to complete assignments for the lesson

From Archival to Digital Turn

April 2019

This form can be filled out and saved with Acrobat Reader.

Please complete the text boxes on the following pages. The text fields have no input limit. The form can be printed or sent by e-mail to the lecturer.

Date (dd-mm-yyyy)

Your name

UNIVERSITÉ DU LUXEMBOURG

C²DH
LUXEMBOURG CENTRE FOR
CONTEMPORARY AND DIGITAL HISTORY

1 Muybridge's legacy; from museum to the web

1.1 The original technology used by Muybridge

1.1a Consult the document, use the + sign if the letters are too small.
Write down the name of the device for which Muybridge obtained a patent in your template.

1.1b What was the relationship between Muybridge and the French inventor Marey? Who can claim to be the real inventor?

1.1c What kind of drama affected Muybridge's 'private life'?

1.1d What is the difference between a zoopraxiscope, a zoetrope, a magic lantern and a phonograph? Try to find out what is specific about each device, if you can't distill that from the text, conduct additional web research.

Zoopraxiscope	Zoetrope	Magic lantern	Phonograph

1.2 Re-use of Muybridge's material: the father of the GIF?

	Organisation	Objective	Time frame and location	What element has been used/ reused?
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

1.3 A new life on the web

	Document/event	What type of platform?	Why was it published online?	When and where?
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

2 Muybridge's legacy; from museum to the web

2.1 Google compared to Yahoo

results	Google	Yahoo	Type of organisation	What is their objective?
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

2.2 Change your settings

Are there any search results that you would have missed by only searching in English?

3 Transformation from analogue to digital

3.1 From steel wires to interactive website

What are the transformations and technologies that are used for the sound and for the textual representations of Boder's interviews? Put these terms in the right chronological order.

– Digital audio restoration – Carbon wires – Website with audio and text aligned

– Mimeographed transcripts – Printed book - Website with transcript

– Magnetized tape – Digitized paper transcripts – Digital born transcripts

1946

1947

1948

1950's

1960's

1989

2000

2007 - 2009

2009

3.2 Restoration or replacement?

What does Ralph Pugh say about the restoration of Boder's interviews?

What would you have preferred, a better sound to help you understand what is said, or the original sound with its own atmosphere?

Does it make sense to create access to spoken content if you don't understand the language or could the information be limited to the translated transcript?

4 Clinton's e-mails and Thatcher's letters

4.1 Comparing e-mails to letters: the creation of the source

What are the differences and similarities between the messages of former secretary of state Hillary Clinton and former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher?

	E-mail	Letter
Sender		
Receiver(s)		
Are there others involved in sending or sharing the message besides sender and receiver?		
Time and place indication		
Language		
Topic		
What is the relation to Qatar?		
Technology for writing		
Technology for getting the message from sender to receiver		
Ways to reply		

4 Clinton's e-mails and Thatcher's letters

4.2 Comparing e-mails to letters: archiving the source

What are the differences and similarities between the message of former secretary of state Hillary Clinton and former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher with regard to online access the source?

	E-mail	Letter
Organization providing access to the source		
Motive for providing access		
Technology to provide access		
Traces of archival documentation in the source		
Other differences that you have noticed		

4 Clinton's e-mails and Thatcher's letters

4.4 Preservation in the future

Historians draw a lot of knowledge about the past from private documents in paper. How do you imagine that e-mails and other digital personal communication messages (Snapchat, WhatsApp, Instagram) will be preserved in the future? What would the archive of the future look like?

1. First try to think about a preservation method without first searching for background information

2. Then try to find information about this archiving issue on the web.

Your own thoughts and associations

Solutions that are being considered by archives and libraries

4.5 Intended and unintended audiences

Short essay of 500 words

- Are historians unintended audiences?
- How much time should pass before privacy is no longer taken into account?
- Do you consider unintended audiences when writing a letter or email?

Answer these questions by reading the literature indicated in the assignment box, and write a short essay of 500 words.

5 The Western European Union

Analyzing the digital documents of the 'Sleeping Beauty'

5.1 Exploring diplomatic documents online and in the archive

- What is WEU-Diplo?
- What is the collection about and what period does it span?
- Why was the corpus selected and by whom?
- What criteria of selection have been applied?
- What processing was necessary in the transformation from print to digital? Then try to find information about this archiving issue on the web.

5.2 From natural language to computer language

- What filters are used in the search?
- To what publication does the corpus belong?
- How many documents does the corpus contain?
- What kind of information is available for each document in this view?

5 The Western European Union

Analyzing the digital documents of the 'Sleeping Beauty'

5.3 Digging a layer deeper

Two lines for a description of the five documents that you have selected.

1

2

3

4

5

- Can you identify any metadata for each document? What can this type of information teach you?
- Does the interface provide any hints about how it should be used?
- What features are available to visualise and navigate through a document?
- How have the documents been made searchable?
- Can you relate any of these structural or search features to the encoding presented in the second article (point 2.a)?
- Are there any additional features that you think are missing and would like to see provided with the interface? Why?

Two lines for the description of each feature.

What kind of metadata is provided?	
How it the Interface organized?	
How is the method of visualization used to help you navigate?	
How has the search been organized?	
What is the relation between the 'encoding' and the possibility to search and identify features?	
What is missing in the present structure?	

5 The Western European Union

Analyzing the digital documents of the 'Sleeping Beauty'

5.4 Consulting the documents

Consult the documents from the list you have created (see 5.3),
on-site at the ANLUX, archive. What is the difference?

Take note of the following:
- The particularities of the search and consultation process
- The material characteristics of the documents themselves that you can hold in your hands
- Keeping in mind the articles you have read (point 2.a), the questions above and the comparison with the digital edition published on the website (points 2.b, 2.c), write a short essay (1-3 pages) about your experience with consulting the same sources online in digital form, and in the archive in analogue form. Take issues such as time, space, transport, trust, historical sensation, sharing experiences, stumbling upon other material or meeting fellow students into consideration.

Particularities of documents 1 to 5

Material characteristics 1 to 5

Write your essay in separate Word document.

6 The digitisation of newspapers

How to turn a page?

6.1 Who digitizes, with what purpose and how is access arranged?

A list of initiatives across the globe has been collected on Wikipedia.

6.1.a What projects have been completed or are
ongoing in your own country?

6.1.b	1. Institution	2. Type of access	3. Interface	4. Collection specificities	5. Metadata title
Europeana newspapers (multilingual)					
E-Newspapers CH (FR+DE)					
Gallica (FR)					
Retronews (FR)					
ProQuest (EN)					
Chronicling America (EN)					
Delpher (NL)					
ANNO (DE)					
Zeitungsportal DDR-Presse (DE)					

6 The digitisation of newspapers

How to turn a page?

6.2 The newspaper as historical source

6.2.a Recent event in paper/ digital newspaper	Author, article title, newspaper, date	Short description of max 150 words
Before (anticipation)		
During (description)		
After (comments, consequences		
6.2.b Past Event in paper/ digital newspaper 10 years after		
50 years after		
100 years after		

6   The digitisation of newspapers

How to turn a page?

6.2.c   Write a short essay of about 500 words on your findings based on your answers to these questions:

- What has changed in the perception of the event/people involved/situation? (short term, long term)
- What are the main differences between collecting articles from print newspapers and from digitised newspapers? (sitting behind your screen, going to the archive/library)

Write a short essay of about 500 words

6.3   The newspaper and the website as sources of knowledge

Complete the table on the basis of these key questions:

- Why have you chosen these particular news sources?
- Do you trust these sources?
- What is your trust based on?

Medium	Representation of event: reflect on your preferences and your trust in the credibility of your source
Paper newspaper	
News website (other than digital version of paper newspaper)	
Television	
Radio	
Newsfeeds on smartphone	

7 From glass plates to Google

Digital source criticism on August Sander's People of the 20th Century

7.1 Access to August Sander's portraits through Google and Pinterest

Note down the differences by considering the following elements:

- The key words at the top of the page; metadata/tags
- The standard for the size of the photos
- The metadata of each photo that is visible on the web page

Now choose 2 photos that appear in both web pages, and note down the metadata of the photo that appears when you click on it. Look for a reference to the origin of the photo.

- Try to find out when the photo was published online and by whom
- Check whether it really is a photo by August Sander

Criteria	Google Images	Pinterest
1. Key Words		
2. Size		
3. Metadata (when, who, why)		
4. Reference to origin		
5. Publication date		
6. Authenticity		

7 From glass plates to Google

Digital source criticism on August Sander's People of the 20th Century

7.2 Comparing Associative Tagging

Create screenshots of 6 portraits, then save and import the files into the placeholders below and on the next page.
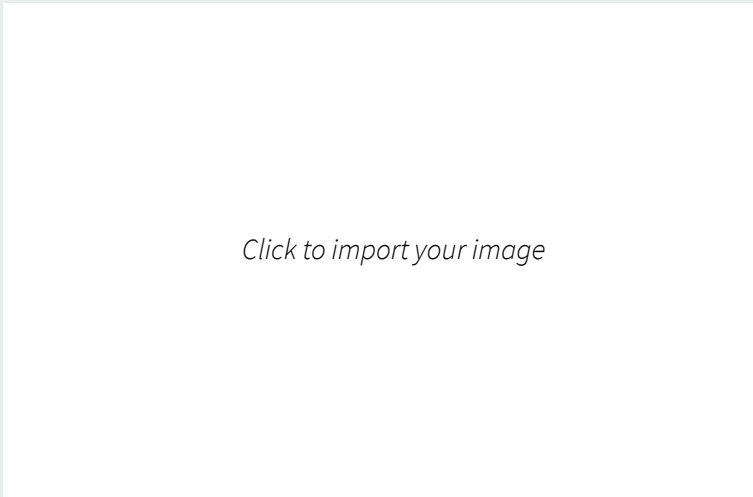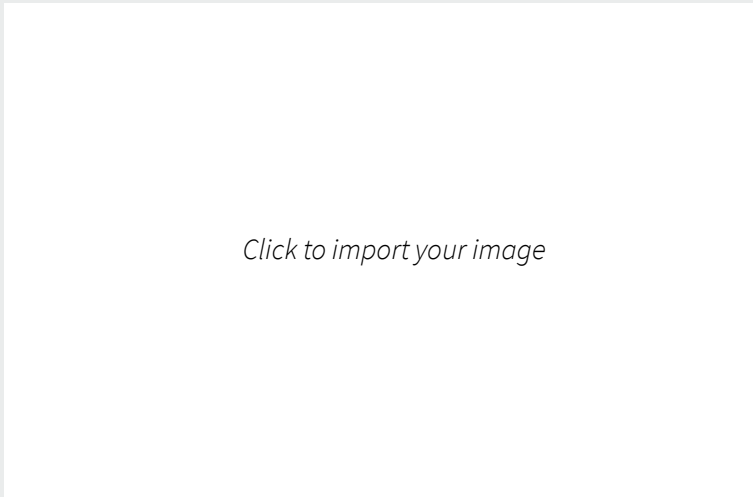
Image 1

Image 2

Image 3

Click to import your image

Click to import your image

Click to import your image

Associative tag

Other Tags (social class, age, profession)

Original description

7 From glass plates to Google

Digital source criticism on August Sander's People of the 20th Century

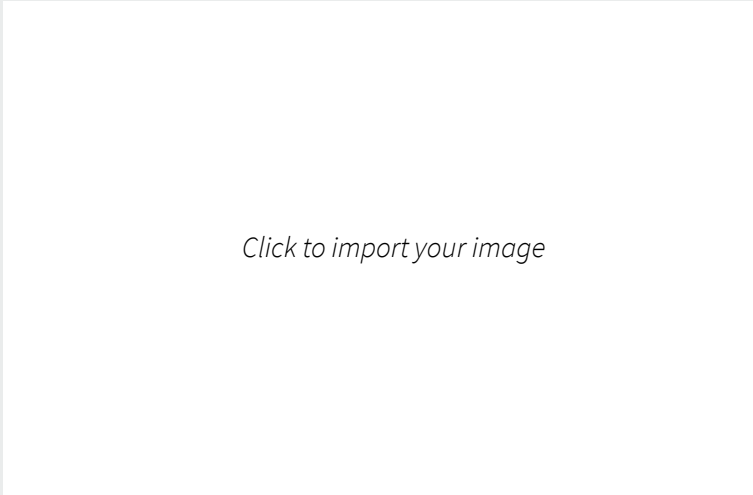### 7.2 Comparing Associative Tagging

Portrait image import continued

Image 4

Click to import your image

Image 5

Click to import your image
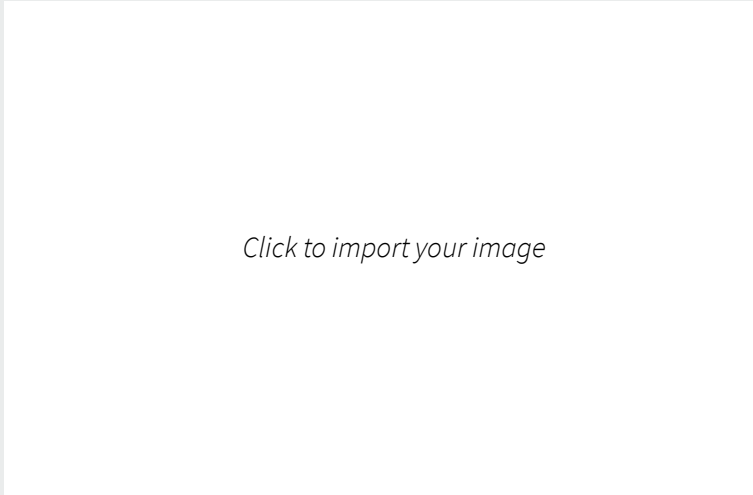
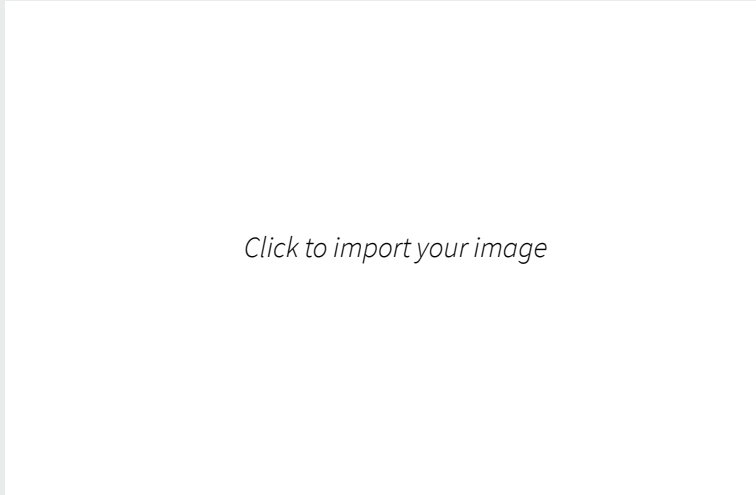Image 6

Click to import your image

Associative tag

Other Tags (social class, age, profession)

Original description

Finished?

Finished all the assignments?
Save your document to prevent losing the entered data.
Print out or send a copy by e-mail to the lecturer.