



RICE

UX Toolbox: Using Ethnography to Design Library Services for Scientists

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July 26, 2013

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River Campus Libraries | University of Rochester

ANTHROLIB

The University of Rochester's River Campus Libraries use a participatory design process to build and improve library spaces, services and technology. The following links take you to information about participatory design in academic libraries and higher education. The map shows where others are doing projects that build on this work. The bibliography includes a range of descriptive and theoretical work related to these projects.

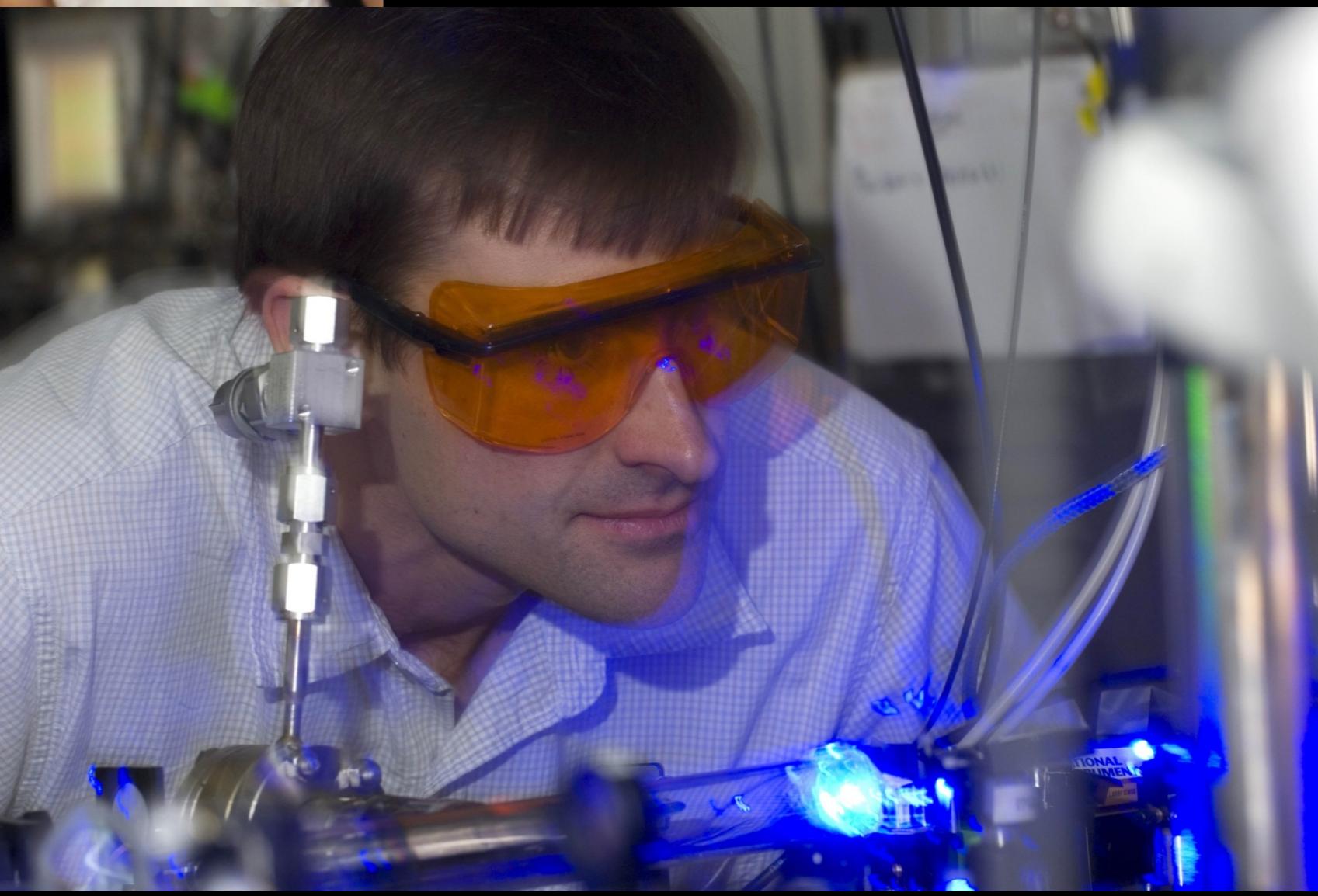
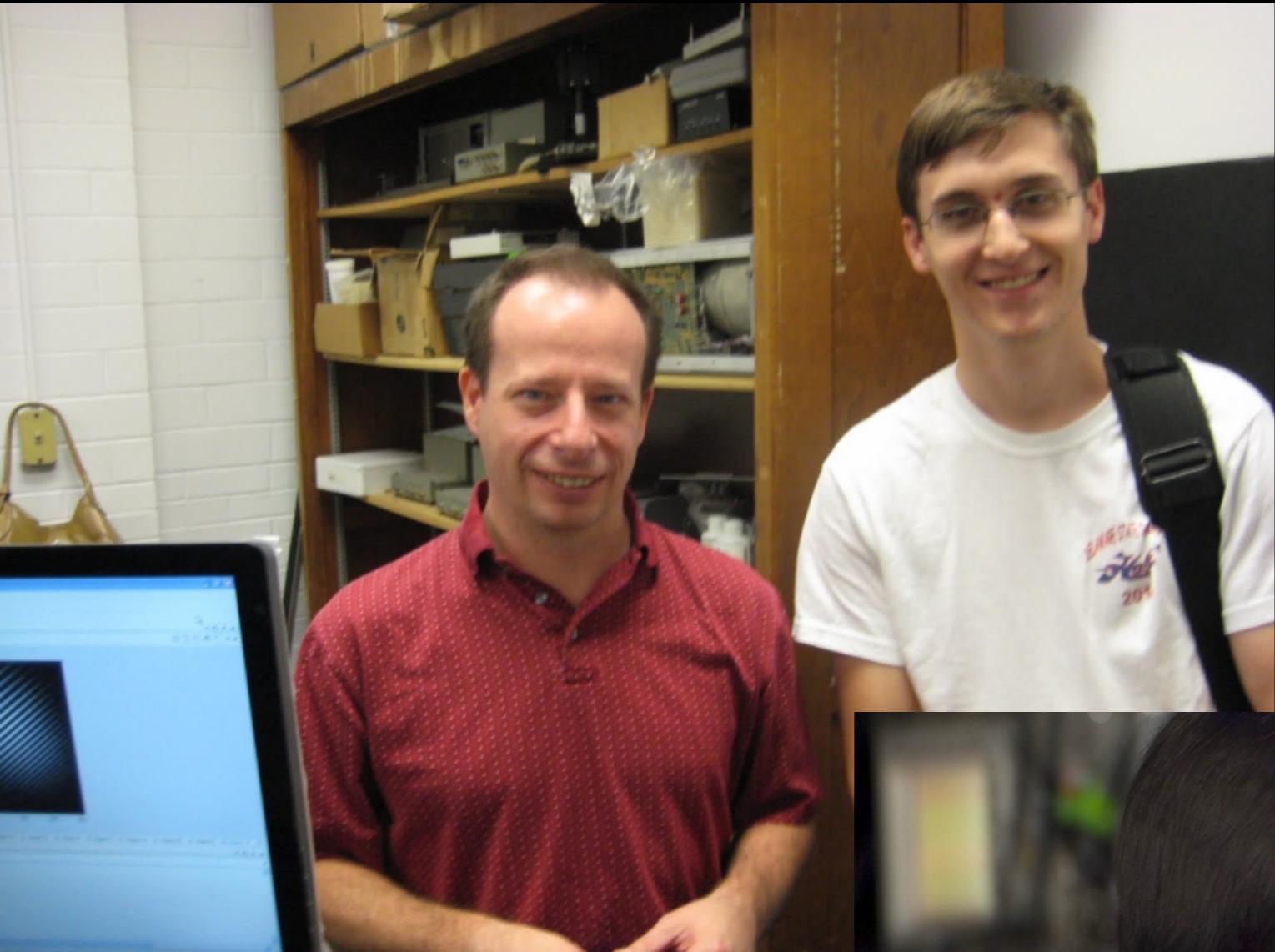
[AnthroLib Bibliography](#)
A collection of books, articles, sites and other resources related to user research in libraries and higher education

[AnthroLib Listserv](#)
Using ethnographic methods in library and higher education assessment

American University of Cairo
Participatory design of library, American University of Cairo, Cairo, Egypt

American University of Central Asia
Participatory design of the library and curriculum design, American University of

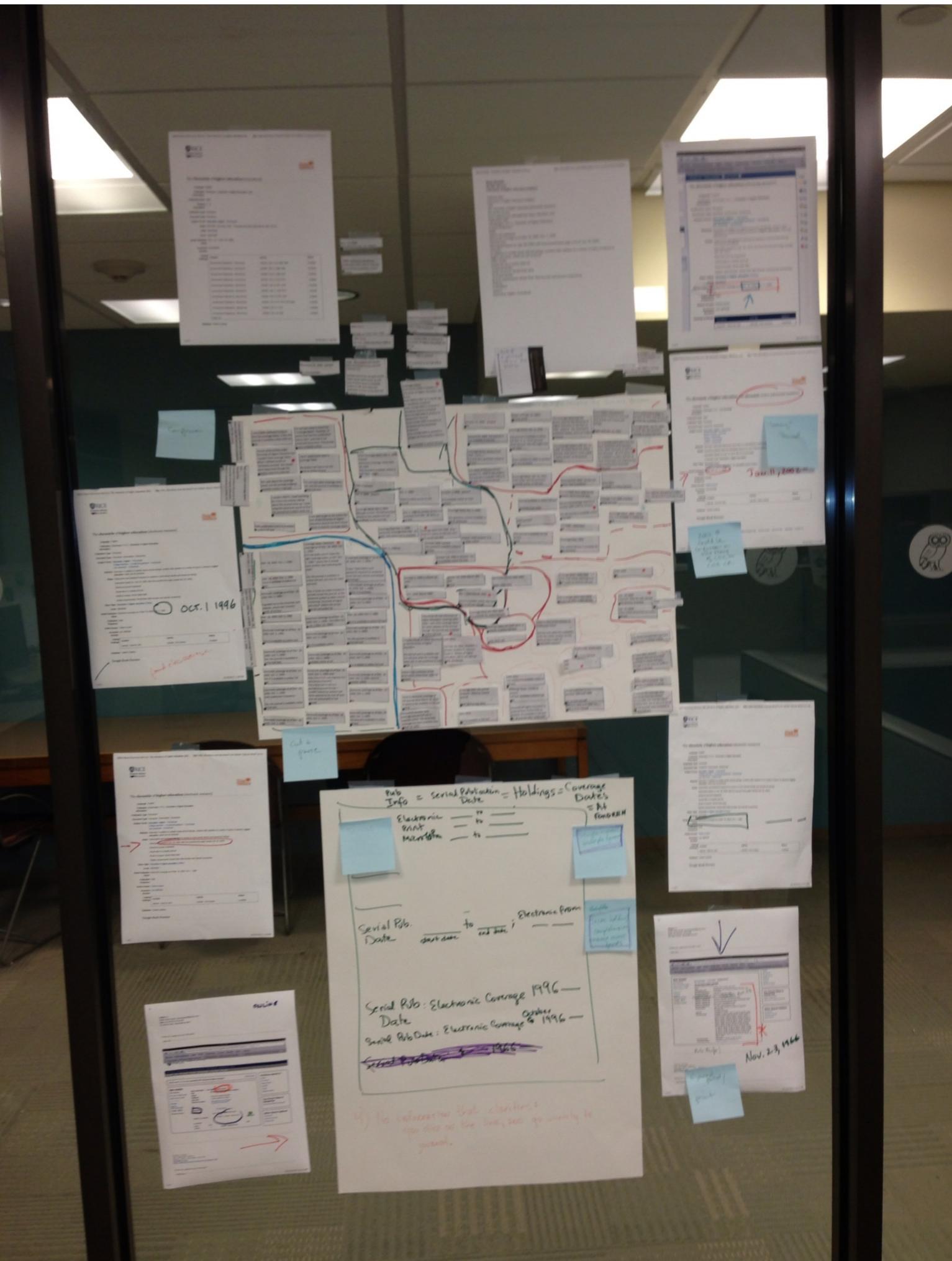
A world map centered on the Atlantic Ocean, showing pins placed in numerous countries across all continents. The pins are concentrated in North America, Europe, and Africa, with smaller clusters in South America, Australia, and Asia. The map includes labels for major countries and bodies of water like the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, Indian, and Southern Oceans.

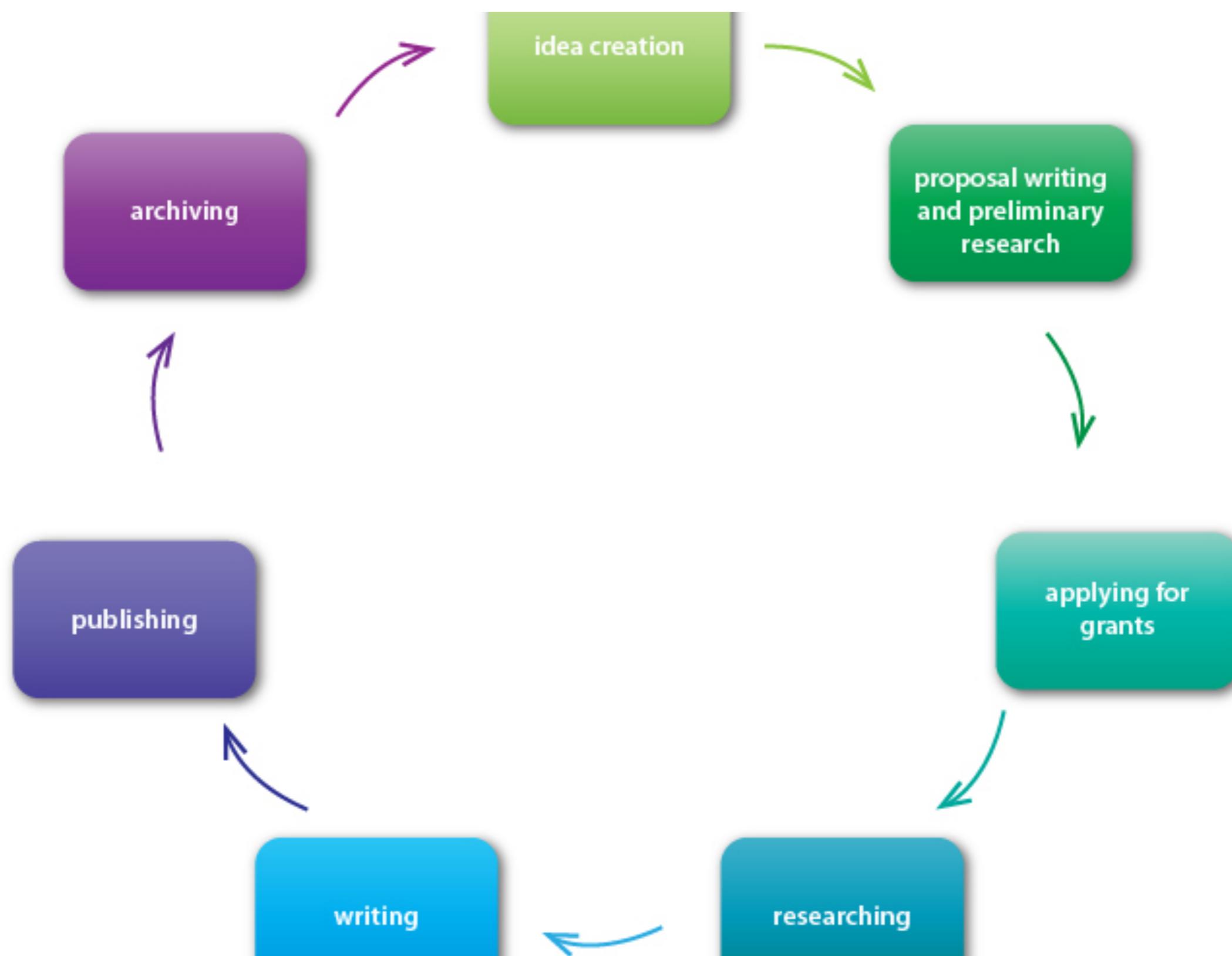




Project Timeline

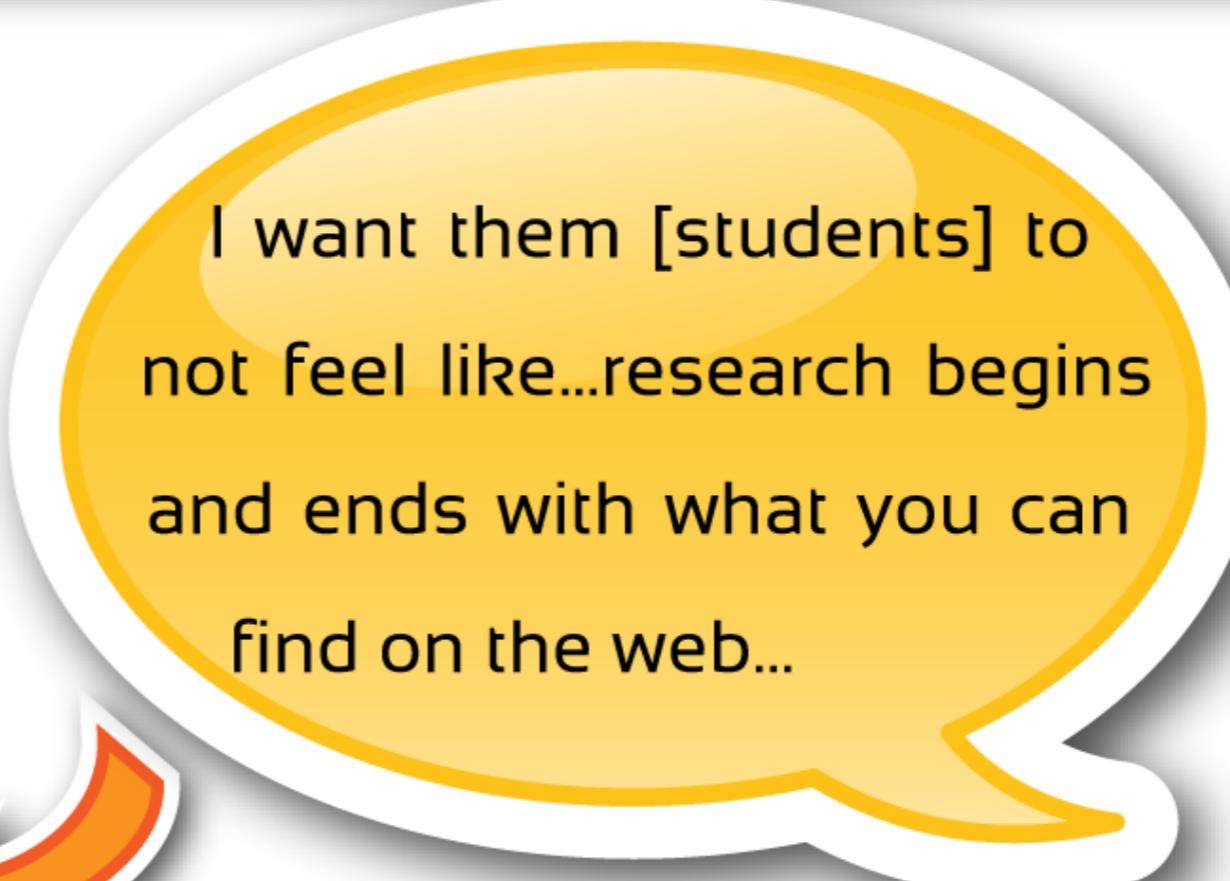
Pre-start up	Research question, Instruments, Subjects, IRB
Week 1 & 2	<i>Conduct Interviews</i>
Week 3 & 4	Transcription and coding (analyze data) Color-coding of low-hanging apples
Week 5 & 6	<i>Generate Service Recommendations and Report Writing</i>





From Interview to Outcome

Pedagogical:
teaching students
how to conduct
archival research



I want them [students] to
not feel like...research begins
and ends with what you can
find on the web...

Interview
Quote



OUTCOME:

Post interview, followed up with listing of local archival materials directly related to her research area.

Scholar stated she would send students to use these next semester

Librarian “Eureka!”

“ I think this sort of (ethnographic) work also helps open communication avenues between librarians from different departments and builds awareness of the different activities or services available from different departments in concrete ways, which I think facilitates future collaboration.”

Librarian participant

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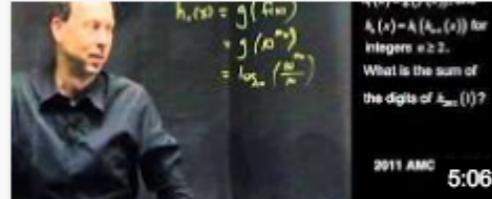
Mathematical Association of America - YouTube

MAA Mathematical Association of America

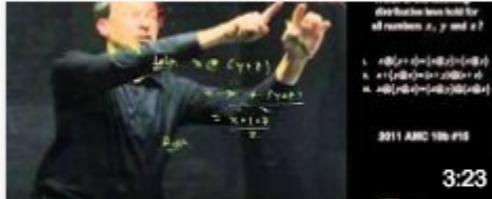
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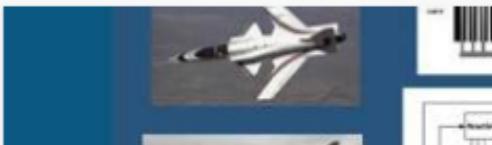
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The Simons Foundation proudly presents a series of extended interviews with some of the giants of 20th-century mathematics and science. This collection, organized in collaboration with Hugo Rossi of the University of Utah, provides an opportunity to watch these great men and women discuss their lives and their thinking about science and our world. Click here for [interview highlights](#).

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