

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

**HIST-GA 2011 INTERNSHIP SEMINAR**

HIST-GA 2011  
SPRING 2012  
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Office Hours: Mondays, 3-5 and By Appointment

**Purpose**

Build on the first semester of the archives and public history courses in order to put into practice the theoretical concepts that shape the fields.

Focus on sites and venues where archives and public history actually take place, with presentations by professionals in the field.

Discuss the expanded role of the archivist and public historian in such areas as museum exhibits, educational outreach projects, the creation of documentation, and program leadership.

Consider the ways of communicating archival and public history information to broader publics through writing and presentation.

Complete a 120-hour practicum at a selected archival repository or public history site.

**Assignments**

Prepare an archival finding aid or an agreed-upon public history project, with a substantial written component, based on the 120-hour practicum. Due: May 7.

Craft one blog post, with visuals, concerning your internship for the [aphdigital.org](http://aphdigital.org) blog, due during the second half of the semester, between March 19 and May 7. Deadlines are flexible, but you will need to prepare one post about your project.

Attend additional professional meetings in your field as appropriate.

Write a bibliographic essay concerning some aspect of your internship experience, exploring the literature on either content that you are working with or methodological issues involved in your internship, due on April 9.

Maintain a descriptive log that provides a running commentary of your work at the practicum site, allows some dialogue with me concerning your experiences, and creates a permanent record of your practicum. Logs will be collected on: February 27, March 26, and May 7.

Students will also present oral reports concerning their practicum experience on March 5 and April 30, as well as a final self-evaluation that evaluates the practicum due on May 7.

## **READINGS:**

There are three required books that I would like you to purchase for this class and that will be used throughout the semester: Larry Hackman, ed., *Many Happy Returns: Advocacy and the Development of Archives* (Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2011); *Letting Go? Sharing Historical Authority in a User-Generated World* (Philadelphia: The Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, 2011) (distributed by Left Coast Press, Inc., Walnut Creek CA); and Patricia Aufderheide and Peter Jaszi, *Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011). There also are a variety of online readings and articles that have been identified throughout the semester.

## **ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**

- February 13 - Bibliographic Topic and List of Sources Due
- February 27 - First Installment of Log Due
- March 5 - Oral Discussion and Reports Concerning Internships
- March 19 - Blog Post Due Between Now and End of Semester
- March 26 - Second Installment of Log Due
- April 9 - Bibliographic Essay Due
- April 30 - Internship Presentations
- May 7 - Final Installment of Log, Final Self-Assessment, Final Project Due

**JANUARY 23 - ORIENTATION**

Discussion of practicum sites, forms, projects, evaluations.

**JANUARY 30 - NO CLASS**

**FEBRUARY 6 - PROGRAM LEADERSHIP: PUBLIC HISTORY**

Guest presenters will be: David Favalaro, Director of Curatorial Affairs and Hebrew Technical Research Fellow at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum; David Mandel, Director of Education and Interpretation at the Historic House Trust of New York City; Caroline Drabik, Curatorial Associate at the Historic House Trust of New York City and Collections Manager at the Merchant's House Museum; and Seth Bruggeman, Assistant Professor of History and American Studies, Temple University.

Readings: Patricia Melvin-Mooney, "Professional Historians and the Challenge of Redefinition," in James B. Gardner and Peter S. LaPaglia, eds., *Public History: Essays from the Field* (Malabar: Krieger, 2006) (BLACKBOARD);

Anthony Grafton, "Historians At Work III: Public History," *AHA Perspectives* (December 2011), <http://www.historians.org/perspectives/issues/2011/1112/Historians-at-Work-3.cfm>;

Timothy Baumann, Andrew Hurley, Valerie Altizer, and Victoria Love, "Interpreting Uncomfortable History at the Scott Joplin House State Historic Site in St. Louis, Missouri," *The Public Historian* (Spring 2011), pp. 37-66;

Maggie Russell-Ciardi, "The Museum as a Democracy-Building Institution: Reflections on the Shared Journeys Program at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum," *The Public Historian* (February 2008), pp. 39-52;

Familiarize yourself with the websites of the Lower East Side Tenement House Museum (<http://www.tenement.org/>), the Merchant's House Museum (<http://merchantshouse.org/>), and the Historic House Trust (<http://www.historichousetrust.org/>).

Visit the Lower East Side Tenement House Museum and the Merchant's House Museum at some point prior to the class.

**FEBRUARY 13 - PROGRAM LEADERSHIP: ARCHIVES**

Guest presenters will be: Trina Yeckley, Archivist at the National Archives Northeast Regional Office in New York City; Dan Linke, University Archivist and Curator of Public Policy Papers at Princeton University; Joseph Komljenovich, Archivist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; and Thom Donovan, Archivist at the Byrd Hoffman Watermill Foundation.

Readings: *Many Happy Returns: Advocacy and the Development of Archives*, read the chapters by Elizabeth Adkins and Karen Benedict, Francis X. Blouin, Barbara Haws, and Norton Owen.

Familiarize yourself with the National Archives website (<http://www.archives.gov>) to get a sense of the range of programs and activities at the National Archives.

**FEBRUARY 20 - WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY**

**FEBRUARY 27 - PROGRAM LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY**

Guest Presenters will be: Deborah Schwartz, Executive Director of the Brooklyn Historical Society; Kathleen Roe, New York State Archives and Records Administration; Thomas Frusciano, Rutgers University and the Society of American Archivists.

Readings: *Many Happy Returns: Advocacy and the Development of Archives*, read the chapters by: Roland Baumann, Lewis Bellardo, Bruce W. Dearstyne, Christine W. Ward and Judy P. Hohmann, Edie Hedlin, Lee White and Heather Huyck.

Page Putnam Miller, "Advocacy on Behalf of History: Reflections on the Past Twenty Years," *The Public Historian* (Spring 2000), 39-49.

Browse and examine the website for the National Coalition for History (<http://historycoalition.org/>) and look through the News Archive and Policy Issues sections to get a sense of the current issues facing public historians and archivists.

Familiarize yourself with the National Council on Public History (<http://www.ncph.org>) and Society of American Archivists (<http://www.archivists.org>) websites as a means for thinking about the role of professional associations.

**MARCH 5 - INTERNSHIP ROUNDTABLE AND TROUBLESHOOTING**

Students will present oral progress reports concerning their internships, explaining their projects and discussing issues or problems that they have encountered thus far.

**MARCH 12 - SPRING BREAK**

## **MARCH 19 - DIGITAL HUMANITIES**

Guest Presenters will be: Amanda French, THATCamp Coordinator, Center for New Media and History; Jennifer Vinopal, The Studio, New York University; Doug Reside, Lincoln Center Branch of the New York Public Library.

Readings: *Letting Go? Sharing Historical Authority in a User-Generated World*, section concerning “Virtual Breaking Down: Authority and the Web.”

Browse through current and past issues of *Digital Humanities Now* at the following URL: <http://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/>. This is a real-time digital humanities/newsletter/journal where you can track daily digital humanities conversations and developments.

Tim Sherratt, "It's All About the Stuff: Collections, Interfaces, Power and People" at <http://discontents.com.au/words/conference-papers/it%E2%80%99s-all-about-the-stuff-collections-interfaces-power-and-people--> (November 2011)

## **MARCH 26 - COMMUNITY ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION**

Guest Presenters will be: Sady Sullivan, Oral Historian at the Brooklyn Historical Society; Jack Tchen, Associate Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis and Director of the Asia/Pacific/American Studies Institute at New York University; and Claire Payton, NYU Ph.D. candidate and creator of the Haiti Memory Project.

Readings: *Letting Go? Sharing Historical Authority in a User-Generated World*, sections concerning “Throwing Open the Doors: Communities As Curators” and “Hearing Voices: Sharing Authority Through Oral History.”

Haiti Memory Project at: <http://uknow.uky.edu/content/nunn-center-helps-preserve-stories-haiti-earthquake-survivors>

## **APRIL 2 - NO CLASS**

## **APRIL 9 - DEMYSTIFYING COPYRIGHT**

Readings: Patricia Aufderheide and Peter Jaszi, *Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011)

## **APRIL 16 - FUNDRAISING AND GRANTS**

For this class, I would like you to review several web sites that constitute some of the major federal and foundation funding sources for archival, museum, and public history projects. Many contain good examples of successful grant projects, and we will be discussing them in some detail. One general source on foundations in general, and a site that you should also familiarize yourself with, is the one for The Foundation Center (<http://www.foundationcenter.org>). I would like each of you to search the site, find a foundation that seems appropriate for funding a project at your particular internship site, and be prepared to report on it in class.

Other sites that I would like you to consult and familiarize yourself with include the following:

Institute for Museum and Library Services

(<http://www.imls.gov>)

(in addition to examining the site generally, read the New York Transit Museum Proposal at:

[http://www.imls.gov/assets/1/AssetManager/MFA\\_Sample\\_New%20York%20Transit%20Museum.pdf](http://www.imls.gov/assets/1/AssetManager/MFA_Sample_New%20York%20Transit%20Museum.pdf) (Heather, Claire, and Janice)

National Endowment for the Humanities

(<http://www.neh.gov>)

(in addition to familiarizing yourself with the site generally, evaluate the proposal for the Newberry Library to the Program on Preservation and Access at:

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/HCRRsamples/NewberryLibrary.pdf> (Kate, Jonathan, and Hanan)

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

(<http://www.archives.gov/nhprc>)

(in addition to familiarizing yourself with the website, view the proposal for digitization from the University of Florida at: <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/samples/digitizing-historical-records-sample.pdf> (Alex, Rachel, and Jackie)

Mellon Foundation

(<http://www.mellon.org>)

**APRIL 23 - NO CLASS**

**APRIL 30 - INTERNSHIP PRESENTATIONS**

Roundtable class discussion and presentations concerning internship projects.

**MAY 7 - EMPLOYMENT ROUNDTABLE**

A panel of archivists and public historians from the New York metropolitan area will discuss job searches, employment prospects, and the archives/public history workplace.

FINAL PROJECTS AND SELF-EVALUATIONS DUE