

Northwestern
Program of African Studies



Working with African Arabic Script Manuscripts



A training workshop sponsored by

The Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University,
The Center for African Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign,
The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, University of Hamburg

Northwestern University, Evanston IL

August 14-20, 2017

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

Please note that this intensive training workshop is only open to participants who applied and were selected through competition.

Sunday, August 13: Registration and Opening Reception

Location: John Evans Center, 1800 Sheridan Road		
6:00-7:30 pm	Welcome, introduction to the workshop (concept, foci, etc.), introductions of participants (by pairings), and conversation.	

Monday, August 14: African Arabic Script Manuscripts in Context

Morning Session. Location: Ruan Conference Center (lower level, Chambers Hall, 600 Foster St)		
9:00-9:30	Where we've been and where we're going: some goals for the workshop	Charles Stewart
9:30-10:00	What makes a <i>manū scriptus</i> a manuscript? Content contained in context	Graziano Krätli
10:00-10:30	Q&A for previous two presentations	
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:30	Manuscript collection practices	Susana Molins-Lliteras
11:30-12:00	Reading between the lines: Ajami texts in Islamic manuscripts as signs of multilingual pedagogy and scholarship	Dmitry Bondarev, Darya Ogorodnikova
12:00-12:30	Q&A for previous two presentations	
12:30-1:30	Lunch at the Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.	
Afternoon Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Forum Room (2nd Floor)		
2:00-2:30	Curator Presentation	Omar Khamis, Zanzibar National Archives, Tanzania
2:30-3:00	Curator Presentation	Chapane Mutiua, University Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique
3:00-3:30	Q& A with Curators	
3:30-4:00	Break	
Hands-On Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Ver Steeg Faculty Lounge		
4:00-4:15	Brief introduction to the Herskovits manuscript collection and guidelines for handling manuscripts	Martin Antonetti
4:00 – 5:15	Hands-on Session: In small groups, participants examine 1 or 2 original manuscripts and report back to full group about questions the manuscripts raise, noteworthy features, and how to describe specific elements of the manuscripts.	Mauro Nobili to lead group discussion.
5:15 – 6:30	Break for dinner	
Evening Calligraphy Course (NU location TBD: Optional)		
6:30-8:30	Elements of Calligraphy, Part 1: Introduction to Calligraphic Principles	Nuria Garcia Masip with Mohameden Ahmed Salem Ahmedou & Susana Molins-Lliteras

**Tuesday, August 15: Codicological Features of Arabic Script
Manuscripts from Africa**

Morning Session. Location: Ruan Conference Center (lower level, Chambers Hall, 600 Foster St)		
9:00-10:00	Paper, watermarks, inks, and binding	Michaëlle Biddle
10:00-10:30	Towards a typology of African script styles; decorative elements	Mauro Nobili
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:30	An introduction to esoteric elements in African manuscripts	Paul Naylor
11:30-12:00	Q&A for all three presentations	
12:00-1:00	Lunch at the Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.	
Afternoon Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Forum Room (2nd Floor)		
1:30-2:00	Curator Presentation	Saadou Traore, Djéne Manuscript Library, Mali
2:00-2:30	Curator Presentation	Hassen Mohamed Kawo, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
2:30-3:00	Curator Presentation	Moshood Jimba, Centre for Ilorin Manuscripts & Culture, Nigeria
3:00-3:30	Q&A with Curators	
3:30-3:45	Break	
Hands-on Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Ver Steeg Faculty Lounge		
3:45-4:00	A brief introduction to the use of the DINO Lite microscope to analyze manuscripts.	Claudia Colini
4:00-5:00	Participants return to their small groups and examine 1 or 2 manuscripts, focusing on codicological elements such as paper, watermark, inks, scripts, calligraphies, and esoteric elements. They also practice analyzing their manuscripts using the DINO Lite microscope. Report back to full group on findings.	Dmitry Bondarev to lead group discussion.
5:00-6:30	Dinner break	
Evening Calligraphy Course (NU location TBD: Optional)		
6:30-8:30 pm	Elements of Calligraphy, Part 2: Calligraphy Compositions	Nuria Garcia Masip with Mohameden Ahmed Salem & Susana Molins-Literas

Wednesday, August 16: Working with Texts

Morning Session. Location: Ruan Conference Center (lower level, Chambers Hall, 600 Foster St)		
9:00-10:00	Identifying texts: titles and variants, incipit and explicit; authors and variants of author names, transliteration	Mauro Nobili, Charles Stewart
10:00-10:30	Marginal and interlinear paratexts; reading colophons and dates	Susana Molins-Llitas
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:30	Understanding the pedagogical functions of marginal and interlinear paratexts	Dmitry Bondarev, Darya Ogorodnikova
11:30-12:00	Q&A for all morning presentations	
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch at the Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.	
Afternoon Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Forum Room (2nd Floor)		
1:30-2:00	Curator Presentation	Mohammed Hafiz, University of Ghana
2:00-2:30	Curator Presentation	Mohameden Ahmedou, family library, Trarza, Mauritania
2:30-3:00	Curator Presentation:	Souleymane Gaye, IFAN, Senegal
3:00-3:30	Q&A with Curators	
3:30-3:45	Break	
Hands-on Session. Location: Northwestern University Library Ver Steeg Faculty Lounge		
3:45-5:00	Participants return to their small groups; each group given 1 or 2 manuscripts to examine, focusing on marginalia, paratexts, colophons, or dating or author issues and reports back to full group.	Darya Ogorodnikova & Susana Molins-Llitas to lead discussion
Evening Session at American Islamic College of Chicago		
6:00-7:30	Special Lecture: “The Art of Islamic Calligraphy: Scripts and Transmission Methods”	Nuria Garcia Masip with Mohameden Ahmed Salem

Thursday, August 17: Field Work Day for Curators

Optional for US participants.

Morning Sessions. Location TBD		
9:00-9:30	Finding manuscript citations: Hand-lists, inventories, catalogues, bibliographies	Mauro Nobili
9:30-10:00	Finding manuscript citations across the Islamic world: Hand-lists, inventories, catalogues, bibliographies	Laila Hussein Moustafa
10:00-10:30	An introduction to the principal scientific techniques for manuscript analysis and their applications	Claudia Colini, NU-ACCESS post docs
10:30-11:00	Field Day instructions	Charles Stewart
11:00- 5:00	Groups of 4-5 will visit a variety of manuscript-related “field sites” in Evanston and Chicago, including the Herskovits collection of <u>Arabic Manuscripts from West Africa</u> , the laboratory of Northwestern’s <u>Centre for Scientific Studies in the Arts</u> , the Field Museum, the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, and the Newberry Library.	
Evening	Evening meal (optional) in Chicago: to be announced	

Friday, August 18: Curator Workshop: Cataloging and the AMMS

Morning Session. Location TBD		
9:00-9:45	An introduction to metadata	Graziano Krätli
9:45-10:30	Overview of the Arabic Manuscript Management System (AMMS)	Charles Stewart
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-12:00	Input protocols for the AMMS; joint input exercise for all participants [lab session with enough computers to go around].	Charles Stewart, Mohamed Elbou, Bruce Hall (to be confirmed)
12:00-2:30	Lunch at PAS & time for Jumah prayer (1:10-2:00 pm) for those who choose	
Afternoon Session. Location TBD		
2:30-3:00	Distribution of Certificates	To be confirmed.
3:00-4:00	Open “lab” session on AMMS where curators input 10-20 records, using manuscripts from various collections.	Charles Stewart, Mauro Nobili, and other instructors available to assist, answer questions.
4:00-4:15	Break	

4:15-5:15	Wrap-up discussion on cataloging, including suggestions for fields/features that could be added to future versions of the AMMS.	Charles Stewart to lead
Evening: Free		

Saturday, August 19: Curator Workshop: Preservation, Digitization, and Developing a Training Guide

Morning Session. Location: Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.		
9:00-10:30 am	Approaches to the preservation of African manuscripts and best practices	Michaëlle Biddle
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-12:00	Digitization adapted to local needs, best practices.	Daniel Gullo, Claudia Garradas
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
Afternoon Session. Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.		
1:00-2:00	Future workshops: your suggestions	Dmitry Bondarev to lead
1:30-2:45	How to construct a training guide	Charles Stewart, Dmitry Bondarev, Mauro Nobili
2:45-3:15	Break	
3:15-4:15	Open discussion on manuscript access	Bruce Hall to lead (to be confirmed)
4:15-5:15	Strategies for approaching foundation and other entities for financial support/who offers support for what?	Laila Hussein Moustafa
Evening: Free		

Sunday, August 20: Wrap-up of Curators' Workshop

Morning Session. Program of African Studies, 620 Library Pl.		
9:30-10:00	Breakfast	
10:00-12:00	What comes next? Devising a sustainable plan for continuing the training provided at this workshop (whether at NU or in other locales) and supporting the curator network in ongoing efforts to train colleagues at home.	