

Services for academics

As well as supporting academic research with our extensive knowledge of the collections and advice on other sources of relevant archives, we also provide more structured assistance with teaching and research.

Group teaching and research

Special Collections is experienced in working with course leaders to help deliver group teaching and research sessions based on the collections. We are able to work with course leaders to develop a programme of teaching and group sessions based around the collections which directly ties into a specialised subject and gives students a first hand opportunity to work with primary source material. We are also able in consultation with a course leader to assist by making material available for sessions where the session is led solely by the course leader.

The seminar room

The seminar room adjacent to Special Collections can comfortably hold a group of up to 20 and provides an ideal environment for working with rare books, archives and manuscript collections with assistance from Special Collections staff. Members of the Special Collections team are also able to help deliver group teaching and research sessions e.g. within an academic department through presentations about the collections, although in this situation original material can unfortunately not be provided.

6th Form groups

We also regularly work with 6th Form groups and history teachers from secondary schools in liaison with the History Department.

Discussing your requirements

To discuss your requirements with us please contact Jenny Childs in the first instance, on telephone +44 (0) 121 414 5839 (internal x45839) or email special-collections@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:special-collections@bham.ac.uk>). Please do bear in mind when considering your planning that it can take time to develop an effective group session using rare books, archives and manuscripts.