Digital Libraries and Archives – Definitions

The first course module explores various perspectives on the idea of libraries and archives, digital or otherwise, establish a shared definition of a digital library, and frame this definition within the broader notion of “convergence culture,” the functional convergence of libraries, archives, and museums, and the emergence of a worldwide cyberinfrastructure. The module also covers the major sources of information on digital libraries and archives.

7 September – Definitions: Evolution and Context

Required Readings


Resources


14 September – Definitions: The Archival Dimension

Required Readings


*Resources*


Fox. [1993] Digital Library Sourcebook. [CTools]

JISC: Joint Information Systems Committee. [CTools]

Keller, Reich, and Herkovic. [2003] “What is a library anymore, anyway?” [CTools]

Lavoie and Dempsey. [2004] “Thirteen Ways of Looking at...Digital Preservation.” [CTools]


National Digital Information Infrastructure Preservation Program. [CTools]


**21 September – Definitions: Cyberinfrastructure**

*Required Readings*

American Council of Learned Societies. [2006] *Our Cultural Commonwealth.* [CTools]


Resources


Digital Content – Creation and Management

In spite of the fact that the manufacture of paper continues unabated, we are living in a digital world. This module explores alternative scenarios for describing the landscape of digital content, using as a point of departure a seminal 2003 (+ 1999 and 2009 versions) study that attempts to measure the volume of information created annually. The module also presents a handful of case studies to demonstrate the variety of digital content and how such content “lives” and is represented in digital libraries and archives.

28 September – Content: Frameworks for “How Much?”

Required Readings


Resources


5 October – Content: Transformations and Representations

Required Readings


Resources


Barney et al. [2005] “Ordering Chaos” Library and Linguistic Computing. [Whitman] [CTools]

Folsom. [2007] “Database as Genre: The Epic Transformation of Archives.” *PMLA* 122.5 [CTools]

12 October – Content: Large-scale Repositories

*Required Readings*

Gevinson, A. [2010] [Quality Assessment Summary], adjunct to “Ghostlier Demarcations,” in CLIR 2010. [CTools]


http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub141abst.html


http://www.dpconline.org/graphics/reports/index.html


*Resources*


http://www.arl.org/sparc/IR/ir.html


http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/br/br226/br226ir.shtml


http://www.dlib.org/dlib/september05/lynch/09lynch.html

Markey et al. [2007] Census of Institutional Repositories in the United States: MIRACLE Project Research Findings. CLIR pub 140. See, particularly, Executive Summary and Literature Review. [CTools]

http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub140abst.html


http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue46/rusbridge/

Smith. [2001] *Strategies for Building Digitized Collections.* [CTools]


http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/br/br244.shtml

19 October – Study Break
Metadata for Digital Libraries and Archives

What you see isn’t necessarily what you get. This module explores the distinction between the user interface and the underlying structure of information used to describe, structure, and administer a digital archive or repository. The module covers the origins and development of METS (Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard), PREMIS (PREervation Metadata Implementation Strategies), and OAI (Open Archives Initiative) and its kin.

26 October – Metadata: Getting to METS

Required Readings


Resources


2 November – Metadata: OAIS and PREMIS

Required Readings


Higgins and Semple. [2006] OAIS Five-year Review. [CTools]
http://www.dpconline.org/graphics/reports/index.html

*Resources*


9 November – Metadata: OAI and ORE

*Required Readings*


*Resources*


**User Experience in Digital Libraries**

This module is focused on the use of digital libraries and archives, particularly efforts to evaluate their value and impact, the evolution of tools for using, viewing, and manipulating digital content (beyond
search and retrieval), and the fundamental role that trust/credibility plays in the viability of the digital library paradigm.

**16 November – User Experience: Evaluation**

*Required Readings*


**23 November – User Experience: Trust and Collaboration**

*Required Readings*


TRAC: Trustworthy Repositories Audit & Certification: Criteria and Checklist. [CTools]


**30 November – User Experience: Tools Grab Bag**

This session is an opportunity for demonstration and discussion of digital library tools for viewing, manipulating, and otherwise making use of digital library content. No required readings this week.

**7 December – Summation: Sustainability**

The final week of the course focuses on long-term sustainability, particularly new attention being given to business models and the economics of sustainability. This week is a final chance to re-consider some of the archival theories underpinning future digital library development.

*Required Readings*
