Crafting Digital History DIGH3814O:HIST3814O

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500 Word Essay On The Course

During the initial few weeks of the course I was very confused to how this would help me. I have learned so much. One thing that has stuck by me from my grade 10 history class was that we learn from our past. This course was set up in such a way that we note down our history and make changes to move forward from there. We learn from the mistakes we make in our past and we make the same mistakes we don't learn from. In today's day and age, with there being so much data it is important to keep in mind the medium we are using to interpret the information from our past. This medium can play a role to broadcast information to vast groups of people from across the world but making it also susceptible to propaganda and miscommunication.

I have had many courses where my first impressions are "how am I going to get through this" or "will I be able to complete the work" but what I have found is that I persevere till the end. I took an advanced physics course in highschool with a similar first impression but what helped me with that course and this digital history course was my perseverance. Another thing I found about myself through this course is that I tend to do better on an assignment the second time I look at it.

When the initial module was due I would be very busy during the week (Dr. Graham once again sorry for my late submissions and thank you for excusing me) and would complete it on the weekend or the next day. The modules that I briefly looked at before and scanned through the exercise prior to completing them were found to be far easier than if I wouldn't have briefly scanned over the module's exercises. Another strength that I have discovered throughout this course was my ability to get used to software quickly. Being an industrial design student we are introduced to a multitude of software during our degree. I initially was getting quite frustrated by the amount of programs we had to download but I later came to realize I am learning these programs quite intuitively. The gephi instrument was definitely the most interesting for me as it explored the visualization of information. One of my weaknesses throughout the course was that I was taking on too much with work and school. I need to balance out my schedule more.

This course has helped me grow as a historian by showing me that there is so much more to history than just reading about the past. The information out in the digital world is vast and can be interpreted in different ways. By understanding how to embed information to an audience that is filtered and refined can help pass on our learning to the next generation. The course has provided me with a multitude of tools to refine and appropriately interpret what we know about our past. This is a very important task as our history defines our future.