For body copy:
• Main copy points, use 24 point Arial
• Bullet points, use 18 point Arial
• For bullet points with longer copy, can go to 16 point Arial. Also consider breaking into two slides for easier reading.
Overview

1. International publishing & consumption in early-modern Europe

2. Early European Books – Collection Model

3. Early European Books – Some Features
For body copy:
- Main copy points, use 24 point Arial
- Bullet points, use 18 point Arial
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ProQuest’s Early European Books Project

- Scope: all material printed in Europe or in European languages from the birth of printing (c.1455) to 1700
- Successor & complement to Early English Books Online (EEBO)
- Scan in colour from original volumes (not microfilm)
  - Scanning on site in libraries in Florence, The Hague, London, Copenhagen
  - Every page in high-resolution colour; each book reproduced in full
- Aim: to create a comprehensive digital library of the history of Western culture
  - EEBO’s 125,000 books will become a subset of Early European Books
Why European Books?

- EEBO only covers a fraction of books from the period:
  - By 1600, Europe had produced 345,000 books; only 4% are in EEBO

- Example: Sir Hans Sloane’s (1660-1753) personal collection of books.
  - c.25,000 works in reconstructed catalogue
  - 75% were published outside of Britain

- Modern national boundaries are not always appropriate to this period.
  - States such as France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands etc. did not exist in their modern form.

- Intellectual life was profoundly international.
European Culture: Science

- Nicolaus Copernicus
  - From Turon, Royal Prussia (now in Poland).
  - *De Revolutionibus* (Latin, Nuremberg, 1543; EEB has Basel 1556 edition from BNCF)

- Tycho Brahe
  - From Scania (was Denmark, now Sweden)
  - *De Nova Stella*, Latin, Copenhagen, 1573 (EEB copy from KBDK)

- Johannes Kepler
  - From Free Imperial City of Weil der Stadt, in the Holy Roman Empire
  - *Epitome astronomiae Copernicane*, Latin, Linz (Austria), 1618 (EEB copy from KBDK)

- Galileo Galilei
  - From Duchy of Florence
  - *Discorsi e dimostrazioni matematiche*, (Italian, Leiden, 1638; copy in Wellcome)

Pan-European community of scholars and publishers. Lines of influence have no relation to national boundaries.

Galileo’s *Discorsi* was published by House of Elzevir in Leiden (Protestant Dutch Republic) after failed attempts to publish in other France and elsewhere; his works were banned by the Roman Inquisition.
European Culture: Religious Debate

- **Martin Luther**
  - From the Electorate of Saxony in the Holy Roman Empire
  - Publication of 95 Theses in 1517 led to print explosion throughout Europe
  - Wrote in Latin & German, works reprinted & translated throughout Europe

- **Desiderius Erasmus**
  - From Burgundian Netherlands, wrote in Latin, worked with printers in Louvain, Paris, Basel
  - Catholic Humanist, argued against Luther, the first writer to make a substantial living from his works
  - *Adagia*: encyclopedic anthology of proverbs from Classical sources (Venice, 1578, copy from BNCF)
European Culture: Philosophy

- Aristotle
  - Modern scholarly edition created by Cretan scholars in Republic of Venice (Aldine, 1495-98; EEB copy from BNCF)

- Rene Descartes
  - French, lived in Dutch Republic and fought in Prince Maurit's of Nassau's army. Died in Sweden.
  - *Principia Philosophiae* (Amsterdam: Elzevir, 1644; EEB copy from KBNL): 'cogito ergo sum'

- Baruch Spinoza
  - Portuguese Jewish family, lived in Dutch Republic; *Ethics* published Amsterdam, 1677 (EEB copy from KBNL)

Crete was part of the Republic of Venice in C15; Aldus Manutius recruited Cretan editors and compositors to create the first modern editions of Classical Greek authors.

By end of C17, Amsterdam was 2nd largest centre of French book production after Paris (Febvre).

Cogito: might be surprised to know it was first written in French. Surprising how quickly it was translated into English: only 12 years.
Cogito: might be surprised to know it was first written in French. Surprising how quickly it was translated into English: only 12 years.
The Geography of Printing

‘… Any national history of the book is really a history of book exchange in and out, complicated by nightmarish identification problems’

- Prof. James Raven
The Geography of Printing

- From its origins in Germany, printing spread across Europe—but so too did printing dominance...

- In the first 50 years of printing—presses sprang up in over 230 towns.
- Close of the C15th: Of 1821 editions identified between 1495-97, the top three places of publication were:
  - 447 from Venice
  - 181 from Paris
  - 95 from Lyon
- Spain & England in the C15th were largely dependent upon imports.
The Geography of Printing

Geographical expansion of printing in C15th

- Printing’s reach by 1470
- Printing’s reach by 1480
- Printing’s reach by 1500

Map: Mackay & Beavan (after Febvre & Martin)
The Geography of Printing

- Role of Latin as scholarly *lingua franca* facilitated mobility of books.
  - Demand from Parisian humanists in the C15th for classics met most easily by importing from Italy.
- Popular editions of texts often plagiarised across national borders.
  - In the C17th The Elsevirs copied French & English texts through false imprints from a base in Amsterdam.
- Legal limits on the number of Publishers in the C17th meant that over half of French books were in fact published elsewhere.
  - Helped to hand printing dominance to the Dutch.
The Politics of Printing

- Galileo’s Discorsi was published by House of Elzevir in Leiden after failed attempts to publish in France and elsewhere.
- Danish New Testament commissioned by Christian II whilst in exile (& during a conversion to Protestantism) was printed in Leipzig.

Leiden in Protestant Dutch Republic. His works were banned by the Roman Inquisition.
The Politics of Printing

- Reformation and Counter-reformation in particular had significant impact on publishing patterns.

- Catholics fleeing persecution in England set up English Colleges at Douai, St. Omer and Rheims.
  - Responsible for vast majority of ‘English’ books in published Southern Netherlands first half of C17th.

- Works also published abroad to circumvent other legal restrictions.

- Even Protestants were not free to publish in England.

Leiden in Protestant Dutch Republic. His works were banned by the Roman Inquisition.
William Tyndale

· Tyndale’s translation of the New Testament into English (an illegal act in England) was printed in Germany.

· Copies smuggled into England were seized and burned by the authorities there.

· Although Tyndale himself was burned as heretic, his version of the New Testament was consulted and drawn upon by the compilers of the Authorised Version; published exactly four hundred years ago in 1611.

· Many of the most memorable phrases in the New Testament of the ‘King James Bible’ are Tyndale’s.

Leiden in Protestant Dutch Republic. His works were banned by the Roman Inquisition
The Mechanics of Book Supply

- As early as the C15th, booksellers were utilising international distribution networks – a development that expanded throughout the following centuries.

- Koburger family of Nuremberg held stock with distributors as far afield as Amsterdam, Lyon, Venice and Gdansk.

- Despite their status as high value items, early books were easy to transport – often shipped as unbound sheets in barrels and bound-to-order where purchased, to the specifications of their new owner.
The Mechanics of Book Supply

- Booksellers’ catalogues were widely distributed across Europe from the start.
- These were joined in the mid-C17th by independent bibliographies (e.g. *Bibliographia Gallica*) – although largely intended for the trade.
- Scholars had to rely on their existing networks of correspondence to learn of new and significant books until critical and reviewing periodicals appeared.
- Longer life of printed books in this era meant the existence of a flourishing second hand and auction market – often buying up books in other countries with which to return home and re-sell.
Movement of Collections

- Conflict & war
- Death of individuals
- Changes in national boundaries
- Religious and political re-alignments

In England, collections of books were sold off (when not destroyed) during the dissolution of the monasteries. Others were spirited overseas.
Movement of Collections

- 1654: Queen Christina of Sweden abdicates and removes herself to Rome, taking her library of thousands of books and manuscripts out of Sweden with her.
- Upon her death the collection is purchased on behalf of the Vatican Library.
Movement of Collections

- C18th: Library of the Zaluski brothers in Warsaw transferred to St. Petersburg on the orders of Catherine the Great to form the basis of the Imperial Library.

- Library of Zygmunt II August broken up upon his death and the termination of the Jagiellon line.
Summary

- Early modern publishing in Europe is not confined to national ‘silos’.
- Authors, publishers, consumers and events all combine; if not to create a single European market for books, then at least to make the boundaries between markets porous and flexible.
- Publishing/printing dominance moves as different providers prove most able to respond to demand.
- A view of publishing and book consumption in any one country is to see only part of a larger picture.
- Need for an inclusive – preferably comprehensive – approach to digitisation. Create a European collection, from the many national ones.
Digitising & Delivering Early European Books

Welcome to Early European Books

From ProQuest, Digitising & Delivering Early European Books offers users the ability to explore the digital images of printed sources from the 15th to the 18th centuries. Our collection includes rare and unique materials, providing access to a wealth of historical and cultural information.

Featured content:
The works of Francesco Petrarca, published in Europe in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, are available for research through our advanced search tools.

For more information about Early European Books, visit our website.
Early European Books: Collection 1

- Partnership with Royal Library, Copenhagen
- Released 2009, completed 2010.
- 2,600 books, 500,000 pages
- Contains Danish national collection up to 1600
- Also includes later works by the Danish astronomer and alchemist Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) and his German follower Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)

- Key Subjects covered:
  - Religion (especially the Protestant reformation)
  - History of science (especially astronomy)
  - Classics
  - Scandinavian languages and history

Danish National Collection = books from Denmark OR in Danish OR by Danish authors OR about Denmark.
Early European Books: Collection 2

- Partnership with Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (BNCF), Italy
- 3,000 volumes, 600,000 pages
- Contents:
  - Incunabula: 1,200 books published between 1459 and 1500, including rare first editions of Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio and the sermons of Savonarola
  - Aldine Press: 1,000 books from the printing press that invented italic type and the ‘octavo’ paper size (founded in Venice, 1495)
  - Sacred Representations: 800 Florentine mystery plays, the foundation of Italian theatre
  - Postillati: 90 texts with marginal annotations by Galileo, Michelangelo Buonarroti the Younger, Lodovico Castelvetro and others
Early European Books: Collection 3

- Launching in 2011
- 3 million pages (5 times the size of Collection 2)
- Will contain books from 4 libraries:
  - Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague (National Library of the Netherlands)
    - 30% of the Collection (approximately) will be drawn from the KB’s holdings of pre-1700 Netherlands imprints
    - Period when the Dutch Republic was the ‘bookshop of the world’, publishing works by authors banned elsewhere
    - Authors of the Dutch Golden Age
    - Key European thinkers of the age, such as Descartes and Galileo
  - Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze
    - 33% of the Collection (approximately) will be drawn from the BNCF’s holdings, including more than 2,000 further volumes of incunabula (90% of them printed in Italy).

Image: *Itinerario, voyage ofte schipvaert, naer Oost ofte Portugaels Indien inhoudende een corte beschryvinghe der selver landen ende zee-custen*
Jan Huygen van Linschoten. - Amstelredam, Cornelis Claesz, 1596. 2º. 1702
Early European Books: Collection 3

- The Wellcome Library, London
  - 22% of the Collection (approximately) will be drawn from the Wellcome Library’s world-renowned specialist collection of books related to medicine and science
  - Covers subjects from alchemy to zoology
  - Encyclopedias, illustrated works of anatomy, botany and natural history
  - Works from Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands, Switzerland and beyond

- The Royal Library, Copenhagen
  - 15% of the Collection (approximately) will be taken from the 17th-century component of the Danish National Collection.

Image: Magnus Hundt, Magnus Antropologium de hominis dignitate.... W. Stockel, Leipzig, 1501.
Early European Books: Ongoing

- Collection 3 is first of a new model of ‘full-size’ collections
- Plan for continuous digitisation:
  - Release 1 collection per year containing works digitised that year.
  - Mixed-library collections.
  - Simultaneous digitisation in 4 or more libraries at once.

Epithalamivm. ofte bruylofts-ghedicht ter eeren het ... houwelijk tusschen ... Eerich Brahe ... ende ... Licia van Eysinga. Leeuwarden 1616. Shelfnumber 853 A 255. Title page.
Scanning the Works

- Scanning on-site in libraries.
- All scans in full colour, at 400dpi
- Both cradle and flat-bed scanners in use
- Also new VLAD (Very Low Angle scanning Device) scanner for books which cannot be safely opened beyond 45 degrees.
- Scanners checked and re-calibrated daily.
- All pages hand-turned. No automation.
- Book-handling workshops run with library rare book/conservation teams to train scan operators. Scan process signed off by library conservators before implementation.
- Images cropped outside page edge to retain all information.
- Covers, spines, page edges, endpapers, loose inserts, bound inserts, fold-outs – all included.
- All blank pages scanned.
Search interface is tailored to the specific needs of this content set.

Exploits rich meta-data, such as detailed capture of page features.
Viewing interface allows users to smoothly zoom, pan and free-rotate images to see all detail.

Same system used with ProQuest’s early-modern manuscript collections.
Early European Books: The Project

- Apart from Germany, only scattered regional digitization efforts exist.

- All participating libraries receive a complete set of scans of their works.

- ProQuest is keen to work with existing digitisation projects and other projects interested in early modern print culture.

- Collaboration with Universal Short Title Catalogue project at St Andrews University (USTC) to enhance our bibliographic data.

- Partnership with CERL Thesaurus for standardised searching and description.
Searching: CERL Thesaurus

Created by the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)

- Database of variants of place names, author names & printer names
- Includes Latin forms and abbreviations (Ventii, Ventiiis), historical variants (Venegia, Veneza), modern European forms (Venice, Venise, Venedig)
- Contains 70,000 records

Enhance searchability

- ProQuest’s partnership with CERL allows us to integrate this data into our search
- We display one standardised form in the record, but users can search on any variants and get hits

Contribute to the Thesaurus

- When we find new variants in the EEB data, we feed this back to CERL for inclusion in the Thesaurus
Acknowledgements


 via Periodicals Archive Online, ProQuest (http://pao.chadwyck.co.uk)

*Early European Books*, ProQuest (http://eeb.chadwyck.co.uk)

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