

# Digital History Methods

- HIST 677-477, Wednesdays, 5:30-8:00 PM on Zoom and asynchronous on dighist.org Spring 2020 1/19/2021 - 5/4/2021
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## Course Description

Welcome to Digital History Methods (History and New Media HIST 677-477). This course explores the current and potential impact of digital media on the theory and practice of history. It also counts as a tool of research course, which means that it will provide you with knowledge of “standard tools of research/analysis.” In this course we are going to explore the impact digital technologies on the historian’s craft. The notion of the historian’s craft here is intentionally expansive. Digital tools are effecting nearly every aspect of historical work, including but not limited to; collecting, organizing, presenting and sources; analyzing and interpreting sources; modes of scholarly and broader public communications; techniques for teaching.

As a methods course, our focus is entirely about the *how* of history not the *what* of history. We will focus on how digital tools and digital sources are affecting historical research and the emerging possibilities for new forms of scholarship, public projects and programs. For the former, we will explore new analytic methods (tools for text analysis and data visualization) along with work on issues related to interpreting born digital and digitized primary sources. For the latter, we will explore a range of digital media history resources, including practical work on project management and design. We will read a range of works on designing, interpreting and understanding digital media. Beyond course readings we will also critically engage a range of digital tools and resources.

## Course Goals

After the course students will be able to:

1. Thoughtfully and purposefully engage in dialog about history on the public web with a range of stakeholders in digital history: historians, archivists, museum professionals, educators, and amateurs, etc.
2. Discover, evaluate, and implement digital tools and digital sources to support emerging and proven forms of historical scholarship, public projects, and teaching.
3. Develop proposals for digital history resources with detailed plans for project management, design, outreach, and evaluation.
4. Understand and articulate the key issues in collecting, preserving and interpreting digital and digitized primary sources from the perspective of a historian.

## Overview of Assignments

**Bloggng** (40% of grade) You must post at least six times to the course blog. Each of your posts should be between 500-1200 words. These six posts must include;

1. Intro post (Due on or before **Feb 2nd**) Give a bit of background on yourself, what you are hoping to get out of the grad program you are in and what you are most interested in getting out of this course.
2. A Reading response post (due Saturday by midnight the week before you lead discussion)
3. A Digital tool or resource review post (due Saturday by midnight the week before you lead discussion).
4. Proposal for print project blog post (Due on or before **Feb 24**)
5. Proposal for digital project blog post (Due on or before **March 3**)
6. Project poster & reflection blog post (due on or before **April 17**)
  - a. Commenting: 12 substantive comments on posts on the course blog.

### **In Class Participation** (30% of grade)

- Tools/resources demonstration: Present a 10 min demonstrations of tools or resources which you reviewed for the blog to the class
- Co-lead discussion on a set of readings: What are the arguments of the readings you blogged about? How do they hang together or where are they in conflict? Come prepared with questions to keep discussion going.
- Class attendance and active participation in class discussions. Notify me in advance if you are going to miss class, missing more than two class sessions will significantly impact your class participation grade.

### **Project** (30% of grade)

- Preliminary project pitches: a 3-minute “elevator pitch” for your research project or digital project. (In class, **March 3**)
- Research paper (5,000-7,000 words) OR digital resource (digital resource and 300-700 word project statement). (Due **April 7**)
- Final project poster presentation: Create a conference poster and hand out to present your work in a mini-conference held on the second to last class session (Due, **April 17**)
- Revision of research paper or digital resource. Posted online, either on the class blog or linked to from a post on the class blog. (Due, **April 23**)

## Guidance for Assignments

What follows below is guidance on aspects of all the required assignments for the course. All the due dates for assignments are listed in the Overview of Assignments and also in the Week by Week section of the syllabus.

### Read Strategically

Through out all of our readings here you are going to need to read strategically. You need to get what you need out of the book or article, this often does not require reading every word in an article or a book. On how to read for graduate seminars see [Miriam Sweeney's](#) or [Larry Cebula's](#) blog posts. The same is true for digital projects you are going to show and tell, you need to figure out enough of it to talk about it and think about it's implications but there is no expectation for you to master the given tool or digital resource.

### Course Blogging

We are not simply going to learn about digital history in this course, we are also going to *do* digital history. That means we need to engage with the public web. To this end, a significant amount of our course communication is going to happen in a public course blog.

On the first day of class I will show you how to use the blog. You are expected to post a minimum of eight times, twice about the readings you co-lead discussion on, twice about the digital tools or resources you demonstrate, once with each of your project proposals and a reflection on your project/the course. We will sign up for who writes about what before or on the first day of class.

These are blog posts, and as such they should not be written like five page essays. Part of the goal of this assignment is to become familiar with the genre and format of thoughtful blogging. You need to get in, say something interesting, synthesize some thoughts and get out. Ideally briefly summarizing/explaining/showing what the readings or tools say or do, commenting on them or otherwise offering some new insights you think you can add, and then ending with an invitation to discussion. You should think of your posts as mixing the features of a well-composed academic book review and the well conceived blog post. [Read this for a sense of the features of an academic book review](#). For notes on [how to write blog posts see this post](#). Posts for a given week must be on the web the Sunday before class (yes, if you want you can post it at 11:59 PM on that day).

Do not assume your reader has detailed knowledge of the things you are writing about. One of the goals of the blog is to invite interested third parties into a conversation with our course. If we are doing this right you can expect comments and dialog with historians, humanists, librarians, archivists, curators, and

bloggers who are not participating in the course as students but who are participating in the public conversation we initiate through the blog.

### **Your identity and the blog**

This is public so one of our first considerations is going to be personal identity. While this is a practical matter it is also, very directly, part of the subject matter of the course. I would encourage you to blog with your real name, [it is a good idea for you to start building a web presence for yourself](#). With that said, [many people have good reasons not to use their real names on the web](#). With that in mind, if you are uncomfortable with sharing your name publicly, you should feel free to use a pseudonym or a handle. If there is a reason that you do not want to share your work on the web please send me an email or meet with me after class. I feel that this public dialog is an important course goal, but I will of course understand and accommodate anyone that needs a different arrangement. If at the end of the course you would like to continue blogging I will be happy to show you how we can pull all your posts out and into a new blog of your own. We will talk about this identity decision on the first class day.

### **Keep the conversation going**

Posting is not the end of the assignment. After posting you need to foster the discussion you are initiating. When people comment you need to give substantive responses. Try to engage everyone who comments in some fashion and try to use the comments to sustain a conversation you began at the end of your post. Do not hesitate to ask if you would like help with this process or want any advice about how to keep the conversation going.

### **Commenting is also an assignment**

Beyond posting you are expected to contribute substantive comments to a minimum of 12 of your peers posts. Your comments should extend and contribute to the conversation. Good comments are an important genre unto themselves. [Profhacker's guidelines for comments](#) for a sense of the kind of comment ecosystem we are trying to produce. Along with that, see [this piece on how to write a great blog comment](#) for some suggestions on the format for comments. Comment early so that others have a chance to read them.

### **The course blog is the required reading we write ourselves**

Beyond posting and commenting everyone needs to read everything on the blog before class each week. This is the part of the course readings that we write ourselves and in all honesty this is the most important springboard for our in-class discussions. The blog extends the function of classroom and it is essential that everyone follow and participate in it.

## Course Project(s)

Everyone will write **two proposals**: a proposal for a print project and a digital project. You only need to **follow through on one of those two proposals**. In the case of the print project the final result should be a 5,000-7,000 word Chicago style journal article. ([For an example see this article](#) we will read later in the semester.) In the case of the digital project it should be the digital resource you devise and a short 500-1000 word project statement that articulates the goals of the project, connects it to other projects we discussed in class, and briefly offers personal reflections on what you learned from the project.

### Print Project, study something digital:

The objective here is to approach digital media and content as historians. To that end, you are going to think about how to write something about digital that has to do with history. This could include using software we discuss to engage with a set of primary sources or exploring born digital material associated with a field you are already familiar. For example, if you are interested in the Civil War you could plan and execute a research project on how a particular Civil War memorial is presented and discussed on Flickr, or compare how it is reviewed on Yelp, or analyze how it is represented in some set of video games, or explore how a particular Civil War site uses Twitter, or use something like [Mike Davies' online corpus of Time magazine](#) to explore trends in discussions of the Civil War or a particular historical figure.

Whatever you do you need to ground the study in both historiography for whatever topic you work on and incorporate material from our readings on digital history. In short, all of the readings offer potential models for this project. If you decide to work on a print project I strongly encourage you to [set up regular appointments with a writing consultant in the writing center](#). (As an aside, it is difficult to express how invaluable the sustained attention of someone from a writing center is, outside of a university environment this kind of attention to your writing costs a fortune and it is there waiting for you to use it for free.) Simply put, good writing is re-writing. If you work with them starting at the proposal stage, through your first full draft, and on through your final paper you will end up with something you can really be proud of. Along with that, you will likely end up with something you could publish in an academic journal.

### Digital Project, build something scholarly:

In terms of a digital project, you should take one of your interests and develop a digital resource around it. This should explicitly NOT be putting an essay on a webpage. Whatever you propose there should be clear reasons that this should be digital, it should probably draw on something we worked on in class. I would suggest staying away from difficult technical projects. While I would be thrilled if you taught yourself the ins-and-outs of a programming language and wrote your own content management system to build a blog it would be a much better idea

for you to simplify the technical decisions in your project and just use something like wordpress.com or omeka.net which does not require you to devote your time to primarily technical issues.

To restate this, the goal of this project *is not* to demonstrate technical competence. Please simplify technology decisions and focus your time on using something that already exists in a novel way. Proposals should include major features from the Brown (2006) book and features of NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant Proposals (see readings from the week focused on projects);

- a) A description of audience
- b) A comparison to existing projects
- c) A detailed description of the thing to be created
- d) A plan for outreach and publicity
- e) A plan for how you will evaluate the project.

Examples could include starting and curating a Flickr pool focused on collecting and interrupting representations of the American west, in consultation with the DC historical society you might build an Omeka exhibit to complement one of their physical exhibits, you might create an annotated Google my map or a set of tours using a mobile app like HistoryPin that gives an interpretive tour of the history of the design of the national mall.

In the real world, basically all digital projects in this field are the result of the work of teams. To that end, if you want to work with a partner on a project please feel free to. However, I would like to see you break the work up between the partners and have each of you still do each of the individual parts of the writing and reflection bits.

If you decide to finish your digital project as your final project the expectation is that you have something that is at least a working proof of concept. In some cases, it will be possible to scope something tightly enough that you can make the whole thing during our course. That is, however, not necessary. The essential part of this assignment is to show that you can conceive of this kind of project and that you can make the large moving parts come together. However grand the thing you would like to see in the world is, [there is some version of it that you can sketch out and put out there for everyone to see that you can get together during our time together in this class](#). In this context, it is useful to look at the different kinds of design deliverables that Brown documents in Communicating Design. Ostensibly, any of those interim project deliverables could be the thing you create as your class project.

### **Project Poster:**

One analog genre of scholarly communication that shows no sign of disappearing is the conference poster. The culmination of our class is going to be our own version of a conference poster session. Half the class will present their

posters for the first half of class while the rest of the class visits the posters. Then we will swap roles for the second half of class.

This should be a relatively painless process. The easiest way to do this is to make your poster as a single powerpoint slide. You shouldn't need a lot of text (300-500 words) will likely do. I realize it can be difficult to source a big printer (which you will need if/when you participate in a poster session). So, feel free to print them out on regular printer paper and just bring a stack of them as handouts so that people can read them as they visit you presenting your poster. For further guidance on conference posters see these [guidelines from the AHA](#), these [guidelines from NYU](#) and [these from the University of Alabama](#).

Given that our course this semester is entirely online, we will have a virtual conference poster session. This will involve posting all of the posters up on the course site, giving a one minute overview presentation on your poster to the class over Zoom, and then posting comments on at least three other student's posters and responding to comments posted on the site over the course of the following week.

## Books:

You will need to get access to full copies of nine books. All of these books are available either as eBooks through the library or openly available online. With that noted, I've given links to them on Amazon where you can likely find relatively inexpensive copies of all of them. I've attempted to only include books that are 1) relatively affordable (many have used copies up under \$20) and 2) the kinds of things that will be worth hanging onto for future use. So use your judgement on what works best for you. If the eBooks work well for you, great, if any seem particularly interesting, you might also want to buy print copies.

1. Brown. (2006). [Communicating Design: Developing Web Site Documentation for Design and Planning](#). Note: **Get the 2006 edition, it's better.** (it is also [Available as an eBook through the library](#))
2. Fitzpatrick. (2011) [Planned Obsolescence: Publishing, Technology, and the Future of the Academy](#) You can [read the open access version of the book for free on media commons](#).
3. Flanagan. (2013). [Critical Play: Radical Game Design](#) ([Available as an eBook through the library](#))
4. Gitelman. (2014). [Paper Knowledge: Toward a Media History of Documents](#) ([Available as an eBook through the library](#))
5. IDEO. [The Field Guide to Human Centered Design](#). Free eBook.
6. Kirschenbaum. (2012). [Mechanisms: New Media and the Forensic Imagination](#). ([Available as an eBook through the library](#))
7. Rinehart & Ippolito. (2014). [Re-collection: Art, New Media, and Social Memory](#) ([Available as an eBook through the library](#))



# Week By Week Course Schedule

## Becoming digital public historians (Jan 27)

This is our first class; we will introduce ourselves to each other and spend a lot of time reviewing the syllabus. I will make sure everyone leaves with an understanding of how to register, post and work with the course blog. By the end of class everyone will have signed up for the weeks they are blogging/presenting on. Before class, quickly read the short posts about blogging as an academic practice listed below.

In Class Readings for discussion

1. Cohen, [“Professors, Start Your Blogs”](#)
2. Posner & Croxall, [“Creating Your Web Presence: A Primer for Academics”](#)
3. Scheinfeldt, [Brand Name Scholar](#)

## Defining digital history (Feb 3rd)

This week is largely about developing a perspective on what people mean when they say “digital history” and more broadly “digital humanities.” It’s also about what the stakes in all this are. Across all of the readings consider both the arguments and the genre of writing they are being presented in. Format and genre are critical components of our work this semester and the differences between blogging, books and articles are as much on the table for discussion as the points in these pieces. PhillaPlace is an example of the kind of projects folks are creating in digital history and Wordle is here as a kind of toy for starting to think about visualizing texts and the possibility of visualization as a mode of history communication.

**Assignment Due: Intro Blog Posts**

### Readings

1. Cicire, [Theory and the Virtues of Digital Humanities](#)
2. Cohen & Rosenzweig, *Digital History*, [Introduction](#), [Ch. 1](#)
3. Guldi & Armitage, [The History Manifesto](#) Introduction (p. 1-14) and chapter 4 on big questions big data (p. 88-117)
4. Leon, [Returning Women to the History of Digital History](#)
5. Onion, [Snapshots of History: Wildly popular accounts like @HistoryInPics are bad for history, bad for Twitter, and bad for you.](#)
6. Robertson, et. al. [Digital History and Argument](#)
7. Spiro, [Getting Started in the Digital Humanities](#)
8. [The Digital in the Humanities: An Interview with Sharon M. Leon](#)

**Practicums:**

- a) Practicum: [PhilaPlace](#) : Demo the site, how it works, what it accomplishes
- b) Practicum: [HistoryPin](#): Show us how the site works, how to add pins, how to create tours, how small organizations are using it.
- c) Practicum: [Wordle](#): Show us how it works, try using it to illustrate some kind of interesting historical comparison, for example [it can work well with speeches.](#)

## The Web: Collaborative or Exploitive? (Feb 10)

In history we work to connect audiences and publics with the past. In this vein, the participatory and collaborative rhetoric that surrounds the web connects directly with many of the values of historians. This weeks readings explore issues around crowdsourcing and public participation in history on the web. This includes both the potential to connect with the missions and values of cultural heritage institutions and opens questions about what constitutes participation and what becomes exploitive.

### Readings:

1. Brabham, [The Myth of Amateur Crowds: A critical discourse analysis of crowdsourcing coverage](#)
2. Causer & Wallace, ["Building a Volunteer Community; Results and Findings from Transcribe Bentham."](#)
3. Edson, [Dark Matter: The dark matter of the Internet is open, social, peer-to-peer and read/write—and it's the future of museums](#)
4. Ford, [Why Wasn't I Consulted: The Web as A Customer Service Medium](#)
5. Frankle, [More Crowdsourced Scholarship: Citizen History](#)
6. Miner, [if everything on the internet has to be free, why isn't my healthcare, too?](#) (Read the comment thread too)
7. Rosenzweig, [Can History be Open Source? Wikipedia and the Future of the Past](#)
8. Vaidhyanathan, [Making Sense of the Facebook Menace Can the largest media platform in the world ever be made safe for democracy?](#)
9. [The Machine is Us/ing Us](#)

### Practicums:

- a) [Wikipedia](#): how it works. Analyze three related Wikipedia pages and talk pages what their history is. Teach the class how to do this.
- b) Tell us how [Flickr](#) works, walk us through how the platform works, how search works, how commenting works, try to find some examples that have a historical bent. (Ex, [this course photo pool](#)) include discussion of the [Flickr Commons](#)
- c) [Crowd.loc.gov](#) show how it works, explain some of the back story on it.

## Digital analysis: Distant reading, text analysis, visualization (Feb 17)

One of the most active strands of digital history and the digital humanities more broadly focuses on computational analysis of texts and the interpretations of abstractions of those texts. For the most part, “texts” has meant words, but we starting to get into computational modes of engaging with images and audio too. This week is about all of that, in particular, under the heading of distant reading. Throughout this week’s readings think both about the subject (visualization) and about the formats of the readings (blog posts, books, open review publications, etc.)

### Readings:

1. Jessop, [Digital Visualization as a Scholarly Activity](#)
2. Guldi, [The History of Walking and the Digital Turn: Stride and Lounge in London, 1808–1851](#)
3. Bevins, [Space, Nation, and the Triumph of Region: A View of the World from Houston](#) and [Mining and Mapping the Production of Space: A View of the World from Houston](#)
4. Schmidt, [Making Downton More Traditional](#)
5. Blevins, [Topic Modeling Martha Ballard’s Diary](#)

### Practicums:

- a) [Voyant Tools](#): Show us a bit of how it works, show us an example of how you might use it for historical research
- b) [Time Magazine Corpus of American English](#): Think about how this interface enables different kinds of questions. Show us some examples.
- c) [Google n-gram](#): Think about how this interface enables different kinds of questions. Show us some examples.

## “Project” as scholarly genre: Designing digital projects (Feb 24)

It’s likely that many of you don’t have experience with planning and developing projects, in particular digital projects. So, this week is about planning projects and drafting the documents involved in making a digital project, in particular a web project, happen. Brown’s book and the IDEO field guide, are our main texts. Brown provides a roadmap for what decisions get made when in managing a project and the various deliverables that are produced along the way. The IDEO guide models how many of those practices have evolved as part of the framework of Human Centered- Design. The NEH guidelines contextualize the format for a project proposal in a humanities context. The section from *Digital Humanities* offers consideration of “project” as a unit of scholarship.

Kirshenbaum's piece gets at the vexing issue of sustainability. Scheinfeldt's explores differences between common digital collection platforms.

***Assignment Due: Print Project Proposals (400-800 Words posted to the Blog)***

**Readings:**

1. Brown, *Communicating Design*
2. IDEO, (2015) [The Field Guide to Human-Centered Design](#).
3. Burdick, Drucker, Luenfeld, Presner, Schnapp. Short Guide to the Digital\_Humanities Fundamentals p. 122-135 of [Digital Humanities](#)
4. Kirschenbaum, "[Done: Finishing Projects in the Digital Humanities](#)"
5. [NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grants](#) Focus on the narrative section and talk through one of the example proposal narratives [available here](#).
6. Scheinfeldt, "[Omeka and Its Peers](#)"

**Practicums**

- a) Practicum: [Omeka.net](#) (See Posner, [Up and Running with Omeka](#))
- b) Practicum: [WordPress.com](#):

**Proposal pitch week (March 3)**

Everyone in class is going to give the elevator pitch for the project that they intend to finish. No slides. Just give a quick three-minute elevator pitch. Tell us what you are going to do and why it's worth doing. You'll explain how it is like things before, but also how it's different. It's important to be able to give the "[MTV Cops](#)" level explanation of your work. the course going forward. ***Assignment Due: Digital Project Proposals (400-800 Words Posted to the Blog)***

**Wellness Week (March 10)**

No class meeting this week.

**Understanding Digital Content: Media, materiality & format (March 17)**

To really do digital history, we need a very solid understanding of what exactly digital stuff is. This week we try to figure out more about what digital things are. We likely all have a sense of what things like documents, spreadsheets and digital photos and videos are, but it is essential that we go beyond their appearance on the screen to understand a bit about what bits, bytes, files, and file formats are.

**Readings:**

1. Kirshenbaum, *Mechanisms* (Focus on the chapters 1, 2 & 3 pages 1-159)
2. Sterne, [Analog](#) in Digital Keywords
3. Arms & Fleischhauer, [Digital Formats: Factors for Sustainability, Functionality, and Quality](#)
4. Bailey, [TAGOKOR: Biography of an Electronic Record](#)

**Practicum:**

- a) [Demo Mystery House](#): (Be able to explain what Kirshenbaum did with it in *Mechanisms* with the Hex-editor)
- b) [Glitch some audio and image files](#) -> Show us how to do this and tell us what it means.

## Digital archives: What are & aren't they? (March 24)

Public historians and other humanists have been exuberant about the possibility of providing broad public access to primary source documents and the contents of archives. In this context, the use of the term “digital archive” has become a bit fraught. With that said, there is some valuable productive friction in that fraughtness. Something useful is emerging in the blending of sources, analysis, and interpretations. This week we figure out what different folks mean by the term in different situations and explore some exemplars of different notions of digital archives and their potential as modes of scholarly output.

**Readings:**

1. Bailey, [Disrespect des Fonds: Rethinking Arrangement and Description in Born-Digital Archives](#)
2. Christen, K. [Archival challenges and digital solutions in aboriginal Australia](#).
3. Drake, J. M. [#ArchivesForBlackLives: Building a Community Archives of Police Violence in Cleveland](#).
4. Jules, B. [Preserving Social Media Records of Activism](#).
5. McGann, [The Rationale of HyperText](#)
6. Owens, [What do you mean by archive](#)
7. Schmidt & Ardam, [On Excess: Susan Sontag's Born-Digital Archive](#)
8. Theimer, [Archives in Context and As Context](#)
9. Owens & Padilla, [Digital Sources & Digital Archives: The Evidentiary Basis of Digital History](#)

**Practicum:**

- a) [September 11th Digital Archive](#),
- b) [Bracero Archive](#)

- c) [The Shelley-Godwin Archive](#)
- d) [Rossetti Archive](#)

## Digital Exhibition and Digital Audio (March 31)

What does it mean to collect and exhibit/present/interpret digital objects? This week we explore this issue across new media art, source code and digitized materials. Along with that, we are also going to explore and consider how digital audio is changing what is possible for digital history. A huge area of work in history is oral history and at this point that is basically entirely a digital affair. This week we explore what it means to do [oral history in the digital age](#).

### Readings

1. Ippolito & Reinheart. *Re-collection: Art, New Media, and Social Memory* (focus on the chapter on social memory and on their suggestions at the end.)
2. Brennan, [“Getting to the Stuff: Digital Cultural Heritage Collections, Absence, and Memory.”](#)
3. Chan & Cope [Collecting the present: digital code and collections](#)
4. Frisch, [Oral History and the Digital Revolution](#)
5. Boyd, [Designing an Oral History Project: Initial Questions to Ask Yourself](#),
6. Sterne, [Format Theory](#) chapter of *MP3: The Meaning of a Format*
7. Hsu, [Digital Ethnography Toward Augmented Empiricism: A New Methodological Framework](#)

### Practicums

1. Finding Our Place in the Cosmos <https://www.loc.gov/collections/finding-our-place-in-the-cosmos-with-carl-sagan/about-this-collection/>
2. Theresa Duncan CD-ROMs from Rhizome <http://rhizome.org/editorial/2015/apr/17/theresa-duncan-cd-roms-are-now-playable-online/>
3. [Audacity](#)
4. [Soundcloud](#)

## Mobile media, Videogames, Interactivity (April 7):

Videogames have rapidly become potent media for communicating ideas about the past. Historians, librarians and archivists have begun creating games and a range of interactive transmedia modes of communicating about the past. At the same time, increasingly, the screens people are turning their attention to are in their hands and their pockets. In this vein, there is tremendous potential for mobile media and mobile media has a direct and clear connection to place and location. There are projects like the [Museum from Mainstreet app](#) and the [Will to](#)

[Adorn app](#) that try to enable participatory collecting, projects like [Histories of the National Mall](#) that work to situate events in historic sites. This week we will explore both video games and mobile media. Flanagan's *Critical Play* provides an broad frame to think about and approach notions of play in media, and we will round this out with a range of readings on specific apps and games.

### Readings:

1. Flanagan, *Critical Play*
2. Hanussek, [Enhanced Exhibitions? Discussing Museum Apps after a Decade of Development](#)
3. Russick, [A Place For Everything Museum Collections, Technology, and the Power of Place](#)
4. Mir & Owens, [Modeling Indigenous Peoples: Unpacking Ideology in Sid Meier's Colonization](#)
5. WNET, [Mission America Online Games about American History](#) (this is a grant proposal, you should also read the [NEH Digital Programs for the Public](#) grant guidelines for context)

### Practicums:

- a) [Mall History](#)
- b) [ARIS Games](#)
- c) [Museum from Mainstreet App](#)
- d) [Will to Adorn App](#)
- e) Playing and reading [Argument Wars](#) :
- f) Playing and reading [Jamestown Adventure](#) :

**Project Drafts Due:** For people writing papers this means a full draft of the paper, not a rough draft, a full well thought out draft of your paper. For people working on digital projects you should have at least a functional proof of concept, a roadmap for how and when you will finish the work on the project, and a revision of your proposal that moves from language about what it will do to what it is doing.

## Opening & Expanding Forms of Scholarly Communication (April 14)

Digital technology has changed the possibilities for scholarly communication in the history profession. Historians have long produced scholarly works in a range of media. However, monographs and to a lesser extent journal articles and conference papers have largely persisted as the primary forms of scholarship that "count." This week we will learn a bit about the development and history of scholarly presses and explore a range of novel approaches and technologies for scholarly communications.

1. Fitzpatrick, *Planned Obsolescence*
2. Cohen, [The Ivory tower and open web](#)
3. Transformation of Scholarly publishing <http://www.arl.org/news/arl-news/3735-transformation-of-scholarly-communications-explored-in-arls-research-library-issues-287#.WiSK1bQ-ciM>
4. Scholarly Communications in the History Discipline <http://www.sr.ithaka.org/publications/scholarly-communications-in-the-history-discipline/>
5. Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Historians <http://www.sr.ithaka.org/publications/supporting-the-changing-research-practices-of-historians/>
6. Guidelines for the Professional Evaluation of Digital Scholarship by Historians <https://www.historians.org/teaching-and-learning/digital-history-resources/evaluation-of-digital-scholarship-in-history/guidelines-for-the-professional-evaluation-of-digital-scholarship-by-historians>
7. Conard, [Review of \*Historians in Public\*](#)

#### Practicums:

- a) Scalar <https://scalar.usc.edu/scalar/>
- b) PressForward <http://pressforward.org/> Share examples of <http://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/> and <http://acrl.ala.org/dh/>
- c) The Programing Historian <https://programminghistorian.org/>
- d) MLA Core <https://mla.hcommons.org/core/>

### **Class Conference Poster Presentations (April 21)**

By Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, have a blog post with your project poster embedded in it and your reflections on the course up on the course blog. Then be sure to read your classmates and post comments on at least one of their posters. In class this week, we will spend some time sharing out about things we learned from our projects and the course.