

Research Apprenticeships (Fall 09-Spring 10)

## **1. ARCHIVAL RESEARCH APPRENTICESHIPS**

### **1A. Archival Interns**

Location: Special Collections, Perry Library, Old Dominion University

Faculty Mentor: Sonia Yaco, University Archivist

Description:

Archival interns are trained to process, arrange and describe archival collections. Interns will process one or more collections as well as write finding aids and researcher guides to collections. Interns may also assist patrons using the collections. Past interns have found the experience valuable for learning research skills, and several interns have used their experiences collections they processed in their thesis and dissertations. We have had interns in English, Political Science, History, Women's Studies but welcome students from any major.

We have a variety of collections and are usually able to match collections to interns interest. Current collections available for interns include the papers of:

Defenders of State Sovereignty, a segregationist group formed in opposition to Brown v. Board  
Irvine B. Hill, radio station owner and past mayor of Norfolk

Mason Andrews, a past mayor of Norfolk and physician who helped to found the Jones Institute and EVMS.

Robert C. McClelland, a history professor and dean of the School of General Studies whose papers include 1950s political tracts

Carolyn H. Tunstall, an English professor whose papers include material from the 1920s

Robert C. McClelland, a history professor and dean of the School of General Studies whose papers include 1950s political tracts

Albert I. Godden, a theatre professor

Required Skills: ability to organize ideas, write well, work independently, intellectual curiosity, commitment to a semester-long project, available to work between 8am-5pm M-F.

### **Desegregation of Virginia Education (DOVE) Project**

Location: Special Collections, Perry Library, Old Dominion University

Faculty Mentor: Sonia Yaco, University Archivist

Description:

The DOVE project was created to identify, locate, catalog and preserve records that document Virginia's school desegregation process. The scope of the project is records related to the desegregation of public and private schools in Virginia, grades K-12 and institutions of higher

education. The time span would be 1945 – 1986. Papers, photographs, existing oral histories, newspapers and audio-visual materials will be included.

This would include:

- Governmental records: City Council/County Board minutes; School Board minutes and administrative papers; school district correspondence with parents, city and county officials, Virginia Department of Education and Pupil Placement Board, decisional papers, legal advice and policy statements.
- Non-governmental records: teachers' diaries, oral histories, records of informal tutoring groups that existed when public school were closed, organization papers of ad hoc citizen groups for and against Massive Resistance, papers of associations such as Virginia Education Association, Virginia State Teachers Association, Virginia Association of School Superintendents, Virginia School Boards Association.

Required Skills: ability to organize ideas, write well, work independently, intellectual curiosity, commitment to a semester-long project, available to work between 8am-5pm M-F.

## **2. RESEARCH APPRENTICESHIPS IN DIGITAL/MEDIA STUDIES**

### **2A. Social Media Project: Tracing Digital Culture**

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Liza Potts, lpotts@odu.edu

Description: We will trace major and minor events as they move across different genres of digital culture. We will examine social software systems such as Flickr YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook, as well as mainstream media sites such as the BBC News. As we trace the movements of data as it becomes information and transforms into knowledge, we will gain a greater understanding of how participants use these systems to communicate and how we as designers can improve these systems.

Researcher (1 or more students, prefer A&L, Psych, or IS majors)

You will learn how to trace digital culture, research new innovative experiences for social media, and aid our researchers.

Required Skills: Detail oriented, Excel, experience using social media tools such as those listed above

Software / Database Developers (2 students, prefer CS or IS majors)

You will learn how to trace digital culture by using your coding skills to extra data from social media websites. You will increase your data management skills by creating, managing, and maintaining this database of information.

Required Skills: Experience with APIs, PHP, Perl (preferred), MySQL

## **2B. Center for Mediated Experience**

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Liza Potts

Description: Come be a part of the newest interdisciplinary lab at ODU. At the Center for Mediated Experience (CeMe), we are looking for you to help us innovate the technologies we deploy and the interfaces we use.

--Webmaster (1 student, prefer English/PW major or CS major)

You will learn how to build, manage, and maintain the lab's website, social media tools, and related technologies. You will learn how to manage and maintain a CMS (content management system) and social media tools. Required Skills: HTML, CSS, Blogspot/Blogger/Etc, Wiki familiarity preferred

--Visual Designer (1 student, prefer A&L major)

For this position, we are looking for a visual designer who can aid us in creating visual collateral for the lab and the lab's research projects. You will apply your visual and verbal communication skills to improve current materials and develop new materials related to all CeMe activities.

Required Skills: Detail oriented, Visual Design Skills, Photoshop, Illustrator