THROUGH TIME AND SPACE
Data as a narrative device
Hello!

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Agenda

- Project overview
- Tool selection
- Implementation
- Successes, lessons learned, & best practices
Project Overview
The challenge

- Humanities course
- Digital project
- Combine data, media, and text
- Include storymapping
- Include timelines
- Accessible to students
- Easy to learn
Choosing the right tools
Digital project/Media and Text/Timelines

- Omeka
- Timeline.js
- Scalar
Mapping

- Omeka /Neatline
- Carto
- ArcGIS online
- Scalar
Odyssey.js

- Maps could be embedded within Scalar
- Offered a variety of narrative options
- Customization of background map
- Inclusion of images and html links
Implementation
Instruction model

- Embedded librarian model
- Narrative theory
- Software tutorials
- Information literacy instruction
- In-class work time
  - i.e.: troubleshooting
- Final check-in
Scalar

- 2 sessions
  - Scalar basics
  - Working with metadata
- Homework
- Consultations
Odyssey.js

Step 1
- Location data copied from Google maps (latitude, longitude)

Step 2
- Zoom level was set
- If desired, background map was customized to better match the narrative

Step 3
- Information box was populated with related text, images and links to files
SELECT YOUR TEMPLATE

Templates give you different ways to unfold your story

Display visualization chapters like slides in a presentation

Create a visualization that changes as your reader moves through your narrative

Link story elements to moments in time using this animated map template
Your first odyssey.js story

Move the map around and save the position by clicking on "ADD > Move map to the current position". As you can see, now we are highlighting San Francisco.

Then add here the description for your slide so it's shown on the left side box.
Adjustments

- Added extra Odyssey workshops to assist students
- Hosted maps on library website to resolve http error
Final project examples:

- Example 1
  http://public-content.library.mcgill.ca/hisp/kara/odyssey.html

- Example 2
  http://public-content.library.mcgill.ca/hisp/sarah/odyssey.html
Successes, lessons learned, & best practices
Successes

Students:
- Developed familiarity with digital tools
- Developed familiarity with data
- Engaged with the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy in Higher Education:
  - Authority is constructed and contextual
  - Information has value
  - Information creation as a process
Developed new literacies

Emerging literacies

- Narrative
- Data
- Visual
Lessons learned

- Timeline
- Expectation management
- Project integration
- Testing
Best practices

- Give yourself (and others) time
- Make sure expectations are clear and realistic
- Give ample practice time
- Support students
- Check the tech
Thanks!

Any questions?

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Credits

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