Management of Preservation Programs
INF 392G
Unique Number 27915

Fall, 2015
UTA 1.504
Monday 9:00-12:00

Instructor: Rebecca Elder
RebeccaElder@austin.rr.com
www.elderpreservation.com
(512) 699 3494

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Overview

This class will address management of various components of library/archive/museum preservation topics such as

- Preservation policy
- Needs assessments
- Library binding
- Emergency planning
- Budgeting
- Fundraising

Class members will work in small groups to perform a needs assessment of a collection held in a local library, museum or archive. This assessment will also cover general preservation programs in the institution, such as reformatting, emergency planning, and staff and user education.

Class members will also work in small groups to write a grant application for their institution to fund a project suggested by their condition analysis.

Required readings will be available in the paper lab anteroom, or via UTLOL or Canvas.

Recommended Texts:

**Course policies:**
1. The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.
2. All assignments must be written using gender-inclusive language.
3. Submit all your assignments on time. Late submissions will not be accepted unless an emergency is involved. In the event of an emergency, the student must contact the instructor as soon as possible.
4. Assignments should be submitted as Word documents.
5. The instructor will provide any assistance upon the student's inquiry. However, the student is responsible for his/her own effort to complete the assignments.
6. Students are required to attend class and to be on time. Any absence or lateness will affect the class participation grade. By UT Austin policy, you must notify the instructor of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, the instructor will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence. Other pre-planned absences also require fourteen days notice to count as excused. Illnesses require a doctor’s note to count as excused. No absence will count as excused if the instructor does not receive notice of the absence at least 30 minutes before the start of class.
7. The instructor reserves the right to issue a course grade of F if any assignment is not completed.
8. Laptop computers are welcome in class, however they are only to be used for class-related activities. Checking Facebook does not count as a class-related activity.
9. All assignments are due at the beginning of class.
10. The instructor welcomes feedback from the class.

**Grades**

Grades will be based on: Needs Assessment (50%), Grant Application (25%), Class Participation and Attendance (20%), Final Presentation (5%)

**Class Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic and Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Aug 26-30</td>
<td>Pre-Class Meeting Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Read syllabus, particularly assignments.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Look at the collection of previous student assessments on Canvas to see examples</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>of successful projects.</td>
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</table>
Introduce yourself on the Canvas message board by 8/28. Let your classmates know things like your background and academic interests, where you are in the program, scheduling issues, and anything else that may help you choose groups. As you decide who will be in your group, please also share that on the message board.

Discuss institutions you’re interested in working with on the Canvas message board. A list of places we have worked with already is posted. While I’d prefer you not work with institutions we have already assessed, this is up for discussion, especially if you can come up with a different slant on the project, or it has been several semesters since the last assessment. Also, please keep in mind that students have historically had the best experiences by going to places that are a little offbeat or less educated about preservation. Often, these have been a short drive outside of Austin. In the case of two or more groups wanting to work with the same institution, the group who posts interest first will have priority.

Please feel free to e-mail me (rebeccaelder@austin.rr.com) with questions and concerns as well. I’ll be monitoring the message board frequently.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>August 31</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class introductions, expectations, assignments, syllabus, Preservation 101 and Needs Assessments, partners for project</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Readings:


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Sep 14</td>
<td>Needs Assessments Work Period – Rebecca Out of Town</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During this class period, you should meet with your team and plan for your needs assessment. This might include writing a pre-survey questionnaire, researching materials your clients have and how to care for them, and strategizing how to make the best use of your time on this project. You might even make a preliminary visit to your client. After the work period, please use the topic on Canvas to ask questions about assessments for class discussion and clarification by the instructor.

Required Readings

Banks, Pillette, ch. 5 (pp.90-95), 12

Harvey, Marhard, ch. 3

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Preservation Self-Assessment Program [https://psap.library.illinois.edu/about](https://psap.library.illinois.edu/about)

Suggested Readings

(Please look at those that are interesting or apply to your collection. I’ve tried to give you a wide variety of sources.)


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Collection Selection for Needs Assessment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Preservation Policy and Planning/Selection for Preservation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Banks, Pillette, chs. 1-3, 5 (pp.82-90).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harvey, Mahard, chs 1-2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harvey, Mahard. Ch. 7-14 (Do not read in depth. Familiarize yourself with what information is available in these chapters only.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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</table>
| Sep 28 | **Conservation of General/Special Collections**  
Meet in lobby of PCL at 9:00. |
|       | **Readings:**  
Banks, Pillette chs. 13, 16  
| Oct 5  | **Library Binding/Microfilming/Mass Deacidification**  
**Readings:**  
Banks, Pillette, ch. 14, 15  


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6 Oct 12 Emergency Planning

Readings:


University of Delaware Library, Preservation Department. “Disaster Response Plan.” ww2.lib.udel.edu/Preservation/disaster_plan/disasterplan.htm


Draft of Needs Assessment Due Via E-mail by 9:00 AM

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7 Oct 19 Budgeting/Cost Analysis/Staffing

Readings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8</th>
<th>Oct 26</th>
<th><strong>Grantwriting</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Readings:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Final Needs Assessment Due to Client and Instructor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grant Project/Preliminary Budget Due by e-mail to <a href="mailto:RebeccaElder@austin.rr.com">RebeccaElder@austin.rr.com</a>.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>CC: <a href="mailto:ellenml@austin.utexas.edu">ellenml@austin.utexas.edu</a></strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td><strong>Visit to Regional Foundation Library</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Meet at 1009 East 11th Street, 2nd Floor</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Austin, TX 78702 at 9:00</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Work Day – Rebecca Available for Consultation on Grant Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Visit to Library Storage Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grant Application Draft Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Peer Review Grant Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>Grant Application Due</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Final Presentations</td>
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**Assignments**

Assignments may be done alone or in groups of two or three students. All students in a group will receive the same grade for the assignments. As these are challenging assignments, groups are highly recommended, however since working alone is also a choice, no complaints about partners not doing their share of the work will be considered.

**Needs Assessment – Draft Due October 12, at start of class. Final Due to Instructor and Client October 26, at start of class.**

**50% of Final Grade**

Students will perform a preservation needs assessment for a discrete collection held in a local library, museum or archives, or an overall preservation assessment for the entire institution. Institutions will preferably not be affiliated with The University of Texas at Austin. Contact the instructor if you need assistance finding an institution to assess.

If you choose to do work on a discrete collection, the report will consist of these two parts:

A statistical analysis covering condition of the collections and storage and housings. Please include:

- A one page executive summary of your results
- A brief history of the collection
- An overview of your tools and methodology
- A reporting of the assessment results
- Recommendations for preservation of the collection that are practical for your institution

The second portion of the assignment is a preservation management assessment which will cover care and handling practices; repair/conservation; library binding if applicable; reformatting; staff and user education; and emergency planning. You should also include any other preservation
management topics you feel are important to address and provide a list of readings for your clients to help expand their knowledge of the issues raised in the report.

If you choose to do a preservation analysis of the entire institution, you should cover the following topics:

- Building concerns
- Environmental conditions (Temperature, relative humidity and light)
- Space allocation
- Pest management
- Overall collection condition
- Storage and shelving
- Care and handling
- Repair programs
- Library binding
- Reformatting
- Staff and user education
- Exhibits
- Emergency planning
- Security
- Recommendations for preservation that are practical for your institution
- Any other preservation topics you feel are important to address
- A list of readings for your clients to help expand their knowledge of the issues raised in the report.

If you decide to use a pre-visit questionnaire, please give your institution contact adequate time to complete it. It is also a good idea to schedule a meeting to discuss your findings with your institution contact prior to writing your report. Please remember that your institution contact is a busy professional and treat his or her time respectfully.

Several examples of highly successful assessments have been posted to Canvas. Please read them to familiarize yourself with what you are expected to turn in for an A paper. Also, please note
that simple professional writing works best for this type of a document. Bullet point lists are always preferred to long paragraphs. I recommend you try to write at approximately a 7th grade reading level. Microsoft Word has a tool to determine this, and there are online tools as well. Read this article for more information on the importance of writing simply. Snow, Shane. *The Content Strategist: This Surprising Reading Level Analysis Will Change the Way You Write.* Contently.com, 28 Jan. 2015. http://contently.com/strategist/2015/01/28/this-surprising-reading-level-analysis-will-change-the-way-you-write/

The assignment will not be considered complete until the instructor receives notice that you have delivered a copy to the client. For example, you might e-mail a copy of the final report to the client and copy the instructor.

**Grant Application – Draft Due November 16, Final Due November 30**

**25% of Final Grade**

In the same groups, students will write a grant application for their institution for funding for a project suggested by their report. The project should be selected in consultation with the institution contact. You may choose any grant program that is appropriate for your institution, upon approval from the instructor.

You will be responsible for completing as much of the application as you can for your client, so that it is close to ready to submit when you hand it in. Since funders do not use a standard application form, please consult with the instructor to determine what you must complete.

Drafts of your grant will be due on November 16. You must email the draft to the instructor, as well as post a copy on Canvas for your classmates to read. We will peer review the grants in class on November 23. Please read all of the applications, and be prepared to discuss them, as well as lead a discussion of your draft. You may edit based upon the instructor’s comments and peer review prior to final submission.

The assignment will not be considered complete until the instructor receives a final copy and notice that you have delivered a copy to the client by the November 30 deadline. With this final delivery, you should present your client with a document detailing what the client must do to finalize and submit the application.

**Final Presentation – November 30**

**5% of Final Grade**

Your group’s final presentation will summarize your work with your chosen institution over the course of the semester, and should take no longer than 15 minutes, including time for questions and answers. Please rehearse your timing. Going longer than 15 minutes will result in points being deducted from your score.

**Teaching Assignment**

**10% of Final Grade**
As part of the class participation grade, students will be required to prepare a talk (30-45 minutes) and questions for class discussion (30-45 minutes) about the day’s topic. The available days and topics are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 21</td>
<td>Preservation Policy and Selection for Preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>Library Binding/Microfilm/Mass Deacidification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Emergency Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>Grantwriting</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Historically, students have forgotten to prepare discussion questions so that they are prepared to lead a conversation on their assigned topics. Failure to do this will result in large deductions from your grade.

**Class Participation and Attendance**

**10% of Final Grade**