

**ARTH 221: Nineteenth-Century Art
Information Literacy Program Stipend Report**

**Darlene Miller-Lanning, Ph.D
Gallery Director/Adjunct Faculty, Art and Music Program**

**Michael Knies
Special Collections Librarian/Associate Professor, Weinberg Memorial Library**

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Project Summary

In Spring 2012, an Information Literacy Program Stipend was awarded for ARTH 221: Nineteenth-Century Art, an art history course offered through the Art and Music Program, History Department, at the University of Scranton. The course was approved for humanities, diversity, and writing intensive credits, an enrollment of twenty-four students. Topics covered in the course related to the idea of how art and literature intersect, and how methods for artistic and literary production, publication, and dissemination changed drastically during the nineteenth century due to the advent of new technologies, including photography and industrial printing processes. This crossroads of art and technology foreshadowed developments for information literacy that emerged at the end of the twentieth century, when the proliferation of digital media radically changed the ways in which words and images were created and accessed. To help students better understand these processes from both a historical and contemporary perspective, Darlene Miller-Lanning and Michael Knies collaborated to develop lectures and assignments addressing the ways in which the perception and interpretation of traditional print media is transformed through its presentation in an interactive, digital format. Materials used in these lectures and assignments included physical artifacts and virtual reproductions found in the Weinberg Memorial Library's Special Collections and Digital Archives.

Project Activities

During the spring semester, students enrolled in ARTH 221: Nineteenth-Century Art attended art history and library science lectures focusing on the transformation of texts and images across changing media, and completed writing and presentation projects. In order to facilitate the development of presentation projects, the class was divided into six work groups, each comprised of four students.

Providing a framework for the course, Miller-Lanning conducted eight art history lectures discussing major developments in nineteenth-

Midway through the semester, student groups were assigned distinctive, nineteenth-century alphabets from the Zaner-Bloser Penmanship Collection, to be used as the basis for class presentation projects. Alphabets were:

1. Light Line Block Alphabet at <http://digitalservices.scranton.edu/u/?zanerbloser,6949>
2. Broad Pen Roman Alphabet at <http://digitalservices.scranton.edu/u/?zanerbloser,6950>
3. Skeleton Roman Alphabet at <http://digitalservices.scranton.edu/u/?zanerbloser,6951>
4. Sickels Alphabet by Tablyn at