Editors of early modern texts find themselves today in a world that exhibits little certainty and multiple challenges. The “new bibliography” has come under increasing attack from proponents of social theories of editing as well as from postmodern doubters of the primacy of authorial intention and of the very existence of a “work” behind the “text.” At the same time, the field of documents to be edited has expanded; electronic publication confronts the editor with the demand for a range of new skills; and the editor is increasingly pulled between the conflicting demands of, on the one hand, fidelity to the early modern document, and, on the other, making the edition of that document accessible to a modern reader. With the help of an expert visiting faculty, including Jerome J. McGann, W. Speed Hill, Elizabeth Hageman, Paul Werstine, and Randall McLeod, this seminar examined the theory and the practice of editing early modern manuscript and printed materials, drawing on the Library's wealth of documentary resources.

Bibliography


(Cludes: Fredson Bowers, “Current Theories of Copy-Text, with an Illustration from Dryden” and Vinton A. Dearing, “Methods of Textual Editing.”)


(Includes essays on major aspects of interest to editors: collaboration, revision, dramatic manuscripts, etc.)


(Include: E.A.J. Honigmann, “Shakespeare as a Reviser” and “The Date and Revision of Troilus and Cressida”; Michael Warren, “Textual Problems, Editorial Assertions in Editions of Shakespeare”; Lee Patterson, “The Kane-Donaldson Piers Plowman in


