HUMANITIES FOR STEM: USING ARCHIVES TO BRIDGE THE TWO CULTURES DIVIDE

Case Study on Collaboration: An Undergraduate Computer Science Class Working in the NYU Archives

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Computer Science Undergraduate Course in Digital Humanities

- Student profile:
  - Computer Science undergraduate majors and minors.
  - Pre-requisites:
    1. programming in a high level language (CSCI-UA.2)
    2. web design (CSCI-UA.4)
- This course has been given 5 times

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- Capstone Project:
  - Build a digital archive from primary source materials
  - Work with NYU Archives https://library.nyu.edu/locations/new-york-university-archives/

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- Computer Science course content:
  - Web development (taught on a Courant web server)
    1. Topics in PHP and server-side scripting
    2. Topics in JavaScript and client-side scripting
    3. Advanced HTML/CSS
  - Working with media
    1. Managing collections of images on-line
    2. Advanced topics on digital images
       - File types, Color calibration and other topics
    3. Sound files
    4. Video files

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- Project Planning
  - Janet Bunde and I meet several months ahead
    - Review archival materials that might be of interest
    - Review course project requirements

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- Developing the assignment: 4 Due Dates
  1. Proposal: project goals and data source
  2. Sample images and webpage design
  3. First draft of the completed site
  4. Oral presentation and completed site

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- Guest Lecture by Janet Bunde
  - Overview of archival materials available
  - How to use a Finding Aid
  - Procedures in handling materials
  - Procedures in scheduling appointments

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- Guest Lecture by Paula Feid
  - The role of secondary sources
  - How to find secondary sources
  - Footnotes on a scholarly website
  - Bibliography

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- Additional Guest Lectures during the project
  - Guest Lecture by Melitte Buchman
    - Case study on digitizing primary source materials
    - Discussion on images and standards
    - Discussion on color
  - Guest Lecture by Jerry Heverly
    - Case study on project management

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- Developing procedures for a smooth workflow
  - Janet approves all topics.
    - Copyright questions are addressed early on for any student who wishes to publish his/her site.
  - Students make appointments for scanning
  - Janet and I stay in close touch
    - Student issues
    - Course/archives issues

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- Sample Projects
- URL: http://cs.nyu.edu/~deena/docs/DSE_DH_studentPages.html

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- **Assessment**
  - Students experience web development in a "real-world" situation
  - Quite a few students go on to graduate school in Library Science, Archives programs and related studies

WITH MANY THANKS TO:

Janet Bunde

Paula Feid

Send email to deena.engel@nyu.edu with any questions.