

Assignment #1: How Did They Make That? Project Review

Description:

Digital Humanities projects come in many forms, rely on a wide array of data types, and involve any manner of technologies. Becoming accustomed to navigating a project site and exploring how each project approached its data, process, and presentation is a crucial skill for this class.

Select two of the following projects and explore the project goals, what type of data it used, how that data was found and/or processed, what technologies were used, and why. Include your own analysis of how successful you think the project was in achieving its aims, and why or why not.

You have two choices for approaching this very short report.

Either: 1) Write about two projects separately (3 pages max)

Or: 2) Write a comparison of two projects (3 page max)

This is a short report, so be concise and clear. Please use Times New Roman 12 point font, standard margins, and double space your paper. You will need to site the websites and any other sources you mention in a bibliography. Follow the Chicago Style Manual for citations.

Projects:

- The Negro Travelers' Green Book (<https://delphi.tcl.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/greenbook.html>)
- Memories/Motifs: Holocaust Survivor Narratives in Post-War America (<http://memoriesmotifs.com/>)
- Kindred Britain (<http://kindred.stanford.edu/#>)
- Making the History of 1989 (<http://chnm.gmu.edu/1989/>)
- The Willa Cather Archive (<http://cather.unl.edu/>)
- The Nicest Kids in Town (<http://scalar.usc.edu/nehvectors/nicest-kids/index>)

Project Checklist:

- Select two DH projects that you find interesting.
- Write a short essay about each project (3 pages max) OR write a comparison of two projects (3 pages max)
- What was the original inspiration for the project?
- Why did the author(s) pursue this project as a digital humanities project? What about this project makes it “DH”?
- What does this project tell us about its subject that a “traditional” research project couldn’t?
- What tools were used to create the project? Do you think the tools were chosen to match the subject matter? Or was the subject matter selected to match the tools?
- Does your essay adhere to the conventions of standard written English (i.e., spelling, punctuation, grammar)?
- Did you include a bibliography and cite your sources? Humanities typically use the Chicago Style Manual