

Interdisciplinary Humanities Research Center (IHRC)
College of Arts and Sciences
Grants for the 2021-2022 Academic Year

Call for Proposals: Humanities & Digital Collections

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: June 11, 2021

AWARD NOTIFICATION: June 30, 2021

The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences' Interdisciplinary Humanities Research Center (IHRC) is to strengthen faculty research and creative activity while also enhancing its integration into the curriculum; support initiatives involving multidisciplinary research teams, both within the university as well as with external partners; and foster intellectual community and public engagement.

The IHRC has been an incubator for curriculum innovation and public humanities outreach since its establishment in 2009, providing seed grants to support interdisciplinary team-teaching as well as collaborative multidisciplinary projects resulting in the establishment of new undergraduate minors (e.g. Environmental Humanities, Game Studies, the re-design of the Disability Studies minor), and inter-arts collaborations supporting scholarship, performances, and exhibitions as well as K12 outreach. [See previously funded projects.](#)

IHRC Microgrants for 2021-2022: Humanities & Digital Collections

Prior to the pandemic, public debates placing the digital and material in opposition with each other had outlived their utility in an increasingly digitally-mediated world. The lockdowns that resulted from COVID-19, however, offered new insight into the research and pedagogical value of digital collections. As we transition to a post-pandemic environment, how can we take the lessons learned from our experience with leveraging the affordances of digital collections and apply them to new ways of teaching and learning? How can we use the humanities to enhance our understanding of digital collections, their materiality, the power dynamics involved with their creation, maintenance, and ownership? How can working with digital collections enhance current developments in anti-racist pedagogy and feminist praxis? Supported courses should center the humanities in interdisciplinary approaches to collection-based digital work, inclusive of digital curation, digital storytelling, and digital archiving. *Humanities and digital collections projects should:*

- offer students opportunities to participate in collaborative digital collections-based research projects as they also develop the public and digital humanities skills that are in high demand within the academy and transferable to a broader range of careers involving humanities research, education, and advocacy;
- enable faculty to partner effectively and substantially with archives, library and museum professionals, within and beyond the university, in the delivery of innovative digital collections-based courses.

Proposed projects should:

- be designed for instruction at the graduate **or** undergraduate course level;
- create multidisciplinary learning opportunities for students;
- enable students to gain first-hand, practical experience with archival and curatorial processes in digital formats
- formulate and actualize project deliverables that result as a product of the collaboration, e.g. reports, articles, websites, digital data curation, etc.

Especially welcome are proposals that:

- Engage African American material culture and public humanities
- Engage UD Anti-racism Initiative ([UDARI](#))
- Focus deeply on materials held by UD Library's Special Collections & Museums; or
- Involve inter-institutional partnerships with museums, libraries, archives or collections in the region. Collections that are not housed in a museum, library or archive may also be considered. Collaborations that engage collections and expertise beyond the humanities are welcome.

All courses must be hosted or cross-listed in a CAS Humanities department. At least one PI should have an appointment in the Humanities portfolio.

Allowable costs for IHRC funding include:

- Honoraria for external collaborators (i.e., museum and library professionals whose job responsibilities do NOT include teaching or supervising UD student researchers)
- Travel expenses for class visits to museums, archives and libraries in the region
- Digital exhibition and/or website/database development support

Departmental in-kind cost-share support is required for:

- Support for the proposal from department/unit chair(s). Please share draft CFP with your chair or program directors or sponsoring units.
- On-load assignment of faculty to teach the proposed graduate or undergraduate course in Fall 2021, Winter 2022, or Spring 2022.
- Administrative support for faculty grant expenditures and financial reporting.

Maximum award amount: \$5,000. Grant expenditures are reimbursed by the IHRC.

Grant recipients will be required to give a presentation about their project to faculty, staff, and graduate students at a "teach-in" event and/or IHRC grant showcase and submit a final project report suitable for publication on the IHRC website by June 15, 2022. Funds must be spent by June 15, 2022; a full accounting of expenditures is to be included in the final project report.

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AWARD NOTIFICATION BY: June 30, 2021

IHRC PROPOSAL TEMPLATE: Submit a PDF, single-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman, that includes the following information and in this order:

CFP Category: Humanities & Digital Collections

Project title:

Principal investigator(s) and team members and home department(s)/program(s):

Project description, including a brief description of the collections to be used, your proposed plan for students' collaborative research, and collaborations with curators and other museum/library/archive professionals to be negotiated:

Potential significance and impact of the proposed project:

Primary target audience and estimated course enrollment:

Timeline for delivery of the course: [Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Spring 2022]

Course name, number and cross-listed departments (if applicable):

Budget proposal (please itemize according to projected expenses and confirm that budget estimates are informed by existing UD standards and cost structures for compensation.) Simple Excel worksheet most welcome.

Submit application to Tracy Jentsch, Program Coordinator: ihrc-info@udel.edu

In the subject heading of the email, please write:

IHRC AY21-22 and your name: e.g. IHRC AY21-22_Green.