

Digital Scholarship at University of Michigan

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About us



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Agenda

- Digital scholarship context at U-M
- Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative
- Social & Environmental impacts
- Safety and Security of Digital Bodies
- What we're doing...

Acknowledging where we're from



The University of Michigan traces its origins to a land grant from the Anishinaabeg and Wyandot, when in 1817, the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodewadami Nations made the largest single land transfer to the University of Michigan. This land was offered ceremonially as a gift through the Treaty at the Foot of the Rapids so that their children could be educated. We acknowledge that our university stands, like all property in the United States, on lands obtained in unconscionable ways from Indigenous peoples. Through scholarship and pedagogy we work to create a future in which the past is thoroughly understood and the present supports justice and human flourishing.

Digital Scholarship at U-M



A partnership between U-M Library, LSA Technology Services, and others.

- Consultation
- Events & workshops
- Project support
- Access to technologies and platforms


Shared values and principles guiding our work.



Obligatory studios image of campus

Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative

- A pilot program and assessment mechanism
- An award program that provides
 - Start-up funding to help develop digital research project prototypes
 - Planning support, from concept creation through planning for preservation
 - Access to library and technical expertise
 - Technical support



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Awards and Grants

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Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative

The Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative is a mini-grant program that supports early-stage digital scholarship projects that advance anti-racism and social justice in the humanities, arts, and humanistic social sciences.

Projects can take a broad range of forms, from collecting community interviews to providing access to data in interesting ways, such as digital maps or collections.



M LIBRARY **M NCID** **M SA TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

Congratulations to 6 Grantees!

Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative



ARDRI Stats



- ~3,600 hours of consulting, developer, designer time over 12 months
- \$31,000 operating budget
- 34 applications, 6 awarded
- 12 core team reviewers, core facilitators, organizers



DS @ UM
Present and future!

**Social &
Environmental
Impacts**

**Safeguarding
Digital Bodies**

Social & Environmental Impacts



Small local steps as part of larger campus strategy:

- Closing local server rooms
- Moving toward more efficient use of space and shared resources

Supporting work coming out of schools & research centers

- Center for Social Solutions
- Poverty Solutions
- School for Environment & Sustainability
- Digital Inquiry Speculation Collaboration & Optimism (DISCO) Network

Safeguarding Digital Bodies



Consentful Tech and Our Data Bodies introduced us to the term “digital body”

Challenges with getting IT to help

“How do I protect myself, when I’m targeted by watchlists?”

“How do I study X without getting threats or physical harm?”

What we're doing...



- Assessing the ARDRI project, iterating on the form and process
- Preparing our staff and ourselves to support anti-racist, socially engaged, and community centered work
- Working within institutional structures, building relationships and negotiating with various stakeholders
- Having design sessions and conversations with our service partners and collaborators



Thank you!

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