Assignment #4

DH FINAL PROJECT GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW:

For your Final Project you will design and develop a Digital Humanities project during the second half of the semester. You are welcome to choose a unique project, for which you will need to locate/collate data, transform the data using tool(s) we studied in class, and present these data as a website using the free platform wix.com. As long as you can demonstrate a connection to the ideas, methods, and tools we have explored in class, I will happily approve your proposal.

GUIDELINES:

As you select a topic for this project, try to follow the Goldilocks principle: your project should be substantive enough to keep you busy through the remainder of the semester, but not so big that you find yourself overwhelmed by the various tasks you'll need to complete. For example, transcribing a single letter and posting it on wix would be far too simple for a project of this size and scope. On the other hand, attempting to digitize the complete works of your favorite author and compile them into a searchable exhibit on wix would be far too ambitious. Somewhere in the middle you'll find a realistic option that stretches you a bit, but not to your breaking point. Before you begin your work, I'll help you determine what is and isn't doable during the time we have available to work on this assignment. You must publish your finished project on the Internet (wix.com) by the end of the semester.

During the last several days of classes, each person will have 10 minutes to share projects their projects with the class. You may use this time to walk us through your DH project website. Since we are fully remote for student presentations, you may feel free to pre-record your website tour rather than presenting it live. Either way, please make sure you are well prepared.

Your final submission will include your Project Proposal (pdf), and link to your final DH project (website … be sure to include a bibliography on your website)! Your Final Project should be uploaded as a DH website along with the Project Proposal to the course management system no later than 11:55 p.m. on the last day of class, Friday December 04, 2020. Be sure to provide log-in credentials if needed so that I may see your website after your presentation. Don't forget, I am available to discuss the progress of your project throughout the rest of the semester!

PROJECT MILESTONES:

- Proposal – 1 to 2 pages outlining the scope of your project, how you plan to use wix and other DH tool(s), and what contribution you are attempting to make to the field. Your proposal is due Friday 11/13, after each student has had a chance to share their ideas with me. There is also an example Project Proposal at the end of these guidelines.
- Meeting with me – you will meet with me during the first two open class sessions to discuss your proposal, which I will need to approve.
- Final Project Presentation – individual student presentations will take place the last four class sessions. I will assign your date slot.
- Upload the link to your Final Project website and the pdf of your Proposal to course management system by the last day of the semester (11:55 p.m.).

POSSIBLE PROJECT TOPICS:

- The Lowell Thomas Papers includes a wide range of potential projects, from his experiences during WWI, to his 46 year news radio career, to his 1949 expedition to Tibet.
- Marist College history.
- Early American history featuring the Reese Family Papers.
- The history of the Poughkeepsie Regatta.
- The history of the Environmental Movement.
- *For more projects featuring our special collections, ask me!*