

The Americas Online: A Digital State of the Field for Early American Studies

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Date: 11-13 November 2021

CALL FOR UNDERGRADUATE DIGITAL POSTERS: Due Oct 29, 2021

In recent years, scholars of early America have engaged with digital methodologies to create projects that have facilitated new forms of inquiry, practice, and pedagogy. To assess the current state of digital early American studies, The Americas Online aims to bring together students, scholars, and professionals representing a variety of disciplines to determine how recent efforts by digital humanists have reframed—or may yet reframe—our understanding of the early Americas (conceived to include North America, the Caribbean, and the Atlantic world up to 1850). As demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that we think about the ways digital tools and methods can enhance teaching, learning, and research. And given the systemic inequity in our societies, we must be aware of the systematic racism that shapes digital academic work and use digital tools and methods to accomplish anti-racist and decolonial agendas. The 2.5-day virtual event will include a keynote speaker and panel presentations in addition to asynchronous posters.

We are currently seeking undergraduate contributors to submit digital posters related to the conference themes as part of an asynchronous undergraduate session. We are using “digital posters” as shorthand for a range of web-accessible media that we hope to aggregate on a conference site. We will entertain a range of file types, though you should choose web-accessible hosting (if hosting yourself) and format. Submissions might take various forms, ranging from a Google Slides presentation or poster file documenting projects or labor contributed, to completed digital projects created for classes, as independent projects, or as part of a faculty-or-staff-led project team. Posters should think critically and creatively about digital tools, methodologies, platforms, and projects. Undergraduates may submit as individuals or in groups, but you must be an undergraduate student at the time of the submission to qualify for prizes. **A committee will award prizes to the top three submissions, with prizes to be shared among applicants; \$250 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place.**

To submit a poster for consideration, please send a 250-word abstract describing and contextualizing the digital poster, your submission, and a c.v./resume of no more than three pages to j.linker@northeastern.edu with the subject line: “Digital Poster Submission - McNeil.” Submissions might include a link to a completed webpage that contains your project, a digital poster (in .pdf format) that outlines the major themes, video footage of the project (hosted on Youtube or Vimeo) that demonstrates interactive features. Format may be creative, but all submissions must tell the judges 1.) what the project is, 2.) what scholarly questions it aims to answer / what it teaches the audience about the early Americas / or how it assists with researching/teaching the early Americas, 3.) and how the project was made.

Posters should be submitted no later than **October 29, 2021**. They will be available on <http://www.theearlyamericasonline.com> as an asynchronous conference session. Awards will be announced at the end of the conference, on November 13.

This conference is sponsored by the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, the Kislak Center at the University of Pennsylvania, the Wilson Institute for Canadian History at McMaster University, the Northeastern University Department of History, and the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies at Iona College.

Conference Committee:

Jessica Linker, Co-Chair (Northeastern University)

Maxime Dagenais, Co-Chair (York University)

Lori Dagggar (Ursinus College)

Mitch Fraas (University of Pennsylvania)

Amy Sopcak-Joseph (Wilkes University)

Nora Slonimky (Iona College and Institute for Thomas Paine Studies)