

Molière's School for Authors: Theft, Ownership, and the Early Plays



Purdue Studies in Romance
Literature presents Michael J. Call,
author of PSRL's Volume 63,
*The Would-Be Author: Molière and
the Comedy of Print.*

WHEN: Thursday, October 26
3:00 p.m.

WHERE: SC G040

Light refreshments will be served.



Despite his reputation as one of France's best-known writers, Molière actually became a published author almost by accident, forced to rush *Les Précieuses ridicules* into print in 1660 to counter a pirate edition of the play. Over the next three years, Molière's authorial persona would evolve on both stage and page in constant tension with the tumultuous world of the 17th-century Parisian book trade. The fraught experience of this apprenticeship finds its expression in *L'École des femmes*, both a confident statement of the playwright's maturing style and an apt demonstration of how Jean-Baptiste Poquelin had learned to play arguably the greatest of his invented roles: the role of Molière

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