand bookbinding, letterpress printing, papermaking, and lettering arts. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as BKAT:2110.

**UICB:2600 Graphic Design II** 3 s.h.
Fundamentals of typography as a core element in visual communication; introduction to historical typographic practices as well as modern modes of designing with type. Prerequisites: ARTS:1510 and ARTS:1520. Corequisites: DSGN:2500. Same as DSGN:2600.

**UICB:2900 Book Design for Publishing** 3 s.h.
Introduction to the major aspects of book design, including typography, layout, standard industry software, discussion of trends in the field. Same as ARTS:2900, ENGL:2900, WRIT:2900.

**UICB:3140 Literature and the Book** 3 s.h.
English majors and English and Creative Writing majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Literary Theory and Interdisciplinary Studies. PERIOD: Varies by semester. Same as ENGL:3140.

**UICB:3142 Topics in Book History** 3 s.h.
Authorship, publishing, and so forth within specific historical and cultural contexts. English majors and English and Creative Writing majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Literary Theory and Interdisciplinary Studies. PERIOD: Varies by semester. Same as ENGL:3142.

**UICB:3280 Elements of Book Art** 3 s.h.
Overview of book art process and techniques for nonmajors; introduction to traditional bookbinding skills, nontraditional book structures, and content development for artist books. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as BKAT:3280.

**UICB:3380 Elements of Letterpress** 3 s.h.
Introduction to letterpress printing; metal type, relief printing, page layout, and basic typography; basic use of Vandercook Proof Press; experimentation with diverse letterpress techniques; for non-book art majors. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as BKAT:3380.

**UICB:3400 Calligraphy: Foundational Hands** 3 s.h.
Fundamental calligraphic skills using Roman majuscule, Humanistic minuscule, Italic; basic layout and color theory incorporated into letter practice. Same as BKAT:3400.

**UICB:3900 Special Project for Undergraduates** arr.
Independent study.

**UICB:3980 American Print Culture** 3 s.h.
Exploration of a wide range of imagery printed and published in the United States during 19th century (1776-1900); fine art original prints, popular imagery in periodicals and illustrated books, scholarly literature, history of evolving technologies, variety of printed work; shifting reputation of printed art and its makers. Same as ARTH:3980.

**UICB:4100 Paperworks** 3 s.h.
Conceptual and methodological approaches to 2-D and 3-D paper works; creation of works that couple unique properties of paper-pulp medium with personal visual ideas and clarity of intent; contemporary issues in paper pulp, medium’s relationship to larger art and craft contexts. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as BKAT:4100.

**UICB:4150 Introduction to Book Studies** 3 s.h.
Theory and practice of book studies; meanings of word and image in the book format; comparative study of other media, applied study of the codex as physical artifact. English majors and English and Creative Writing majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Literary Theory and Interdisciplinary Studies. PERIOD: Varies by semester. Same as ENGL:4150, SLIS:4150.

**UICB:4205 Bookbinding I: Materials and Techniques** 3 s.h.
Hands-on introduction to materials and techniques commonly used in bookbinding. Same as BKAT:4205.

**UICB:4210 Boxes and Enclosures** 3 s.h.
Hands-on techniques for a variety of book enclosures; appropriateness, aesthetic issues concerning box design; Japanese wraparound case, drop-spine box, hinged and lidded boxes, slipcase; technical skill development. Prerequisites: UICB:4205. Same as BKAT:4210.

**UICB:4270 Bookbinding II** 3 s.h.
Builds on skills acquired in UICB:4205; projects to complete six bindings based on historical and contemporary models; sewing styles, board attachments, endband types; nonadhesive and case-bound structures, varied materials and binding styles, their effects on structure, aesthetic considerations, further development of solid binding skills; historical development of particular binding practices. Prerequisites: UICB:4205. Same as BKAT:4270.

**UICB:4280 Artists’ Books** 3 s.h.
Exploration of the book as a form for artistic expression; emphasis on conceptual development; relationship between content, form, and structure; how a book’s structure and design can enhance and integrate part of the work’s meaning. Prerequisites: UICB:4205 or BKAT:4205. Same as BKAT:4280.

**UICB:4290 Historical Book Structures** 3 s.h.
Historical development of book structures examined through surviving examples, construction of historical models. Prerequisites: UICB:4205 or UICB:4205.

**UICB:4300 Letterpress I** 3 s.h.
Mechanics of letterpress printing, typography, and design as applied to hand set metal type and edition printing; printing on a Vandercook proof press; introduction to photopolymer plates and methods of illustration related to edition printing, historical aspects of printing technology, typecasting, type classification; role of letterpress in modern private press and contemporary artist books. Same as ARTS:4300.

**UICB:4340 Digital Design for Artists’ Books** 3 s.h.
Introduction to concepts, techniques, and technologies used to design and produce artists’ books with personal computers and graphic design software. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as ARTS:4340.
UICB:4380 Letterpress II  
3 s.h.
Builds on skills acquired in UICB:4300; students produce an editioned letterpress printed chapbook or artist book, a poster for a public event, and an image built from metal type; exploration of hand-set metal, digital typesetting, printing from photopolymer plates, and pressure printing; press mechanics and operation; publication philosophies, manuscript acquisition, and topics specific to literary fine press and artist books; historical and contemporary context for literary fine press publications and artist book work. Prerequisites: UICB:4300. Same as ARTS:4380.

UICB:4390 Book and Publication Design  
3 s.h.
Students plan, design, and produce a book using Adobe Creative Suite; page layout software, typography, page layout and design, book formatting, handling of image files, preparation of materials for print and other contemporary book media; history of book design, book design in contemporary publishing; visit to University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections. Prerequisites: DSGN:2600 or UICB:4300. Same as ARTS:4390.

UICB:4400 History of Western Letterforms  
3 s.h.
History of Western letterforms, with focus on tools, materials, techniques; the major hands, their place in history, their influence on modern times; creation of letterforms using appropriate tools; hands-on approach with emphasis on understanding rather than mastery. Same as ARTS:4400.

UICB:4415 Calligraphy I: Foundational Hands  
3 s.h.
Hands-on instruction in italic and pressure pen scripts; historical relationships, effects on modern letterforms. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as ARTS:4415.

UICB:4420 Calligraphy I: Blackletter Hands  
3 s.h.
Explores some of the many calligraphic forms known collectively as blackletter hands (medieval introduction to calligraphy); study of various hands from the heavily vertical Textura to the floridly expressive Gothic Cursive, and the distinctive connotations these unique letterform carry; emphasis on exploring the creative process while refining calligraphic skills and understanding the historical and social connections this hand has with other disciplines.

UICB:4490 Advanced Studies in Letter Arts  
3 s.h.
Special topics and advanced projects in calligraphy and letter arts. Prerequisites: UICB:4400 or UICB:4415 or UICB:4420. Same as ARTS:4490.

UICB:4910 The Book in the Middle Ages  
3 s.h.
Relation of text, decoration, function, creators, and audience in different genres of medieval manuscript books 400-1500 A.D. Same as HIST:4910, SLIS:4910.

UICB:4920 The Transition from Manuscript to Print  
3 s.h.

UICB:4930 Topics in Material Analysis  
3 s.h.
Analysis and description of physical book artifacts and their component parts (parchment, paper, bookbinding) and allied specialties (the lettering arts, printing and illustration techniques); reading, writing, presentations. Same as HIST:4430.

UICB:5110 Islamic/Asian Papermaking History and Technique  
3 s.h.
History, technique, and aesthetics of traditional Islamic and Asian hand papermaking. Same as BKAT:5110.

UICB:5130 European Papermaking History and Technique  
3 s.h.
History and technique of traditional European hand papermaking and related aesthetics; students gain confidence in pursuing independent production of handmade papers or undertaking related research in their own particular areas of interest; fiber preparation, sheet forming, and drying/finishing methods; concurrent readings and discussions of related history and aesthetics; special projects selected by student with instructor approval. Same as BKAT:5120.

UICB:5160 Studies in Papermaking  
arr.
Topics in the history and technique of papermaking. Prerequisites: UICB:4100 or UICB:5110 or UICB:5130.

UICB:5170 Advanced Papermaking Production  
3 s.h.
Independent Western- or Japanese-style projects undertaken at UICB Research and Production Paper Facility at Oakdale Campus under faculty guidance; plan, implement, and evaluate professional scale production runs using full-scale equipment. Prerequisites: UICB:5110 or UICB:5130 or BKAT:5110 or BKAT:5120. Same as BKAT:5170.

UICB:5180 Advanced Projects in Paper  
1-3 s.h.
Advanced independent projects undertaken in a classroom setting; collaborative group discussions to plan, implement, troubleshoot, and evaluate student projects. Prerequisites: UICB:5110 or UICB:5130 or BKAT:5110 or BKAT:5120. Same as BKAT:5180.

UICB:5210 Bookbinding III  
3 s.h.
Bookbinding structures based on historical and contemporary models; differences in various binding practices, how these differences affect function, why the styles developed; experience choosing appropriate structures for particular uses; emphasis on fine tuning skills and techniques required for advanced binding practices; sewn endbands, rounding and backing, sewing on varied supports, board attachments, and covering methods. Prerequisites: (UICB:4205 or BKAT:4205) and (UICB:4270 or BKAT:4270). Requirements: for UICB:5210—UICB:4205 and UICB:4270; for BKAT:5210—BKAT:4205 or BKAT:4270 or UICB:4205 or UICB:4270. Same as BKAT:5210.

UICB:5220 Book Conservation  
3 s.h.
Practical methods, materials assessment, conservation history and evolution. Prerequisites: UICB:4270. Same as SLIS:5535.

UICB:5260 Studies in Bookbinding  
3 s.h.
Topics related to hand bookbinding. Same as BKAT:5260.

UICB:5280 Bookbinding IV  
3 s.h.
Advanced studies in bookbinding: fine binding styles, leather paring and tooling, advanced finishing techniques, refining skills; continued look at differences in regional binding practices, how these differences affect function, and why particular styles developed. Prerequisites: UICB:5210.

UICB:5330 Letterpress III: Imagemaking  
arr.
Advanced work in alternative and innovative letterpress technologies as they apply to imagemaking processes for fine press printing; topics include pressure printing, photopolymer from nondigital negatives, explorations of type-high surfaces, monoprints on the Vandercook, and applying hand work to editioned prints; students complete a series of print exercises for each process, a small printed book sketch, and a longer format editioned artist book. Prerequisites: UICB:4380. Same as ARTS:5330.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UICB:5340</td>
<td>Letterpress III: The Handprinted Book</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Advanced work in fine press book design; exploration of problems in hand-printing books, choice of manuscript, editing, design, typesetting, proofreading, printing and binding; histories of printing and of the book, emphasis on 20th- and 21st-century book design and literature; issues of book design and production related to letterpress printing. Prerequisites: UICB:4380. Same as ARTS:5340.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:5370</td>
<td>Studies in Printing</td>
<td>1-3 s.h.</td>
<td>Development of individual book projects and production of one substantial project or several smaller ones; focus on acquiring or creating a text and/or other content; project development; range of print techniques available in letterpress printing; issues involved in producing editioned artist books or fine press work; opportunity to expand on existing printing; classroom setting used to augment work sessions with in-progress critiques, readings, and visits to special collections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:5380</td>
<td>Letterpress IV: Advanced Projects</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Development and/or production of one substantial project; focus on acquiring or creating a text and/or other content; project development; range of print techniques available in letterpress printing; issues involved in producing editioned artist books or fine press work; opportunity to expand on existing printing; classroom setting augments work sessions with in-progress critiques, readings, and visits to special collections. Prerequisites: UICB:5330 or UICB:5340.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:5520</td>
<td>Studies in Book History and Technologies</td>
<td>0-3 s.h.</td>
<td>Topics related to production, distribution, and consumption of books through history and into the future. Same as SLIS:5520.</td>
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<td>UICB:5530</td>
<td>Topics in Preservation</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Care, conservation, and preservation of cultural heritage artifacts; readings, discussion, hands-on sessions. Same as SLIS:5530.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:5540</td>
<td>Topics in Book Arts</td>
<td>1-3 s.h.</td>
<td>Focus on particular techniques and concepts in the book arts and related fields.</td>
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<td>UICB:5550</td>
<td>Special Project for Graduate Students</td>
<td>arr.</td>
<td>Independent study.</td>
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<td>UICB:5600</td>
<td>History of Readers and Reading</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Cultural nature of reading practices in historic and contemporary contexts; print and digital culture; reading communities; examples of recent scholarship; use of primary resources; seminar. Same as SLIS:5600.</td>
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<td>UICB:6100</td>
<td>Book Studies Proseminar</td>
<td>1-3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:6370</td>
<td>Topics in Book Studies</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Topics relevant to book studies and special collections. Same as SLIS:6370.</td>
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<td>UICB:6510</td>
<td>Book Art Seminar: History, Practice, and Critique</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Art-historical introduction to book arts (printing, bookbinding, papermaking and paperworks, artist bookwork, lettering arts, literary fine press and fine press artist books); influences and origins, contemporary practice, critical considerations; locating field through lenses of fine art, craft, and book history; weekly readings, observational analyses, hands-on exercises; archival research in the University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections; final research, analytical, and/or critical project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:6520</td>
<td>Graduate Book Arts Workshop</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Development of artwork and studio practice; readings and research in contemporary theory and practice; analysis of visual language; integration of creative activities and critical thinking in student's own art practice and analysis of contemporary work in book arts; group and individual critiques, studio assignments, presentations, discussions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:6540</td>
<td>M.F.A. Thesis Hours</td>
<td>arr.</td>
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