

Digital Scholarship

The Pitts Digital Scholarship Scholar will work with the Systems and Digital Scholarship Librarian on one of two primary projects. The first relates to digital publishing. In this project, the scholar will learn about digital publishing, its possibilities and limitations, and participate in the development of a digital publication from Pitts's collections. The second possible project relates to the creation of "born digital" exhibitions, for specific targeted public interest. This project is open to the interests of the scholar and the subject will be decided upon in conversation with the Systems and Digital Scholarship Librarian and in consultation with the Pitts Special Collections holdings.

The first project can be undertaken remotely, the second will require some on-campus meetings.

More information:

<http://blogs.getty.edu/iris/an-editors-view-of-digital-publishing/>
<https://expansive.pubpub.org/>

Outreach

The Pitts Outreach Scholar will work with the Reference Librarian and Outreach Coordinator to explore, assess, and curate social media content within the best practices of non-profits and academic librarianship. They will learn how to assess the current state of Pitts Theology Library's social media against industry standards and develop proposals for effective content solicitation, creation, curation, and enhancement of social media. This scholar will conduct at least one campaign for a promotion of a resource or service and one campaign for the promotion of an event. They will also have the opportunity to sit in on relevant Emory communications engagements, such as the monthly "Libraries Social Media committee" meetings. At the completion of this project, the scholar will create an Atla conference proposal or short proceedings article (to be submitted or not) to address the specific exploration of *theological* librarianship and social media outreach.

This project can be done remotely

More information:

<https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=10-tips-for-librarians-embedding-social-media>

Reserves and Access

Working with the Reserves and Circulation Specialist, the Pitts Reserves and Access Scholar will create and curate content related to accessibility of materials at Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. This project will serve to guide accessibility at Pitts for new faculty and students and explore what options are available for making course reserves and library resources more accessible. The scholar may develop library programming around accessibility.

This project can be done remotely.

More information:

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/diversity/accessibility/technology-access>

Cataloging and Metadata

Research in digital archives can provide unique insights into a time and place in history, but it can be challenging to find the material you need. Learning to use descriptive metadata will give you the skills to approach digital archives with confidence. You will learn how description of digitized collections influences research outcomes and develop a deep knowledge of the digital collection you work on. At the end of your project, you will know how to research and describe digital archival collections so that you and other researchers can use them effectively. Scholars with an interest in historical international mission work, American Methodism, or hymnody will find collections that align with their research interests to work on during this project.

This project can be done remotely.

More Information:

Eden, Brad, "General Information on Metadata." Library Technology Reports 5 (2002): 7-13. doi: <https://doi.org/10.5860/ltr.38n5>

Bias in Cataloging

Cataloging is incredibly important for libraries and researchers, but the system overall is prone to bias. In this project, you will learn the significance of bias in library catalogs, how systems of bias have influenced research and why these systems have persisted for so long. At the end of this project, you will know how to make thoughtful, effective changes to cataloging data that has been harmful to historically marginalized groups.

Scholars with interests in racial reconciliation, religious diversity, or gender equality will find this project especially relevant.

This project can be done remotely.

More information:

Haider, Salman, "Cataloging." Librarianship Studies & Information Technology. Last updated March 22, 2020. <https://www.librarianshipstudies.com/2015/05/cataloging.html>

Example project: <https://candler.emory.edu/news/releases/2021/01/pitts-staff-works-to-counteract-racism-in-library-catalog.html>

Special Collections Analysis

Identifying and Analyzing Chronograms or Printer's Devices- *Remote option available*
Books in Pitts Special Collections often include elements that go beyond the context of the work itself and which can provide insights into the historical context, cultural circumstances,

and religious beliefs surrounding the production and distribution of books. One such element is the presence of printer's devices in books, which identified the printer of a work and which were used for marketing purposes and often employed graphic representations of mythological themes, mottoes or puns. Another, less frequent element is the use of chronograms, which may hide numbers like the book's production date or another piece of information within a Latin or Hebrew quotation. In this project, you will learn how to identify and analyze one of these elements across items in Pitts' collections. At the end of your project, you will know how to identify components of a rare book beyond the main text and how to effectively apply this type of scholarship to your research.

Scholars with an interest in church history will find these projects especially pertinent to their research. Scholars with experience in Latin or Hebrew will find their language skills helpful in studying chronograms.

This project requires on-campus access.

More information:

Printer's devices https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Printer%27s_mark

Chronograms <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chronogram>

Methodist Conference Publications

This project will allow scholars with an interest in the United Methodist Church to apply their existing knowledge about the UMC and learn about how conferences communicate with each other. Over the course of the project, a scholar will learn how to analyze conference publications and study how those publications have changed and are continuing to change over time. At the end of the project, the scholar will be able to identify and organize publications from United Methodist conferences across the country and understand methods of effective communication within the United Methodist Church.

This project requires on-campus access.

Collection Analysis

Pitts provides a wide range of materials for students, faculty, staff, and community members to use for scholarship, ministry, and other ventures. In this project, you will learn how to evaluate the library collection with a specific goal in mind. You will choose an area of research and examine how Pitts' collections serve researchers in that area. You will learn how to identify different types of resources, how to collect data about library collections, and how to modify collections so that they better fit the needs of researchers. At the end of your project, you will have in-depth knowledge about what research materials are available for your subject area and how libraries build collections beyond individual research.

This project can be done remotely.

Instruction and Pedagogy

The Instruction and Pedagogy Scholar will work with the Instruction Librarian to develop a series of instructional opportunities, Weekly Workshops and one-off classroom visits, focused on critical library pedagogy and critical information literacy. The scholar will be introduced to theories of critical library instruction/pedagogy, instructional design, and the goals of library instruction. As a final project, students will reflect on the practice of designing and implanting seminary library instruction for an academic conference audience.

This project can be done remotely.

More information:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41ymjLLteBo>