Il Sacco di Roma: A Study on the Historiography of an Italian Manuscript within the Wilson Special Collections Library

Il Sacco Di Roma is the name of an Italian manuscript that is housed within the Wilson Special Collections Archives. This manuscript is a collection of various historical, philosophical, and literary texts all within the same bookbinding. This particular manuscript has not been previously studied, and has been within the Aaron Burtis Hunter Collection of the Wilson Special Collections since the donation of the collection in the 1930’s. This research sought to uncover and understand the various texts within the manuscript, and to research the historical significance behind the main body of the manuscript, a text written by the Italian author and statesman Luigi Guicciardini on the 1527 Sack of Rome by the army of the Holy Roman Empire. This research in particular has focused on the historiography surrounding the 1527 Sack of Rome, and the lasting effects from this historical event on Italian society and politics in the 1500’s, as well as in the larger struggle of power between the Holy Roman Emperor and the Bishop of Rome.