

## **Report #1: Surveys of Digital Resources for Historical Research**

Due in class on 2/4

This assignment has two components. Please be sure to read through these instructions and familiarize yourself with each aspect.

**First**, consult the following two Web sites created by Esther Grassian of the UCLA College Library to familiarize yourself with a variety of evaluation criteria to apply to Web resources.

- Thinking Critically about World Wide Web Resources  
<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/help/critical/index.htm>
- Thinking Critically about Discipline-Based World Wide Web Resources  
<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/help/critical/discipline.htm>

**Second**, select one item from each of 3 topics from the list below (digital scholarship & exhibits, digital databases, and student projects) and write a 1,000-word critique of those digital resources. In addition to the pertinent general criteria you gleaned from the UCLA Web sites ("Content & Evaluation," "Source & Date," and "Structure"), be sure to specifically address the following for each type of resource:

- Who/what created this resource?
- What is its purpose (instructional, scholarly, archival, etc., or some combination)?
- What are its strengths?
- What are its limitations?

### **Digital Scholarship & Exhibits** (Choose one):

- The Valley of the Shadow  
<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vshadow2/>
- The Salem Witch Trials  
<http://www.iath.virginia.edu/salem/>
- The Great Chicago Fire and the Web of Memory  
<http://www.chicagohs.org/fire>
- Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1775-2000  
<http://womhist.binghamton.edu/>

- Nineteenth Century Documents Project  
<http://www.furman.edu/~benson/docs/>
- Philippine-American War and Turn-of-the-Century U.S. Imperialism  
<http://www.BoondocksNet.com/>
- Documenting the American South  
<http://docsouth.unc.edu/>
- California Heritage Collection  
<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/CalHeritage/>
- New Deal Network  
<http://newdeal.feri.org/>
- Any single collection from American Memory  
<http://memory.loc.gov/>

**Digital Databases** (Choose one):

- HarpWeek  
<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/harpweek/uva/index.html>
- Historical New York Times Project  
<http://nyt.ulib.org/>
- Any single full text database from Accessible Archives  
<http://www.accessible.com/about.htm>
- Any single full text database from Making of America  
<http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/>

**Student Projects** (Choose one):

- Any project from the HIUS 403: Valley of the Shadow Student Projects  
<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vshadow2/projects/projects.html>
- Any project from the MDST 382 Lewis and Clark Student Projects  
<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vcdh/encounter/projects/projects.html>
- Any project from The Museum for American Studies  
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MUSEUM/front.html>