

How to get more out of your Omeka install - a workshop for no-longer beginners

Yes, plugins, and we'll get there, but first some thing that's more intangible

Thinking through your site:

- Item-level information vs. exhibit info
- Even if your focus is building exhibits, people will end up clicking through to the item.

There should be *something* there for them.

- Example: how we thought about items on HNM in their own desc vs the exhibit info.
- What information do you want to capture and what elements exist that can help you do that? Is there something you might need a plugin for (like geolocation)?
- Thing about organization
 - Collections
 - Tags
 - Exhibits
 - Information architecture - what are you including on the navigation and why. What are you omitting and why?
 - Page layout - different themes put the images at the top or the bottom. What do you want to forefront?

Things that are part of the Core and will improve your workflow

- Increase the number of results on the browse page of your admin side:
 - Appearance - Settings: change the results per page on the admin side.
 - Gives you more to work with, less clicking through when browsing items, exhibits.

- Manage your Element Sets
 - Move:
 - you can rearrange so the one's
 - Comment
 - Finally worked out how you're using Coverage? Want to remember your decision in 3 months? Don't write it down on a sticky note, put it in your install!
 - This is helpful for notes to self, but also for collaborative Omeka sites, so that everyone knows what format of date to use, etc.
 - Might also be helpful in teaching or volunteer situations, to provide guidance.

Plugins for Controlled Vocabulary:

First: what *is* a controlled vocabulary and why might you want to use one?

- Getty and LoC suggest link up a field or fields with the vocabs from the Getty and LoC
 - you do need to know how their terminology works for these to be useful,
 - But it's handy if you wanted to (for example) use LoC subject classifications in Subject or Getty Place Name thesaurus for coverage
- SimpleVocab
 - Pick an element, create a dropdown list
 - You control the vocabulary
 - Useful for small sets
- Search by Metadata
 - Makes the text in elements searchable BUT they must be an exact match

- Use with SimpleVocab to ensure consistency

Collecting from the Community

- Add the Simple Contact form and/or set up an email just for the account
- Using Contribution
 - Guest User usually required (people can create an admin-side-only account, log in to contribute multiple items) but:
 - New superanon options in version 3.1 - users can contribute completely anonymously without creating a guest account
 - Why you might or might not want to do this
- User Profiles - do you anticipate collecting multiple items from a key set of individuals?
Do you want to collect information about them? (this is, in some ways, the other end of the spectrum from the superanonymous options.

Redact Elements

- you're going to need figure out how to use RegEx, but you can protect specific pieces of data
- Make visible by different user levels
- Does not protect user data, only item data, but you could use it in conjunction with contribution fields to protect specific data.

Analysing what you have:

- Text Analysis and NGram