Medieval Manuscript / Early Printed Book Activity
Visit Special Collections and Rare Books in Ellis Library to see the medieval manuscript and early printed book that librarians have selected for this course. Please answer each question thoroughly and thoughtfully.

1. Compare the manuscript page to one from the printed book. Do the pages look the same? Fill in the diagram below with a comparison of what you see.

2. Examine the text in each of the books. Can you tell what language it is? Can you read it? Choose a page, and try to transcribe the first few words.

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3. What do you think the manuscript book is made of? Is the printed book made of the same materials, or different ones?
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4. How do you think each book was made? Draw on your readings/class discussions, as well as the physical clues you have in front of you.
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5. What do you think the books were used for? How can you tell?
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6. Compare the bindings. How do you think these books were stored?
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