2015

The Philippines Digital Project

Scott, Blair

https://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/113203

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

Philippines Digital Project Survey

The Philippines Digital Project is a project proposed by the University of Michigan Library with the purpose of creating a web resource for Philippine Studies students. The web resource would cover all known archives, libraries, historical societies, museums, and other institutions that contain collections of Philippine materials. Since most Philippine collections are either scattered or incomplete, this web resource would satisfy the need for a comprehensive guide to all Philippine collections in the United States.

This survey is designed to assess the needs of students researching and/or studying the Philippines. You will be asked about what type of information you look for on a research website, your individual research style, and other questions pertaining to navigation and user-friendliness. We will use this data to determine what kind of content we would like to include in a final product of this web resource.

* Required

1. **When using a research website or guide, what features do you absolutely need in order for it to be effective? Check all that apply. ***
   Consider your learning style when answering this question, as well as your individual research process (i.e. how long it takes to write a paper or complete a research project, whether you are a visual learner or not, how familiar you are with online databases such as JSTOR, etc.)
   Check all that apply.

   ☐ Links to similar pages (databases such as ProQuest, libraries, or statistical information)

   ☐ Search option (including 'Advanced Search')

   ☐ FAQ or Help page

   ☐ Interactive menu (an example would be a flexible drop-down menu)

   ☐ Contact information page

   ☐ Other interactive features (examples include a live feed with updates about the website, feedback forms, RSS feed)

   ☐ Visual components (images, interactive Google Map, videos)

   ☐ File download option (articles, images, relevant resource guides)

   ☐ None of the above

2. **A feature we are considering for a potential Philippine Studies research website would be pages summarizing locations of libraries, archives, or historical societies with significant Philippine Studies collections. What method of presentation of this information would be most useful for you?** *

Mark only one oval.

○ A simple text list separated by state and institution, with links and a brief summary underneath.

○ An interactive map with links to each institution and a brief summary.

○ A web page separating each collection by subject (ex. "World War II", "Religion", "Minorities in the Philippines").

○ All three methods would be useful.

○ None of the above.

3. **When conducting research on the Philippines, what is a typical problem you encounter?** *

Potential problems could include a shortage of online resources (websites, research guides, etc.), lack of awareness about specific resources, or too narrow of a research topic.

....

....

....

....

....

4. **Here at U-M we have large collections of materials on the Philippines at Special Collections, the Bentley Historical Library, the Museum of Anthropology, and the William L. Clements Library. Although the majority of these collections revolve around military, political, and economic history, a significant portion of the materials do not. For the Philippines Digital Project, we are considering investigating these understudied sources more, and highlighting them in the research guide. Would such a component be useful for your studies?** *

Consider the topics you have studied, or are planning on studying in the future. If you are not a historian, or study a well documented sub-field of Philippine Studies, such a component may not be applicable to you. Consider also that many of these understudied sources do not have online information, and thus require much more initiative on the part of the researcher in seeking them out. Highlighting understudied sources could be helpful if you are having difficulty finding sources for a specific research project.
Mark only one oval.

○ Yes

○ No

5. **If you answered 'No' to the question above, please explain why. If you answered 'Yes', you may skip this question.**

....

....

....

....

....

6. **Realistically, would you use a website or comprehensive research guide on Philippine collections in the United States, or do you feel that current online resources are sufficient? Please be as candid as possible. ***

Our project would most likely partner with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the University of Michigan Library to ensure the website was accessible to students.

....

....

....

....

....