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L-130v: Digital Sustainability for Cultural Collections  
31 July–4 August, Online Only

### **Narrative Course Evaluations**

1) *Were the pre-course reading assignments useful? Are there any readings that you would like to see added or removed in future years?*

1. Very useful.
2. I didn't get to read anything in advance.
3. Yes, the pre-course reading assignments were useful. Add reading regarding cultural collections.
4. {no response}
5. Because anyone can take the class, it would have been helpful for those outside of libraries or entry-level to have some more introductory readings before the class.
6. They were useful, and not too overwhelming.
7. They were useful, and the instructors covered them during the class as well.
8. Pre-readings did let us know some of the concepts that were mentioned in the course.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

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. Very appropriate, useful and helpful.
2. To be honest, the workbook wasn't great: it was confusingly indexed, there were too many folders and documents, and the documents weren't formatted so we could easily find things. Not being able to add the folders to my own Google Drive was incredibly annoying because I couldn't search inside the folders.
3. Yes, the workbook was useful for the work we are doing.
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. The materials were helpful, especially the running list of resources.
7. I was glad the instructors shared all the course materials online. What I particularly liked was a Word document that included useful links and information during the class, and this could be shared even outside the classroom!
8. There was a surfeit of content (perhaps too much in a short period of time) but the

materials would be suitable for reference and I am thankful they will continue to be made available.

9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

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

1. I walked away with MANY new insights, ideas, and plans for our workflows.
2. Seeing real workflow examples was super helpful, as was having the opportunity to interface with non-librarian classmates. Getting a sense of roles and responsibilities was also good because I can now have more quantitative discussions with my supervisor about my job scope.
3. There was a lot of information that is applicable to the work we are doing.
4. {no response}
5. It was really nice to reflect on where I am in my program vs. how the steps/framework was presented in the class.
6. Our discussions about preservation metadata were interesting and gave me some ideas for how to approach conversations about it.
7. The lifecycle of digital preservation. This was what I studied in graduate school, and I enjoyed taking it to refresh what I had learned!
8. The most interesting aspects were being able to have discussions with classmates. I wish we had more time in the course, not only to be able to marinate in the content better, but to be able to have more direction and more time in the discussions.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

4) *Did the instructors help you to acquire all the skills and information promised in the course description? Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?*

1. Definitely!
2. The instructors clearly know a lot but I had a hard time with the delivery. It was very chatty, very discursive, and the instructors tended to monologue, which sometimes led us off the path. The course description itself was vague so I wasn't even sure what I was going to learn until I was in the class.
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. Yes.
6. Yes, I learned what I had hoped to from the course description.

7. The instructors were very knowledgeable and willing to share their experiences in the library and archives fields. I learned what I hoped to learn in the right setting.
8. I had hoped the course would focus more on specific approaches for sustainability (e.g. how to increase the probability that process decisions are wise ones). While we were given some frameworks, they were at a very high level. The emphasis was also clearly on digital preservation, whereas I was expecting a bit more content on digital collections management and metadata.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

5) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your time here?*

1. I have new insight into the needs of other stakeholders at my institution and how I might work better within their systems as well as my own.
2. I think the resources will be good to dip into as I work on proposing policy changes and establish priorities for creating new staff roles; I just need to figure out a way to make them easier to search.
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. I am not yet sure exactly how I will use them in my job, but I will keep what I have learned in mind for projects involving digital preservation.
7. I am not doing the digital preservation area, but I wanted to study further as my interest. After talking with my supervisor, I am going to meet with the preservation manager at my work, which is going to be an awesome experience and conversation for me!
8. I will share the main learning points with our department, but right now as I am a small part of the digital preservation workflow, and will not really be implementing large scale changes in policies.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

6) *Who might benefit the most from taking this RBS course?*

1. EVERYONE working in library collection areas.
2. Digital preservationists, archivists/digital archivists, library administrators, records managers, M.L.I.S. students.
3. Librarians, archivists, staff.
4. {no response}

5. Administrators/senior level.
6. Librarians and archivists involved in making decisions about digital preservation of collections.
7. Myself and my work.
8. People with basic experience in digital collections who are moving towards more of an oversight or management role in digital preservation.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

7) *If applicable, what were the most powerful, or otherwise noteworthy educational moments in the course? Were there any “aha!” moments you’d like to share?*

1. Many other organizations have IT departments that are ... resistant.
2. {no response}
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. Our group exercise focused on preserving different types of materials, including research papers and GIFs, was very interesting.
7. {no response}
8. The emphasis on shared definitions really emphasized the need for communication and documentation, so writing things down and sharing them are an integral part of digital preservation.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

8) *Are there any other ways in which the course could have been improved?*

1. It was perfect in every way!
2. The class was 75 percent lecture and that felt like an awful lot, especially in the afternoon. More opportunity for the students to interact would be really nice.
3. {no response}
4. Flow of course could have been paced better.
5. In addition to group discussion, I would have liked some more hands-on activities.
6. Less small group exercises in general, and more focusing on specific exercises rather than general discussions, might have been an improvement.
7. I am in the cataloging metadata field, and they were not mentioned too much. I wish the course had touched on some of the topics.
8. More time. More specific instructions for group work, e.g. should I create a new

document for notes? Do we need a note-taker?

9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

9) *Do you feel that you got your money's worth? How likely are you to recommend this course to others? **On a 1–10 scale**, 1 would indicate that you disagree that you got your money's worth, 5 would indicate a neutral response, and 10 would indicate that you agree that you got your money's worth.*

1. 10
2. 6
3. 9
4. 5
5. 8
6. 8
7. 9
8. 6
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

10) *If your course made any (virtual) field trips outside of the classroom or had guest speakers, do you feel that they enhance the course experience?*

1. {no response}
2. {no response}
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. N/A
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

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

1. This course will demystify the inner-workings of library and archive IT departments,

their workflows, standards, and concerns for digital preservation.

2. There isn't much discussion of specific types of cultural collections; this class is highly theoretical. Be prepared to draw connections to your own work as a way of thinking through concepts and course content.
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. No additional advice.
7. This course required a lot of discussions and sharing ideas. Even though I had to talk a bit (and I am very shy when talking virtually), it was an amazing experience to meet with people outside my work. I would like to say to be open-minded and don't be afraid of sharing your thoughts. There are no right or wrong answers in the discussions.
8. {no response}
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

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

1. Nance and Kari rock! / Their class is full of insights! / I recommend it!
2. After these three days / It is now clear to me that / I deserve a raise.
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. It was a very interesting course.
7. Creative and thoughtful!
8. Deluge.
9. {no response}
10. {no response}
11. {no response}