DSSF21 Micro Project Brief

Using MS-169: The Albert Chance World War II Collection, create a digital project that explores primary source documents and photographs using Digital Humanities tools and methodologies.

Throughout the summer, you will be introduced to new concepts and tools that contribute Digital Humanities as a field of study. One mainstay of the Digital Humanities is experimentation and learning through building. We would like you to collaborate (another DH tenet) to create something, something that puts the tools you are learning to use with source material from Special Collections and College Archives. We will not provide a narrative that you must follow or research questions that must be answered for this project. We want you to develop skills that you bring to this fellowship and skills that you learn during this fellowship for this project. This is the first time our DSSFs will be working on a Micro Project and we are looking forward to you helping us shape it.

Our goals are that through real-time project development and execution you will be willing to learn, plan, and build together to create a cohesive project and public presentation. During the course of this project you will:

- Evaluate and select digital items (photographs, letters, journal entries, scrapbook contents) from the Albert Chance Collection that will contribute to the project
- Evaluate the affordances and limitations of specific tools
- Present the selected digital items, using appropriate digital tools, to tell a story that could not be told through a traditional research paper or academic poster presentation.

Micro Project Schedule

Monday, June 7 – Tuesday, June 29

June 7-11	**Introduction to the Chance Collection** (Project Management, research, metadata, wireframing)
June 14-18	**Experimenting with tools** (WordPress, Mapping, Timelines, Scalar)
June 21-25	**Using Tools to interpret data** (Network analysis, text analysis, data visualization)

June 28-July 1   PCLA DSSS presentation

This is a tight schedule! We know. We expect that the Micro Project will be on your minds for the first 3 weeks of your fellowship. Each week we will be introducing new concepts and tools, and each week, you will have the opportunity to work experiment with them using the Albert Chance Collection as source material, for example, learning to make a timeline? You may select 10 journal entries written by Chance Collection and plot them on the timeline. Learning to make a map? You might select 15 photographs from the Chance Collection and plot them on a map. Which journal entries and photographs will be up to you, based on your exploration of the collection and discussions as a group about the story you want to tell, maybe you will need to combine photographs and letters? Maybe you

will what to concentrate on one geographical area or one month of his life. Maybe, a tool or technique that you learn and experiment with makes no sense for the Micro Project – don't use it!

DSSF Roles

During the Micro Project, you will be working as a team, but each week we will have two individuals take on the roles of Week Lead and Week Scribe. The Week Lead will be responsible for coordinating work on the Micro Project outside of set workshops. They will also set a goal or two for the group to complete by the end of the week. We will look to the Week Lead to make sure that each week progress continues with development and construction of the project. The Week Scribe will be responsible for taking notes at the end of each workshop about the group's reactions to what they've learned – strengths of a tool, its relevance to the Micro Project, any problems the group encountered. The Scribe will also be responsible for drawing from their daily notes to create a short blog post describing the week's activities and reflecting on progress made and challenges met. During out Weekly Update meetings on Fridays, we will discuss both the Micro Project and your individual projects and explore what connections can be made.

Digital Scholarship Committee

Throughout the summer the members of the Digital Scholarship Committee (DSC) will be learning with you and we will be available along the way to help with the Micro Project. Members of the committee do not have extensive experience or knowledge about the Albert Chance Collection, or mastery of all DH tools, but collectively we have skills in research, project management, design, writing, editing, coding, etc. We are here to help make this Micro Project experiment something that will contribute to the success of your individual projects.