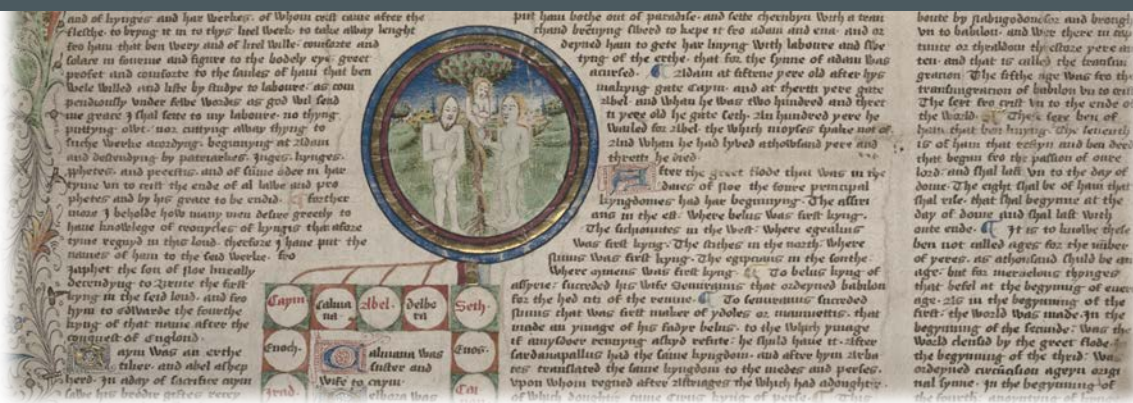


# Digital Editing and the Medieval Manuscript Roll

A Graduate Workshop at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library



A WORKSHOP SUPPORTED BY

ENGLISH MANUSCRIPT ROLLS 1200-1600: A COLLABORATIVE DIGITIZATION PROJECT

**Welcome!** Over the two days of this graduate workshop, we'll tackle:

- The Paleography and Codicology of Manuscript Rolls
- The Basics of Manuscript Transcription and Scholarly Editing
- Introduction to the Digital Edition: Challenges and Best Practices
- Collaborative Editing
- Text Encoding Fundamentals: XML and the TEI Schema
- Using Digital Editing Tools: The Graphical XML Editor oXygen

Instructor Emails and  
Workshop Overview

Page 2

Time Commitment

What are your obligations as a  
participant?

Page 3

Syllabus and Schedule

The step-by-step workshop  
plan.

Pages 4-5

# Workshop Instructors

## Course Co-ordinators & Instructors

**Kyle Conrau-Lewis**  
kyle.conrau-lewis@yale.edu

**James Eric Ensley**  
james.ensley@yale.edu

**Elizabeth Hebbard**  
ekhebbard@gmail.com

**Mireille Pardon**  
mireille.pardon@yale.edu

**Burton Westermeier**  
burton.westermeier@yale.edu

## Course Administrators & Instructors

**Katherine Hindley**  
katherine.hindley@yale.edu

**Gina Marie Hurley**  
gina.hurley@yale.edu

## Workshop Philosophy: Learning through Building

The creation of a digital version of a MS roll, with accompanying searchable transcription and commentary, is our energizing goal. This fast-paced course emphasizes practical input from participants as we work to build this online edition.

Training goals include the paleography and codicology of rolls, digital editing and TEI markup, the use of XML editing tools, and project-based collaboration in the digital arena.

These strands combine in the design of the workshop: participants will work closely with one another to transform newly learned skills into a concrete digital artifact, and so

prepare themselves to take on future digital collaborations.

After the workshop, each participant will complete their assigned TEI transcription task; the code will be combined, linked to the MS images, and presented online as a working edition.

Learning in this workshop is driven by participants themselves, through their active

**Ultimately, what sets the digital humanities apart from many other humanities fields is its methodological commitment to building things as a way of knowing.**  
—Matthew K. Gold

## Looking to the Future: Your Role in the Collaboration

This workshop has been created and will be run by graduate students. Its participants and graduate student facilitators will work collectively to gain digital humanities skills and complete their encoding projects.

We hope that those who have participated in the course might go on to teach similar courses in the future, and so keep on learning about the TEI and digital editing themselves.

As you work through this course, take control of your role as a digital humanist. Actively seek to master the skills that *you* want to have. In each unit, consider especially how you would teach others the fundamentals of text encoding, digital editing, and the details of manuscript codicology.

For more information about our ongoing collaboration, or about our workshop series, please contact  
digitalmanuscriptrolls@gmail.com



## ROLLS IN THE UK PARLIAMENTARY ARCHIVES

Image reproduced with the permission of Parliament

# What do YOU need to do?

Digital projects take thoughtful commitment: read carefully what's required.

### BEFORE THE WORKSHOP

You will need to:

- **Read** two articles
- **Familiarize yourself** with the general content of the webpage of the TEI initiative
- **Post** responses on the class website
- **Complete** an online transcription exercise

**The pre-workshop time commitment will be approximately 4 hours.**

You may begin posting responses ten days before the workshop; these posts must be completed by 12pm on the day before the workshop begins.

### DURING THE WORKSHOP

You will need to:

- **Attend** both days of the workshop, April 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Collaborate** closely with your peers on all aspects of the project

- **Be prepared** to make editorial decisions
- **Participate** enthusiastically!

### AFTER THE WORKSHOP

You will need to:

- **Complete** your assigned encoding task in a timely fashion
- **Submit** your completed code – with commentary
- **Reflect** on your experience of the course, and provide feedback
- **Proof-read** the completed MSS encodings

**The post-workshop time commitment should be no more than 6 hours** (it may be much less). Time allowances will vary depending on collective editorial decisions made during the workshop, and your own level of comfort with text encoding.

We hope that 2-3 months after the workshop, we will see the fruits of our collective labor go live on a website hosted by the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

## Workshop Syllabus

DATE/TIME	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES
Before workshop: self-directed	A General Introduction: Preparation for the Workshop  Topics: 1. Digital editing: why do it? 2. Text encoding: what is it? 3. Manuscript transcription 4. Your resources – get them!	<b>Read:</b> Set texts and websites  <b>Do:</b> 1. Online transcription exercise 2. Install trial version of oXygen 3. Post website reflections
<b>Day 1 – All Day:</b> Beinecke Classroom <b>Lunch:</b> TBC		
9.00-9.30am <b>Beinecke Library</b>	Meeting on Beinecke Library Mezzanine	<b>Do:</b> Get nametag & course materials; meet participants
9.30-11.00am 90 mins <b>Beinecke Classroom</b>	1. Introduction to MS rolls and our MS 2. The (digital) editing of non- standard MS materials 3. Transcription conventions and catalogue entries	<b>Think:</b> 1. What makes MS rolls unique? 2. Understand the conventions of MS cataloguing and transcription
10 mins	Break	-
11.10am-12.30pm 80 mins <b>Beinecke Classroom</b>	1. Cataloguing non-standard MS materials: conventions and challenges 2. Practical work in pairs	<b>Do:</b> Develop the text of your part of the MS catalogue entry
60 mins	Lunch, <b>TBC</b>	-
1.30-3.00pm 90 mins <b>Beinecke Classroom</b>	1. Introduction to text encoding and markup language 2. Introduction to the TEI	<b>Think:</b> What is 'text'? Why encode?
15 mins	Break	-
3.15-4.30pm 75 mins	1. How to use oXygen 2. TEI structure and its common elements	<b>Do:</b> Practice using oXygen and TEI protocols

<b>Beinecke Classroom</b>		
Evening: self-directed	Editorial decisions: an exercise in digital thinking	<b>Do:</b> Write a short piece of xml code Practice using oXygen and TEI protocols
<b>Day 2 – All Day:</b> Room TBC		
10.00-11.00am 60 mins <b>TBC</b>	The TEI: meeting the challenges of non-standard text	<b>Think:</b> How can we adapt hierarchies to represent our materials?
10 mins	Break	
11.10am-12.30pm 80 mins <b>TBC</b>	Image Linking and Digital Editions	<b>Think:</b> How should image and text be digitally linked? Who is the edition being created for?
60 mins	Lunch, <b>TBC</b>	
1.30-3.00pm 75 mins <b>TBC</b>	TEI metadata and how to use it: <teiHeader> and <msDesc>	<b>Do:</b> Mark up your catalogue data according to TEI protocols Post your completed markup
15 mins	Break	
3.15-4.30pm 75 mins <b>TBC</b>	Guided Practical Session: Transcribe and mark up your MSS	<b>Do:</b> Begin to transcribe your MS sections, and mark them up using TEI
After workshop: self-directed	Complete Your Markup Task!	<b>Do:</b> Complete your markup <b>Post:</b> Your completed (& proofread) passage and catalogue data

BEINECKE MS 410  
(DETAIL)



### The Codicology of Roll and Codex: Different Questions?

Although the same materials used to make rolls and codices, they are used in very different ways. In examining the structure of a roll, questions arise that are not relevant to a codex.

For example, are membranes attached to one another using glue, thread, or parchment? Are new membranes attached over or under the preceding membrane? Does

text run horizontally or vertically? In double-sided rolls, does text run in the same direction on both sides?

Although terminology for the study of codices is well-developed, terminology for rolls is still developing: indeed, scholars working in different disciplines and on different historical periods do not even agree on the difference between 'roll' and 'scroll.'

# The English Manuscript Roll, 1200-1600: A Collaborative Digitization Project

This workshop represents a major facet of a collaboration between graduate students at Yale University, the University of Toronto and the University of Connecticut. The project aims to build a network of graduate students working with medieval manuscript rolls and/or digital humanities, to train graduate students in collaborative digital textual editing through hands-on group projects involving editing and editorial decision-making and TEI encoding, and to create online digital editions of five manuscript rolls.

The project's webpage can be found at [digitalrollsandfragments.com](http://digitalrollsandfragments.com). We welcome inquiries from potential collaborators.

Project Team:

**Anya Adair, Yale University** – [anya.adair@yale.edu](mailto:anya.adair@yale.edu)

**Katherine Hindley, Yale University** – [katherine.hindley@yale.edu](mailto:katherine.hindley@yale.edu)

**Micah Goodrich, University of Connecticut** – [micah.goodrich@uconn.edu](mailto:micah.goodrich@uconn.edu)

**Jessica Henderson, University of Toronto** – [jess.henderson@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:jess.henderson@mail.utoronto.ca)



## Acknowledgements

The organizers of the workshop offer their particular thanks to the following people and organizations, for their assistance and advice:

### Raymond Clemens

Curator, Early Books and Manuscripts  
Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library

### Peter Leonard

Director  
Yale Digital Humanities Lab

### Trip Kirkpatrick

Yale Instructional Technology Group  
Center for Teaching and Learning

The Beinecke Library Digital Services Unit

## Our supporters

Our grateful thanks go to the following institutions and organizations for their financial support:

**The MAA/GSC Grant for Innovation in Community Building and Professionalization**

**Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library**

**Whitney Humanities Center Working Group in Digital Manuscript Studies**

**Yale Digital Humanities Lab**



PHOTO: MICHAEL MARSLAND

YALE GROTESQUES WITH ROLL