

Sramek, Digital History Podcasting Studio, Abstract

SIUC has always provided hands-on-learning experiences for its students. As we move further into the digital age, it is important we continue to explore new research opportunities for our students and faculty. Dr. Pinckney Benedict and the English Department have accelerated the humanities at SIUC in the right direction with the creation of a podcasting lab that was generously funded by the SIU Foundation Research Grant last year. We in the History Department want to build off this momentum and contribute to the study of these exciting new media while creating a multidisciplinary team. Today's historians, and by virtue history students, find an increasing number of challenges when it comes to sharing their research and its importance with a wider audience. Meanwhile, new technologies, such as podcasting, create opportunities to distribute quality, widely-accessible work. Our students are aware of these changes and eager to explore them, and our faculty seeks to guide them. We propose an expansion of the existing podcasting lab in Faner Hall into a full digital humanities studio. Dr. Benedict has given us his blessing to seek this project and we are eager to create a multidisciplinary space where faculty and students from COLA will collaborate on meaningful projects. With your funding we will be able to begin programs which utilize the Digital Humanities Studio by the spring of 2020, which will include students from both the History and English Departments and be open to many more.