



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT: Curator of European Books

The John Carter Brown Library seeks a Curator of European Books, an endowed position reporting to the Director and Librarian. The John Carter Brown Library has one of the world's most important collections of books related to the history of the Americas across the period stretching from the arrival of Europeans in the Americas (c. 1492) through to the end of the colonial period (c. 1825). European books on the history of the Americas lie distinctly at the Library's core. Throughout its history, the Library has consistently added significant holdings to its world-renowned collection of Americana, including not only Spanish and Portuguese works but also Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian and Slavic books. The Curator of European Books serves as the ambassador – and chief proselytizer – for these extraordinary collections.

Responsibilities include:

Assisting with the Library's continued growth through acquisitions and collection development; its interpretation for scholars and the general public, through onsite and digital engagement; exhibition and publication preparation; the provision of reference services; identifying materials for preservation and conservation; and other duties as assigned by the Director/Librarian, to whom this position reports. It is essential that the incoming Curator of European Books have a solid grasp on the history of the Americas and to be able to effectively and meaningfully present material in imperial history, cultural history, the history of the book, and other relevant disciplines to staff, fellows, researchers, the Brown community, and the world outside of Brown.

Qualifications

- Ph.D. or extensive curatorial/scholarly experience in a field related to European and/or Atlantic world history, including but not limited to history, art history, literary studies, geography, anthropology, or other cognate disciplines; minimum of 5 years of experience with library collections; experience with the stewardship of unique materials and discovery tools to access these collections; knowledge of metadata and cataloguing concepts
- Demonstrated aptitude for teaching and developing instructional materials for advanced researchers and students of all levels, including digital outreach and the use of electronic media for a robust range of pedagogical and scholarly activities
- Demonstrated experience in rare materials and/or special collection libraries
- Ability to speak publicly and write with demonstrable skill, including grant and proposal writing as well as advanced scholarship
- Strong aptitude in foreign languages and knowledge of history/geography are essential
- Interest in or ability to link traditional topics in the history of the Americas with emerging technologies, including digital humanities and/or web-based projects
- Ability to manage projects effectively and independently; strong organizational, administrative and time management skills; initiative, confidence, and good judgment to prioritize, problem-solve, and execute tasks in a timely manner; ability to work with a diverse group of people, maintaining confidentiality, tact, and diplomacy.



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About the Library

The John Carter Brown Library is one of the leading institutions of its kind in the world. An independent research library established in 1846 and located since 1904 on the campus of Brown University, it is renowned for its collection of books, maps, and manuscripts related to the history of the Americas from the arrival of Europeans c. 1492 to the independence movements of the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. It also houses a highly regarded fellowship program that attracts between 30 and 40 scholars from around the world each year; an ever-expanding digitization program, with ambitions to become even better connected to today's dynamic environment of digital scholarship; a world-class curatorial staff, with professional expertise in the fields the library serves; cutting-edge academic programming; and an intimate and elegant research environment that is the envy of its peers.

To Apply

To apply, please send a formal application via e-mail jcb-director@brown.edu and reference the **Curator of European Books** position. Documents should include cover letter, resume, and the names and e-mail addresses of three references. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Applications can also be sent via regular mail to:

The John Carter Brown Library
Curator of European Books Search Committee
Box 1894
Providence, RI 02912