

Bill Landis & Gabriela Redwine
L-110: Integrating Born-Digital Materials: Archival Standards & Approaches
11-16 June 2017

Narrative Course Evaluations

1) *Were the pre-course reading assignments useful? Did you do any additional preparation for your course? Are there any books or articles that you would like to see included in future years? Any that you might suggest removing?*

1. {private response}
2. Reading assignments were useful and I will refer back to them often for my job.
3. The readings were appropriate. The resources shared during the week were comprehensive, useful, pertinent to the challenges we embrace with born-digital materials.
4. It was useful for context, but the substance of the course unfolded during the sessions themselves, which was ideal.
5. Useful. It laid the groundwork for the week, and gives the student a sense of the breadth of the topic.

2) *What are your thoughts on the course workbook and/or other teaching materials distributed during class? Was the content appropriate and useful? Will it continue to be useful for you after the course?*

1. {private response}
2. Great resources. Professors kept a running list of any additional resources that were discussed, and shared the list online for us.
3. Absolutely useful for me after the course! And we are encouraged to continue the conversation and sharing after the course ends.
4. The content and teaching materials were useful and relevant to the course; much of the information distributed has lasting relevance outside of the class, too.
5. I appreciated and was so grateful for the additional material that the instructors shared with us. As articles, resources, &c., were mentioned, the instructor would upload links and presentations for us. At the end of the week, we had an excellent library of resources to take home with us.

3) *If you've taken previous RBS courses, how did this one compare?*

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A

4) *Which aspects of the course were most interesting and relevant for you as an individual? Did you walk away with any new insights, ideas, or project plans?*

1. {private response}

2. Yes, much to do when I get back to work!
 3. I will summarize the week and present to my organization. The overarching lessons about integrating born-digital into current practices is coherent and nuanced.
 4. I walked away with an extensive amount of information about processing, accessioning, and other archival practices. The delivery was intensive for just a week-long course, but no less rewarding for it.
 5. Really, each aspect of the course was interesting and relevant to my work. Each unit we discussed gave me new insights to each stage of the process at my institution, from accession to access of born-digital.
- 5) *Did the instructors help you to acquire all the skills and information promised in the course description? Was anything left out or undeveloped? Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?*
1. {private response}
 2. Yes, very comprehensive. Good balance of topics, discussion, hands-on, &c.
 3. The learning of skills and detailed information relevant to embracing born-digital material is ongoing for all institutions. I am now equipped to dig deeper into any area of the task that I choose or need to develop.
 4. The instructors delivered on all information and skill sets promised in the course description.
 5. My instructors exceeded my expectations and provided extremely useful hands-on exercises to bring theory and practice together. It was comprehensive and well developed.
- 6) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your time here?*
1. {private response}
 2. Directly helps me at work and in general professional development.
 3. I'll present to co-workers, and generate a local approach to fit our organizational capacity for short term and long term outcomes.
 4. Every day that I go to work in the archives! The experiences were immensely relevant to my day-to-day work with archives.
 5. I will be reexamining current workflows, and suggesting new additions to existing policies. I also feel less overwhelmed by the scope of the entire process.
- 7) *Please briefly describe the intellectual level of the course. What sort of person might benefit the most from taking it?*
1. {private response}
 2. Especially good for archivists, or anyone working with or preparing to work with digital and born-digital materials.
 3. The course is appropriate for practitioners who understand that born-digital materials may present new challenges, and understand the need to implement a strategy for incorporating them into their specific repositories.
 4. The content engages on many levels, but individuals with at least an M.A. or M.L.I.S. will get the most out of it, provided they have some archival work experience.

5. This course would benefit those who have some archival experience. Having knowledge and understanding of basic archival principals is necessary.
- 8) *If applicable, what were the most original, powerful, or otherwise noteworthy educational moments in the course? Were there any “aha!” moments you’d like to share?*
1. No.
 2. Numerous “aha” moments! I rethought many of our current practices and workflows, and will adjust based on the info I learned. The topics were explained clearly and in multiple perspectives.
 3. The array of presentations from professionals grappling with born-digital materials presented many “aha” moments in conjunction with the hands-on exercises.
 4. {no response}
 5. The hands-on exercises and discussions afterward were great at exposing the many issues that occur when dealing with describing born-digital content. It also highlighted how much I already know and can apply to my work.
- 9) *How could the course have been improved?*
1. {private response}
 2. No improvements needed!
 3. {no response}
 4. {no response}
 5. It was pretty great. A little bit more about copyright issues maybe.
- 10) *Do you feel that you got your money’s worth? Would you recommend the course to others?*
1. {private response}
 2. Yes, and yes!
 3. Yes. Yes.
 4. I certainly did. The professional development alone was worth the cost, let alone the connections made in the course. I will be recommending the course to others.
 5. Yes, and yes.
- 11) *If your course made any trips outside of the classroom, do you feel that they were time well spent?*
1. {private response}
 2. Yes, we met with knowledgeable guest speakers.
 3. {no response}
 4. They were very useful and provided a nice change of pace.
 5. We did have two field trip sessions to 344 Winchester and they were both useful. Seeing the accessioning lab was great and meeting a variety of people at those sites, and seeing the space, was informative.

12) *If you attended any of our optional evening events, do you feel that they were a good use of your time? Were there any that were particularly important to your RBS experience? Any that you could have done without?*

1. N/A
2. Yes, networking was very helpful. Everyone was friendly, inclusive, and welcoming. Will be in touch with new colleagues.
3. I loved the enthusiasm, brevity, and aliveness of Kathryn James—Fake Shakespeare collection.
4. {no response}
5. Yes. It was great to expand my horizons.

13) *Do you have any additional thoughts or advice for anyone considering taking this course in a future year?*

1. No.
2. {no response}
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. Just that you should take the course.

14) *If you had to sum up your RBS experience with a single sentence, phrase, or haiku, what would you say?*

1. {private response}
2. This RBS course increased my confidence in my abilities and knowledge.
3. It's a rare opportunity to spend a week like this.
4. "This is the beginning of a beautiful friendship." (*Casablanca*)
5. This course was an opportunity to expand my knowledge and network of people who are concerned and care about born-digital materials, and I am thankful for the opportunity to learn so much at RBS.

Student Data

Number of respondents: 5 (of 5)

How did you arrange for time off to attend this course?

My institution/employer gave me professional leave time: 4 (80%)

My institution/employer did not give me professional leave; I used paid or vacation days: 1 (20%)

Who paid your RBS tuition costs?

My institution/employer paid 100%: 2 (40%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive 100%: 1 (20%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive part; I paid the rest: 1 (20%)

My situation does not fit any of the options above: 1 (20%)

Who paid your RBS housing expenses?

I paid 100% myself: 3 (60%)

I stayed with friends/family, or stayed in my own home and commuted: 1 (20%)

My situation does not fit any of the options above: 1 (20%)

Who paid your RBS travel expenses?

I paid 100% myself: 3 (60%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 1 (20%)

My institution/employer paid part; I paid the rest: 1 (20%)

*Which of the following **best** describes your current occupation?*

Library disciplines:

Archivist: 4 (80%)

Student working toward a/n:

Ph.D./D.Phil: 1 (20%)