HIST 3111 – History of Humanitarian Aid Winter 2021

Weekly Activity 2: Working with Archives (January 18-24) 3 hours

**Instructions**

**Introduction to the activity**:

This week we will contribute to the work of Carleton's Archives and Research collections by documenting part of a wonderful collection on Canadian missionaries in China they acquired three years ago.  We will add to the descriptions which came with the collections, by researching some of the slides further.  If all goes well, we will try to post the results in a small class exhibit

**Goals:**

* By learning about how archives are organised, you will understand the main **tools** **for historical research**, and the skills use them well. (Goal 4)
* By trying to make sense of slides that no one has documented before, you will practice skills to **solve historical problems** including the analysis and interpretation of historical documents, and the ability to make distinctions in the face of complex questions. (Goal 5)
* By doing this in the same document as the whole class, you will practice **good ways to work collaboratively**. (Goal 11)

**Sequels**: The entries will be checked and put in a class exhibit. They will also be shared with Carleton’s Archives and Special Collections to assist researchers who will work with this collection later.

**Time**: This whole exercise should take you no more than 3 hours. Calibrate the time of your research accordingly.

**Rubric**: Try to make links the readings for this week, ask questions, answer some of your class mates questions, write links to useful and complementary explanations.  The grade will depend on how you show that you have made the readings; how well you researched the slides; how useful your entries are.

**Mark**: 5 points.

**Preparations (1 hour)**

- Have the notes from reading and watching the materials of Module 2 on the history of missionaries with you

- Read the website on the history of the lantern slides of the Canadian missions in China donated to Carleton University three years ago by Dr. John Foster.

* On the "Lantern slides: collections" (15 minutes): <https://asc.library.carleton.ca/exhibits/lantern-slide-collection>
* On the "John William Foster Fonds Lantern Slides" (15 minutes): <https://asc.library.carleton.ca/exhibits/john-william-foster-fonds-lantern-slides>

- Watch the video on "searching archival materials", by Lloyd Keene, archivist at Carleton's Archives and Special Collections (15 minutes): [https://mediaspace.carleton.ca/media/Searching+for+Archival+Material+in+ASC/1\_cqn0h668](https://mediaspace.carleton.ca/media/Searching%2Bfor%2BArchival%2BMaterial%2Bin%2BASC/1_cqn0h668)

- Explore the catalogue of the archives of Dr. Foster using the instruction of Dr. Keene. (15 minutes) The 193 slides, as well as his thesis based on this material, are listed. here.  <https://archie.library.carleton.ca/index.php/imperialism-of-righteousness-thesis-research-materials> You will see that you cannot see the slides in the catalogue, because you would have to go to the archives located in the Library, order them, and see them in person.  We have digitized them, however, and are planning to put them on the archives website one day.  You can help us do this by enriching the existing descriptions.

**Caption-o-thon** **(2 hours)**

Help Carleton's Archives and Research Collections describe these slides by adding to the descriptions that were already on the slides. For this, you will need write "comment" in a Google document (1.5 hour).

- Find the class document with all the 195 slides. <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1eOttwdI83mdDHCRZ7wqY459A8o5RIhxb7QrqSATpykg/edit#slide=id.gb3b268bead_0_19>

- Use the "comment function"  to comment on some slides.



* Comment on 3 or more slides in at least 2 or 3  sentences each (there is no limit, however, to how much you may add). Enter the source of the information in the comment itself, both if it is the class reading (Author, date) or something else you found (in a way that makes it possible to find it bac).
* In addition, exchange views on 1 entry made by another students in 2 or 3 sentences minimum.
* You are welcome to do as much as you can using the time allocated, if you still have time (remember that this Weekly Activity should last 3 hours altogether)
* DO NOT AMEND OTHER STUDENTS' ENTRIES.
* Use the “ask your instructor” and/or the “students coffee shop” functions if you encounter any problem.

- Make an entry in the Forum:

- List the numbers of the slides where you wrote an entry.

-Write a short reflection (about 250 words) on what you discovered about these slides, what you discovered about the process of researching and describing archival documents, what you discovered about the role of missionaries.