

Advanced Coursework (3 credits, 30 hours) | May-June 2020

Introduction

The third part of the Archives and Evidentiary Practices Specialization is the Advanced Coursework, which brings in current archival **theory and thinking** in order to structure and contextualize students' experience gained as researchers and practitioners in the first two chapters of the specialization. During the Advanced Coursework, students will attend online lectures, seminars and class discussions. In order not to disconnect completely from the archival setting, case studies selected from the 25-year practice of Blinken OSA will be explored and there will be two workshops when students will again have the chance to do hands-on exercises on primary source documents. The following topics will be covered:

- Curated and special collections, reference services and research data management in archival research and outreach
- Digitization: preservation, digital curation and dissemination
- Archival intervention: liberating the archival description, the political nature of metadata
- Human rights in the archives: creating new meanings, narratives and archival models for shared management and curation
- Records and information management
- Artistic reenactment and reconstruction of historic events through research
- Theories of samizdat and censorship under communism
- New concepts of open access, protection of privacy and information rights in archives
- Archives in emergency situations: how standard practices change and what is to be done to remain operational

Instructors

Katalin Dobó | Senior Librarian

Judit Izinger | Senior Records Officer

András Mink | Research Fellow

Robert Parnica | Senior Reference Archivist

István Rév | Director, Professor of History and Political Science

Iván Székely | Senior Research Fellow

Katalin Székely | Creative Program Officer

Csaba Szilágyi | Head of Human Rights Program

Örs Lehel Tari | Archivist

Schedule

May 7, 2020 | 16:00-19:00 (Csaba Szilágyi, Örs Tari)

Overview of the Advanced Coursework (CSSZ)

Curated collections, special projects (CSSZ)

This session gives the background to several special projects of Blinken OSA: its signature curated collections related to human rights violations and the Parallel Archive, an online storage, management and research platform and community space for sharing and discussing research on digitized archival documents.

Digitizing Textual Documents (ÖT)

This session explores the theoretical grounding, as well as main technological requirements and practices of textual digitization, preservation and dissemination, with special emphasis on how these processes are applied at Blinken OSA in the context of developing online research capacities.

Mandatory reading:

Larisa Miller, "All Text Considered: A Perspective on Mass Digitizing and Archival Processing" *The American Archivist*, September 2013, Vol. 76, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 2013) pp. 521-541.
<https://americanarchivist.org/doi/pdf/10.17723/aarc.76.2.6q005254035w2076>

Suggested reading:

Murtha Baca (ed.), *Introduction to Metadata*. Third Edition. Chapter 1.
<http://www.getty.edu/publications/intrometadata/>

Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System - Magenta Book. Washington: The Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems, 2012, Chapters: 1-4.
<https://public.ccsds.org/pubs/650x0m2.pdf>

Blinken OSA Manual: Archival Digitization Workflow for Audiovisual Material, Text and Still Images
<http://manual.osaarchivum.org/archival-digitization-workflow-for-audiovisual-textual-and-still-image-files>

May 11, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 and 17:30-19:00 (Csaba Szilágyi)

Liberating the archival description

Creation of archival description and metadata depends on "the individual archivist and the archivist as an individual," as Anne J. Gilliland posited, but also on the socio-historical context in which this process is performed. This session explores the possibilities of refiguring traditional descriptive standards in archives and conveying new meanings to records through archival intervention.

Mandatory reading:

Wendy M. Duff and Verne Harris, "Stories and Names: Archival Description as Narrating Records and Constructing Meanings", *Archival Science* (2002), 3:263-285.
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF02435625>

Suggested reading:

Michelle Caswell, "Using classification to convict the Khmer Rouge", *Journal of Documentation* (2012), 2:162-184.
<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/pdfplus/10.1108/00220411211209177>

Elizabeth Yakel, Seth Shaw and Polly Reynolds, "Creating the Next Generation of Archival Finding Aids", *D-Lib Magazine* (2007), 13: 5/6

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may07/yakel/05yakel.html>

Creation of location based human rights narratives

The Sarajevo Research Project: This case study explores how constructing location and/or event based human rights/historical narratives from primary archival sources can inform and shape the preservation of heritage and memory and the (re)building of collective identity and facilitates historical dialogue in post-conflict societies.

Reinventing the archives

Methods of repurposing and expanding the archives by re-contextualizing and re-using archival sources; introducing user generated content and crowdsourced, participatory archival models

Case studies: Mass atrocity records from postwar Bosnia and Herzegovina; Personal memories and memorabilia relating to regime changes of 1989

Mandatory reading:

Csaba Szilágyi, "Re-archiving Mass Atrocity Records by Involving Affected Communities in Postwar Bosnia and Herzegovina", Sandra Ristovska and Monroe Price (eds.), *Visual Imagery and Human Rights Practice* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018)

Suggested reading:

Anne J. Gilliland and Sue McKemmish, "The Role of Participatory Archives in Furthering Human Rights, Reconciliation and Recovery", *Atlanti* (2014), 24:79-88.

<http://www.iias-trieste-maribor.eu/fileadmin/atti/2014/Gilliland.pdf>

May 14, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (Csaba Szilágyi)

17:30-19:00 (Robert Parnica)

Workshop on archival intervention (CSSZ)

In this workshop involving parallel individual work, we will explore inclusive and self-reflexive archival processing of photographic records created by Radio Free Europe, discuss our methods and compare the end results with the original descriptions offered by the records creators.

Reference services (RP)

History of the organization of knowledge; history of the physical access to archives from early times to present; history of reference service and its development (both library and archival); archives from the perspective of users, development of research strategies; modern reference services and modern users (benefits and challenges); technology and reference (new challenges vis-à-vis researchers); reference services data (quantitative and qualitative) as an object of archival research.

Mandatory reading:

Wendy M. Duff, Elizabeth Yakel, and Helen Tibbo, "Archival Reference Knowledge", *The American Archivist* (2013), 1: 68-94.

<http://americanarchivist.org/doi/pdf/10.17723/aarc.76.1.x9792xp27140285g?code=same-site>

Suggested reading:

Elizabeth Yakel, "Thinking Inside and Outside the Boxes: Archival Reference Services at the Turn of the Century", *Archivaria* (2000), 49: 140 -160.

<http://archivaria.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/viewFile/12742/13927>

Sigrd McCausland, "A Future Without Mediation? Online Access, Archivists, and the Future of Archival Research", *Australian Academic & Research Libraries* (2011), 4: 309-319.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/00048623.2011.10722243?needAccess=true&>

May 18, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (Judith Izinger)

17:30-19:00 (Katalin Dobó)

Records and information management (JI)

In this session, the key components of a successful Records and Information Management (RIM) Program, the benefits of RIM standards and best practices, as well as RIM's contribution to organizational effectiveness will be discussed.

Why is records management important and who is responsible for managing records and information? The difference between keeping records and managing records in a planned, systematic manner. Benefits of embedding a records manager into a team versus hiring a consultant.

Mandatory reading:

William Saffady, "The Business Case for Records Management", *Information Management Journal* (2016), 6:49-56.

<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,cookie,uid&custid=&direct=true&db=bth&AN=119932709&site=eds-live&scope=site&lang=en>

Lynne Bowker and César Villamizar, "Embedding a Records Manager as a Strategy for Helping to Positively Influence an Organization's Records Management Culture", *Records Management Journal*, (2017), 1: 57-68.

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/pdfplus/10.1108/RMJ-02-2016-0005>

Suggested reading:

Lisl Zach and Marcia Frank Peri, "Practices for College and University Electronic Records Management (ERM) Programs: Then and Now", *The American Archivist* (2010), 1: 105-28.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/27802717.pdf>

Bessie Schina and Garron Wells, "University Archives and Records Programs in the United States and Canada", *Archival Issues* (2002), 1: 35-51.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/41102054.pdf>

An emerging new discipline: Research Data Management (KD)

An introduction to Research Data Management (RDM) policies and tools for developing RDM plans. We look into methods of organizing, sharing and archiving research data, with special emphasis on research data in the social sciences.

Mandatory reading:

The following two case studies from the [LEARN Toolkit](#):

Paul Ayris, "Research Data Management Supporting Research Integrity and Open Science." pp. 25-29.

Myriam Fellous-Sigrist, "Research Data Management Advocacy – What Works Well." pp. 31-34.

Suggested reading:

LEARN Toolkit of Best Practice for Research Data Management.

<http://learn-rdm.eu/wp-content/uploads/RDMToolkit.pdf?pdf=RDMToolkit>

May 21, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (Katalin Székely)

17:30-19:00 (András Mink)

History Will Repeat Itself: The Art of Re-Enactments (KSZ)

In general, a re-enactment is a historically correct re-creation of socially relevant events, such as battles. Criminology, too, uses re-enactments to reconstruct crimes, but in recent decades, re-enactments also came to the fore in contemporary art. Based on archival research, artists reconstructed major historical events, private microhistories, or even artistic performances to gain a better understanding of the past through first-hand experience. The method of re-enacting a past event thus can be understood as a tool to overcome past traumas, to reconstruct some kind of "truth", or to unmask the mediatized nature of history itself.

Mandatory reading:

Inke Arns, *History Will Repeat Itself*. Dortmund: HMKV – Berlin: KW, 2008

<http://en.inkearns.de/files/2011/05/HWRI-Arns-Kat-2007-engl.pdf>

Suggested reading:

Amelia Jones, "The Artist is Present. Artistic Re-enactments and the Impossibility of Presence." *The Drama Review*, Volume 55, Number 1, Spring 2011. pp. 16–45.

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/414677/pdf>

Robert Blackson, "Once More . . . With Feeling: Reenactment in Contemporary Art and Culture." *Art Journal*; Spring 2007; 66, 1

<http://pages.akbild.ac.at/kdm/media/pdf/clausen/Blackson%20Once%20More.pdf>

Amy Bryzgel, "Artistic Reenactments in East European Performance Art, 1960–Present", *Artmargins [Online]*, February 2018

<http://www.artmargins.com/index.php/featured-articles-sp-829273831/812-artistic-reenactments-in-east-europe-introduction>

Samizdat and Censorship (AM)

This session focuses on the theoretical and practical problems of Samizdat, and its twin-phenomenon, censorship under Communist rule. What is samizdat? What is the difference between the “underground”, the “alternative” and the samizdat? How did samizdat shape anti-communist resistance in the 1970s and the 1980s? What is exactly censorship in this context? What were the institutions of censorship and how did censorship indirectly contribute to the creation of the terrain of samizdat?

Mandatory reading:

Miklós Sükösd, “Underground Print Culture and Independent Political Communication in Communist Regimes.” *Korean Journal of Communication Studies*, Volume 20 No. 5, December 7, 2012.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/236973013_Underground_print_culture_and_independent_political_communication_in_communist_regimes_samizdat_as_typosphere_in_Central_and_Eastern_Europe_from_the_1960s_to_the_1980s

Jonathon Green (ed.): *The Encyclopedia of Censorship*. New York – Oxford – Sydney: Facts on File, 1990.

Suggested reading:

Robert Darnton: *Censors at work: How States Shaped Literature*. New York, NY: N. N. Norton, 2014.

Adam Michnik, “The New Evolutionism.” In: *Letters from Prison and Other Essays*, University of California Press, 1987, pp. 135-149.

Janos Kis, et al. “Kadar Must Go!” In: Janos Kis, *Politics in Hungary: For A Democratic Alternative*. Boulder: East European Monographs, 1989, pp. 143-152.

May 25, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (István Rév)

17:30-19:00

Accessing the Past, or Should Archives Provide Open Access?

The archive, in the course of its daily routine of professional archival work endangers the authenticity and integrity of the documents; the archive could not exist without harming the integrity of the documents that it keeps. The institution that is supposed to guard the privacy and the information rights of people, especially of private persons, whose names and acts are recorded in the sources, contributes every single day to the violation of these rights.

The class presents the delicate balancing act archives are forced to get engaged between the need and right to know on the one hand, and the obligation to protect the privacy of non-public actors, on the other. Despite all the efforts to the contrary, it would be unethical for archives to make all their holdings openly accessible. The class tries to make an argued case for recognizing the theoretical, ethical, moral and professional constraints archives face in their daily activities.

Mandatory reading:

István Rév, “Accessing the Past, or Should Archives Provide Open Access?” In: Martin Paul Eve and Jonathan Gray (eds.), *Old Traditions and New Technologies: The Pasts, Presents, and Futures of Open Scholarly Communications*. The MIT Press, forthcoming in 2020

May 28, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (Iván Székely)

17:30-19:00

Archives and Information Rights in the Age of Pandemic

Archives and other memory-preserving institutions face serious challenges during societal crises, including epidemics. These institutions reacted in the past and are reacting at present to these challenges various ways in order to fulfil their mission in these difficult times, too. Memory-preserving institutions, in particular those dealing with the recent past, have a delicate relationship with information rights, both in moral and legal sense: the public's right to access information, the individuals' right to preserve their privacy, and the ethical considerations of making publicly available documents relating to crises, catastrophes or grave violation of human rights. These information rights may also be seriously curtailed in times of crises. This session will explore these conflicted areas and their archival relevance in an interactive way.

There is no mandatory reading for this session, only a pool of suggested readings the potential extent of which is changing almost daily. Students are required, instead of writing position papers, to summarize their established opinion in writing on the basis of the readings and other relevant sources, on how information rights, in particular the right to access public information and the right to privacy, are and can be restricted in times of crises, and what an archive like Blinken OSA can and should do in these times and in the foreseeable post-epidemic period in this area. Students are also required to formulate their opinion on the various ways information rights are currently curtailed and the existing or proposed solutions to mitigate its adverse effects.

Suggested reading:

COVID-19 Tracker, <https://www.rti-rating.org/covid-19-tracker/>

Information Commissioner (Canada), Access to information in extraordinary times, <https://www.oic-ci.gc.ca/en/resources/news-releases/access-information-extraordinary-times>

Cain, Bruce E, "Yes, American Government Is Too Open" and

Lewis, Charles, "No, American Government Is Not Too Open"

<http://sunshineweek.org/is-our-government-too-open/>

Nanni, Mirco et al., "Give more data, awareness and control to individual citizens, and they will help COVID-19 containment", *Transactions on Data Privacy* 13 (2020), pp. 61–66.

<http://www.tdp.cat/issues16/tdp.a389a20.pdf>

Aschoff, Nicole, "We Should Have a Democratic Debate About Trade-Offs Between Public Safety and Privacy",

<https://jacobinmag.com/2020/4/coronavirus-crisis-surveillance-public-safety-privacy-technology>

Troncoso, Carmela et al., "Decentralized Privacy-Preserving Proximity Tracing: Overview of Data Protection and Security",

<https://github.com/DP-3T/documents/blob/master/DP3T%20White%20Paper.pdf>

Joint civil society statement: States use of digital surveillance technologies to fight pandemic must respect human rights, 2 April 2020,
<https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/POL3020812020ENGLISH.pdf>

June 4, 2020 | 13:30-15:00 (Csaba Szilágyi)

17:30-19:00

Workshop on special collections and archival strategies during emergency situations (CSSZ)

During the workshop, student will work in groups on two not entirely unrelated topics. They will create a plan for establishing a new curated collection and devise an operation strategy for the archives during emergency situations (e.g. the current Covid-19 pandemic), when the regular physical spaces (research room, exhibition gallery) of the archives are closed to the public. How to remain visible, maintain operations, research and exhibits?

Mandatory reading:

Eloise Therien, "Galt Museum & Archives bringing exhibits online, creating interactive videos for Lethbridgians", in *Global News*, posted on April 19, 2020.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6840029/galt-museum-and-archives-online-covid-19/>

Jennifer A. Dixon, "Documenting the Pandemic: Libraries Launch COVID-19 Archival Projects", in *Library Journal*, posted on April 28, 2020.

https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=Documenting-Pandemic-Libraries-Launch-COVID-19-Archival-Projects-archives&fbclid=IwAR0eKAKj892NvOM2pHlMvEY0MLh84CHSTq6iVyu_sFL4fw8VyaLobpao2FU

Suggested reading:

The National Emergency Library Project

<https://archive.org/details/nationalemergencylibrary>

Internet Archive Staff and Covid-19

<https://blog.archive.org/2020/03/25/internet-archive-staff-and-covid-19-work-at-home-for-most-full-pay-furlough-with-medical-for-scanners/>

Internet Archive accused of using Covid-19 as 'an excuse for piracy'

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/mar/30/internet-archive-accused-of-using-covid-19-as-an-excuse-for-piracy>

Closing remarks