northwestern university DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Quarter/Year Course Number Day/Time Instructor

Winter 2019 ART-HIST 390 & 430 T 2:00-4:50 Markey

Course Title Degree/Distro Fulfillment

Nova Reperta: Art, Technology, and Globalization in the Renaissance

390 and/or Early Modern Distribution



The impact of the printing press in the Renaissance is often compared with the internet today. But how did other technological and artistic innovations transform early modern culture? This course will use the renowned sixteenth-century print series entitled the Nova Reperta (New Discoveries) to explore and question innovation and novelty in the Renaissance. Topics represented in the series include syphilis and its cure, the Americas, distillation, eyeglasses, and the iron clock. To study the prints requires engagement with the history of art, science, medicine, and technology. The course will be taught primarily in the rare book room of the Newberry Library and will include class visits to the Art Institute of Chicago and the Adler Planetarium to examine related works on paper, paintings, printed books, and objects. Students will aid with the preparations for a Newberry

exhibition and contribute to a forthcoming related publication.

Required Textbooks

Assessments

Readings available as PDFs and as books on reserve in the main library.

Discussion, catalogue entries, and seminar report/final paper.