



Journal 1:

5/24/2020

This week has been hard. Many of my submissions to the JOTPY archive were influenced by the death of my grandmother. I felt that it was very important that even though her death was not COVID-19 related, to document how something as unavoidable as death and funerals. Despite this, I also felt the need to document the little happy moments from this time as well. This is why I submitted so many photos. I learned that everyone's world has continued to turn, despite a pandemic.
- Kirsten Conroy

Week 2:

This week was much better than last. Things have been difficult following the events of last week, but life has moved on. This week I really focused on written and photo personal submissions. I sat down to work on the assignments this week and creating a collection and I immediately knew I wanted to do one based entirely on personal submissions. I think this will create a collection that is so relatable and has so much to offer. This was also the first time in years that I've felt overwhelmed by school, I think slack and the other new channels are foreign languages to me and make me antsy. I hope I'll get better this week.

Week 3:

This week has been immensely confusing. It did not help that I was working from out of town with very, very limited connection. I felt like my questions aggravated the professors and I hate that feeling. It is very frustrating to struggle to get the hang of something in the first place, but even more frustrating when the technology needed does not work with you. I think I personally like submitting my own materials more than curating, but I truly understand the benefits of being able to do both. I also learned this week that while during the curation process you want to correct blatant mistakes, you want to preserve the original as much as possible to present it in its truest form. I think that this is true for more than just curating in the archive but a good life skill to have.

Week 4:

Journal Week 4:

This week has been a the first successful week I have had in this course in my opinion. Chris provided some very informative feedback regarding the curating process and it made the process a little easier and more enjoyable. I also enjoyed watching how the flow of COVID-19 panic has been affected in the archives due to the protest surrounding George Floyd. I hope to receive more feedback form Chris soon and to further improve my skills moving forward.

Week 5:

This week has been extremely frustrating. I typically do not struggle in online courses, but I have struggled so much in this one. After my second week in the course, I felt it best to drop the course due to the time requirements of the class. However, I was passed the deadline and already financially responsible for the course, so it has been a huge stressful situation the entire time. I also do not like working with my assigned PhD student. I think they are very rude and crass. They do not provide much explanation and possess a condescending tone when I ask questions. I tend to only receive truly helpful information form Dr. Peralta, Erin Craft, and a few students. I think this course has the potential to be extremely helpful and resourceful, but I feel that there are many kinks to be worked out, which is to be expected. In short I still have NO idea what I am doing regarding curating. I also have been in bed ridden for the past few days and extremely sick ...in short I am over this week.

Week 6:

This week has been a success! I really enjoyed working closely with fellow students during the curation process! Splitting us into groups I think is an excellent idea and I highly suggest that as a permanent process if this internship continues into the next semester. It felt good to know that I was not the only one who had questions. I also enjoyed combing through the archives for things related to my collection. I am however extremely ready for a break and a week straight to sleep!

Week 7:

This week has been my worst week yet. I unexpectedly got extremely sick. This resulted in me being in the hospital until late Saturday night and in and out of sleep on Sunday. I had a major infection in my throat and my tonsils began to swell causing it to be difficult to breathe. Due to COVID-19 I was not allowed to have my computer, therefore falling behind in my work for the week. I am really worried about my professors thinking that I am incapable of completing my work and completing it well. I hate dealing with unexpected events, Now, I am trying to cram in all the work I am behind on in order to prove that I am not a student of poor merit.

Week 8:

This week has been stressful. I started by panicking over my assignment regarding the interview, and then was informed my partner had to suspend her studies at ASU. I really hope that she is okay and though I can't get in touch with her am keeping her in my thoughts and prayers. This was a fairly light week in the course, which was so needed as I had my final paper due for Dr. Van Cleave. I do look forward to completing the oral history project with Stephanie.

Week 9:

This week has been very tough! We are severely behind due to a late start, but I feel that Dr. Kole is very understanding of that! We will catch up, but in the mean time it has been very interesting to learn about one another. I am however, looking forward to a loooooong nap to recover from the work!

Week 10:

I have finally caught up with the majority of the work from the past two weeks! My curating however, is not finished and will have to be completed on Monday. I have a migraine from hell and was mainly concerned with getting in all of the transcription and oral curation work. I will submit the curate-a-thon work tomorrow when I am of better mind and not so exhausted.

Week 11:

This week has been a very tough week. I have been beyond overwhelmed at work and Governor McMaster has no idea what to do from day to day. Causing South Carolina to remain in a constant state of panic. I was still stretched so thin from catching up with the last two weeks of work, had to pick up my wedding gown from the final fitting, and address several things with our own wedding planning. So, on Saturday, I decided to pack up and go to one of my favorite places to relax. I went to our family owned swimmin' hole in Burnsville, NC. The water was below 45 degrees, but it was beautiful, and that swim was just what I needed. Lyn and Shanna have been so helpful this week when addressing my questions. The work from this week has not been as overwhelming and school is becoming a normal flow again now that I am caught up! I've also attached a video of our swimmin' hole, enjoy.

Week 12:

This week has been a decent week. There is a lot of curating to catch up on between myself and my group. My hope is to finish it up on Monday. I do have to say the oral history has been my least favorite part of the course, but it has taught me very useful skills. I hope that these next few weeks will be easier. I'm hoping that I can get ahead as the last week of this class and the first week of my other classes are the same week as my wedding shower.

Week 13:

I liked the advise Dr. Kole gave about learning what you don't like, that was very helpful! I also really enjoyed the blog writing assignment, it made me remember how much I enjoy writing. I look forward to more assignments like that throughout my program. I am getting antsy, I just realized I have overlapping courses, as new courses begin August 28... lets hope this goes well.

Week 14:

It's the last week! There has been a whole rollercoaster of emotion. I have enjoyed learning the knew skills and process, but I am glad to have complete the project. Not much of break, as I jump right into other courses, but I believe this course will help me to excel in the future classes! I look forward to seeing the results!