Introduction
Archival and Cultural Heritage studies at GSLIS combine classroom experiences with rich, interactive opportunities with collections and institutions in the Chicago area and elsewhere. This holistic and practical approach provides graduate students with overall skills in a variety of areas, including:
- Archives or cultural heritage collection processing and management;
- Community archives development and management;
- Digital archives or collections development and maintenance;
- Cultural heritage documentation and preservation;
- Historical records; and,
- Electronic records systems development and management.

This presentation examines some of the recent experiences of students with collections and organizations as part of their efforts to secure an Archival and Cultural Heritage Resources and Services Certificate at Dominican University.

Experiences with rare book collections
Lenhardt Library, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL
Since 2003, students have analyzed and described hundreds of books and journals in the Lenhardt Library, ranging from Incunabula to classic works in botany, horticulture, and natural history. From 2006-2012, 109 graduate students completed LIS 710 Descriptive Bibliography, using books from the collection; 149 students (for the period 2005-2012) have taken LIS 711 Early Books and Manuscripts, utilizing some of the oldest works in the collection; and, 176 students, between 2003 and 2012, completed LIS 712 History of the Printed Book. Altogether, 434 students have experienced monographs from incunabula to nearly illustrated printed books of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.


Experiences with photographic archives
Displaced persons (DP) photographic archives, Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago.
This practicum project involves the digitization of thousands of photographs taken after the end of World War II if Lithuanians and others in DP camps largely in Germany and Austria, in preparation for a 2013 exhibit at the Balzekas Museum.

Lorna Donley, the founder of Da!, eventually left her career as singer and bass player to attend GSLIS. In one of Lorna’s classes on creating Web sites, Lorna proposed a site for Da! Students in LIS 88 Digital Media and Collections have been working with Lorna and Dave Thomas (another former member of Da!) to preserve and digitize their printed, photographic, and audio records of the band. Efforts with audio files have been greatly assisted by access to equipment and expertise at the Experimental Sound Studio (http://www.experimentalsoundstudio.org)/ In Ravenswood. Teams of students have met at the Studio with Donley and Thomas to digitize tape and vinyl recordings, some representing the only known copies of practice sessions.

Experiences with musical archives
The Da! Project, creation of an archives for the Chicago post-punk, existential band Da!

For a practicum, a GSLIS student organized the considerable archive related to Jean Martinon (1910-1976). French conductor and composer as well as former music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (1963-1968), at Northwestern University. His efforts included the creation of finding aids as well as a biographical summary based on photographs, musical scores, and correspondence.

Experiences with digital collections
Creation of an open access scholarly journal, World Libraries (http://www.worldlib.org)
Since 2004, GSLIS students have been involved in the transformation of GSLIS’ scholarly, peer-review journal World Libraries from a subscription-based, print product to an openly accessible online journal.

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