

## Curating Exhibit

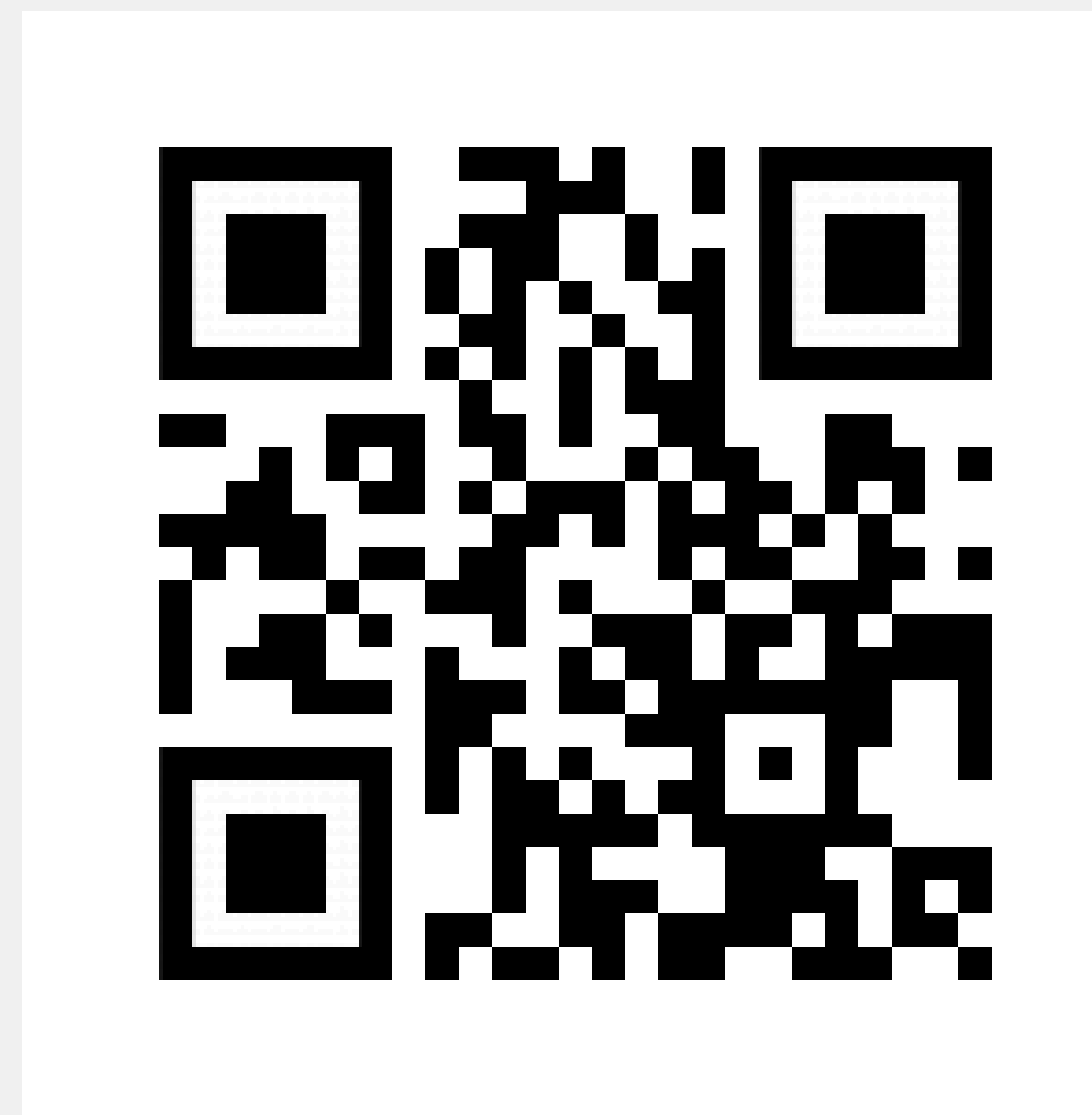
1. Selected works from the Rubenstein archival collections that represent interesting historical moments in the evolution of the *Crusoe* story.
2. Conducted historical inquiry using digital and print resources to understand the publications, authorships, and cultural and legal contexts of these works.
3. Condensed this information into concise, engaging object labels for public display alongside the materials.
4. Arranged the exhibit pieces to visual display the novel's change and continuity

## Website Creation

Our team created a website to house a virtual and interactive version of the exhibit. The website also features information regarding our project, the publication history of Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, and individual essays that each undergraduate team member completed.



The mythologization of Robinson Crusoe has inspired over 11,000 editions and adaptations of the story, and it continues to influence media and fiction to this day. We sought to understand how this story became a cornerstone of Western literature.



## Individual Articles

"Navigating Crusoe's Voyage into the Obscene"  
By Cliff Haley

In my essay, I utilized the research I completed for my objected label to explore the publication history of one specific adaptation, *The Sexual Life of Robinson Crusoe*. Using print and digital resources, I gathered and synthesized information to produce a microhistory of the novel's publication. From there, I analyzed this adaptation from a literary perspective to compare how its choice to sexualize the narrative complicates and augments certain parts of the original story.

"Who owns Text? Robinson Crusoe as a Test Case for Copyright Law"

By Bailey Bogle

I sought to understand the legal and cultural conceptions of copyright law that existed in the years surrounding *Robinson Crusoe's* publication, and how these laws and attitudes contributed to the proliferation of imitations, pirated copies, and adaptations of *Crusoe* in the 18th century. I read, analyzed, and synthesized sources on copyright, including primary legal documents, 18th-century arguments for and against authorial ownership, legal and historical analyses, and pirated texts.

"Robinson Crusoe: A Once Religious Text "

By Eli Kline

In my essay *Robinson Crusoe: a Once Religious Text*, which argued that the book's major theme of religion has been culturally lost since its publication, my research consisted of close-textual analysis of the source material, subsequent adaptations, and scholarly articles. To start, I had to verify my claim of a fundamental religious theme in the original *Robinson Crusoe* by accumulating quotes and plot points and making connections; after which I had to identify adaptations that had fewer or no religious elements; and lastly I used scholarly articles who wrote about the use of religion in the novel.

Summer 2019 Story+ Project

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