

Collecting (Archiving) History Online – Teaching History with New Media

Objective: To experience how historians use new technologies to collect (and archive) research online for teaching purposes.

Goal: Completing both group and individual tasks, students will create an Omeka.net website that explains the history of _____ in 30-40 essential items.

Your group will pick one overarching theme or topic in history – geographic and timeframe options are open. Within the theme/topic, each student will research one specific aspect and gather a variety of sources to include in their individual collection. Each entry must be “curated” by providing: a) the essential information and metadata; b) what users are looking at (i.e. details and historical background information); and, c) the historian’s take on why this item/source is important (i.e., its “big picture” relevance).

- Sources can be a mix of primary and secondary sources, but a much greater emphasis should be placed on primary sources.
- The group of items will consist of 30-40 sources. if each student offers 10 items in their collection.
 - Individually, each item should be grouped in a specified collection, with a collection description for audiences to examine before exploring each item.
- Groups will also create an About or Exhibition page for the Omeka site, explaining the overall significance of the topic. Works Cited (or referenced) should be listed here. Or, sources can be listed on another simple page (i.e. a Credits page)
 - All secondary sources must appear in Chicago Style. For primary sources, you can provide a general attribution (i.e. Images courtesy of Wikimedia Commons, the United States Library of Congress-Print & Photographs Division, Imagining the American Past Collection, etc.)

Students will invite the Instructor (sibajaro@appstate.edu) as an editor for the site.

The final version of the Omeka Site will include one lesson/presentation plan provided by the group. This plan will help audiences make good use of the website.

Omeka Site 1.0 due by April 8

Omeka Site 2.0 with final draft of lesson plan due by April 24

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1. Finalize group and individual topics >> Week 06
 2. Set up Omeka.net site based on Architectural Map; Create Omeka site sub-collection in the ASU_HIS3630_THNM Zotero group folder >> Week 10
 3. Add your research items (secondary and primary sources) to your Zotero subcollection, and post your first item on the Omeka.net site >> [by March 20](#)
 4. First 5 items and 1 collection >> [by March 27](#)
 5. Omeka 1.0 >> [by April 8](#)
 6. Omeka 2.0 with final lesson plan >> [by April 24](#)

Collecting History Online Project = 30% of your final grade

RUBRIC

Name:

// Project Title:

Criteria: Group	Assessment	Comments
Topic: Clear	Select ▾	
About Page: Clear, Analytical, and/or Original Argument		
Research: Chicago citation	Incomplete/Poor (5-0pt. quality)	
Research: Quality of sources (scholarly)/primary collections		
Narrative: Explains historical context & significance	Needs work (6pt. quality)	
Technical: Images, Sound & Text are polished & clean; helps narrative and thesis	Meets Expectations (7pt. quality)	
Technical: Editing = effective flow across website		
Reqs.: on time, clearly organized, specific pages	Above Avg. (9-8 pt. quality)	
Overall: fulfills spirit of HIS 3630 (doing history with new media)	Excels (10pt. quality)	
Bonus: Implements feedback from 1st cut or 1.0 site; Extra features		

Criteria -Individual Work	Assessment	Comments
Topic: Clear	Select ▾	
Argument: Clear, Analytical, and/or Original		
Metadata: Complete, Accurate, Useful	Select ▾	
Description 1: Offers details and historical context	Select ▾	
Description 2: Offers “why ___ matters” comments		
Technical: Images, Sound & Text: polished, clean	Select ▾	
Technical: Editing = items fit within the collection focus		
Requirements: All prelim. pieces submitted, on time	Select ▾	
Requirements: meets final guidelines: on time, # of items, collection description		
Effort: Individual and Teamwork	Select ▾	
General Comments		

Group = of 10 pts.

Individual = of 20 pts

Overall Project/ Total = of 30 points

Directions for Omeka.Net – free basic plan

1. Go to: <http://www.omeka.net/>
2. Click “Sign Up”
3. Select the option plan you desire (note: the free Basic plan is at the bottom)
4. Select “choose” button in your desired plan
5. Enter fields (Username, Password, Confirm Password, Full Name, Email, Confirm Email). Read and Agree to Terms of Service. Complete Captcha.
6. Click “Sign Up”
7. Confirm via email

The screenshot shows the Omeka.Net sign-up interface. At the top, there are four "Choose" buttons for different plans. Below them, a message states: "Try the free Basic plan with 500 MB of storage, 1 site, 15 plugins, and 5 themes." with a "Choose" button. To the right, a red box contains the text: "If you need more than the Platinum plan's 25GB of storage, please contact us for a custom plan." Below this, a heading reads "You have chosen the BASIC plan." followed by the instruction "Continue signing up by completing the form below. Fields marked with * are required." The form includes input fields for Username *, Password *, Confirm Password *, Full Name *, Email *, and Confirm Email *. Below these is a checkbox for "I agree to the Terms of Service". At the bottom of the form is a reCAPTCHA widget with a "Type the text" input and a "Sign Up" button.

Welcome page takes you to two places – with links: “Add a Site” and “Go to My Account”

Once you've added a site, your login page will now display "Go to My Account," "View Site," and "Manage Site."



To control your Omeka site and exhibits, select "Manage Site"

- You can add individual items by clicking on "Item"
- Here, at the outset, it is probably a good time to consider the architectural structure of your Omeka site, as well as the rationale for building a site.

BIG PICTURE

- What is the purpose of this site?
- Who is responsible for adding and editing content?
- What are your desired outcomes?

TECHNICAL

- How many collections do you expect to create?
- Identify the collections and probable sequence.
- Do you want to build an exhibit? To build an exhibit, click on "Plugins" in the top menu and install "Exhibit Builder."
- Do you want to create a standalone page? To create an individual page, click on "Plugins" in the top menu and install "Simple Pages."
- Do you have a working set of tags established?

Using the top menu...

Explore the variety of plugin tools to customize your site. You can also control the appearance of your site by clicking on "Appearance" and editing your theme (there are several color schemes within themes), site navigation, and settings. In addition, you can select "Settings" to edit the site ID and control other default settings. Under "Users" you can invite others to collaborate or contribute, assigning them the role of either "Super," "Admin," "Researcher," or "Contributor."

For examples of websites using Omeka.Net, see: <http://info.omeka.net/showcase/>

If you want complete control over the appearance of your site, or if you are competent with various coding platforms, download and install a full Omeka.Org site (<https://omeka.org/>)

For a showcase of sites that maximize the Omeka platform, see: <https://omeka.org/showcase/> and http://omeka.org/codex/Sites_Using_Omek