

LIBRARY HALL VOCABULARY LIST

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| <u>Book of Hours</u> | a small volume of prayers, scriptural excerpts, and devotional text, organized around the canonical hours of the Catholic Church. Such manuscripts, usually decorated with a series of miniatures of scenes from the life of the Virgin Mary, were popular among lay men and women in the later Middle Ages. |
| <u>Broadside</u> (or Broadsheet) | a single sheet of unfolded paper printed on one side only, frequently containing an official announcement, current news, or popular ephemeral songs or verse, sold unbound. |
| <u>Folio</u> | (1) a single sheet of paper, folded once to yield four pages of print; or, (2) a large book, the pages of which are folio-sized, as “The First Folio” edition of Shakespeare’s plays. See also quarto . |
| <u>Illuminated manuscript</u> | a manuscript which has been decorated with colored paints and gold leaf or gold paint, a common practice for luxury books produced in the Middle Ages. |
| <u>Incunabula</u> | books printed in the early or “cradle days” of printing, i.e. before 1501. |
| <u>Manuscript</u> | a letter, document or other composition written by hand (as opposed to a work produced in multiple copies by a printing press). |
| <u>Miniature</u> | a small painting, usually in vivid colors highlighted with gold leaf or gold paint, on the page of a medieval book or manuscript. |
| <u>Parchment</u> | the skin of an animal (usually a calf or sheep) that has been cleaned, scraped, stretched and prepared for use as a writing surface. Also called vellum . |
| <u>Quarto</u> | a medium sized book composed of sheets of paper folded twice (hence roughly half the size of a Folio). Abbreviated as “4to”. |
| <u>Woodcut</u> | a printed illustration made by impressing the design engraved on a block or wood. |
| <u>Vellum</u> | the skin from an animal (usually a calf or sheep) that has been scraped, cleaned, stretched and prepared for use as a writing surface. Also called parchment . |