



**HA 706/935: Seminar in Northern Renaissance Art: Collecting
Spring 2019 Wednesdays 2:30-5:00 PM (SMA 207)
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This seminar will examine how collections were made, valued, and viewed in Northern Europe in the 14th-16th centuries. We will consider painted altarpieces, tapestries, exquisite manuscripts, printed books, monumental sculpture, and precious goldsmith work within broad contexts. Among the topics we will consider are the ways collections were acquired (whether received as gifts, inherited, or commissioned); the ritual contexts in which collections ranging from secular metalwork to church treasures were enjoyed; the relationships between collecting and Renaissance self-fashioning and displays of magnificence; agency in the production of collections, and the organization of collections. Through the critical reading of images and objects, historical accounts, and scholarly literature, we will come to a better understanding of the role of artistic collections, collecting, and collectors in late medieval and Renaissance northern European society.