STUDENT RESEARCH ON THE UNIVERSITY AND IN THE INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

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Outline

- What is EUI?
- Process
- Challenges and Opportunities
REINVENTING UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: A Blueprint for America's Research Universities

- Called for a comprehensive re-evaluation and restructuring of undergraduate education
- Called for inquiry-based learning and student involvement in the research process
The Ethnography of the University (EUI) is a cross-campus program to engage students in conducting original ethnographic research on their own university community.

http://www.eui.uiuc.edu/
University :: a highly complex social and cultural institution communicating diverse values, commitments, and identities.
Courses Offered Across Array of Disciplines

(Re)designed with the university as the research focus

Focus is on ethnographic and/or archival research

→ Rhetoric 101 (Speech Comm)
→ Sport, Play and Ethnography (Kinesiology)
→ Critical Issues in Higher Education (Ed. Org. & Leadership)
→ Museums in Action: Engaging the Community (Studio Art)
→ Folklore as Communication (Speech Comm)
→ Intro to Environmental Social Science (Nat Resources & Env Science)
→ Latina/o Ethnography (Anthro)
→ Muslim American Chicago (Asian Am Studies)
→ Civil Rights, Brown, and James Baldwin (Rhetoric)
→ Women in Film and TV (Gender & Women’s Studies./ Comm)
→ Internet and Communication in Everyday Life (Comm)
Library provides instruction....

- **To faculty (prior to the semester starting)**
  - Familiarize them with the University Archives and the Student Life and Culture Archives (http://www.library.uiuc.edu/archives/slcc/)
  - Introduction to IDEALS (http://www.ideals.illinois.edu/)

- **To students**
  - Introduce the Student Life and Culture Archives and the University Archives
  - Introduce IDEALS
Student Life and Culture Archival Program

Founded in 1989, with monies from the Stewart S. Howe Foundation endowment, the Student Life and Culture Archival Program collects, preserves, and makes available materials documenting student involvement in fraternities, sororities, student government, religious associations, publications, social events, athletics, and other activities that contribute to the total student experience in higher education. Because the intellectual development of students does not occur in a vacuum, documenting student life means going beyond the limits of the classroom.

The Student Life and Culture Archival Program is a program of the University of Illinois Archives that documents student experience at University of Illinois and nationally. For information concerning our national holdings see listings for: fraternity personal collections, fraternal organization archives, and national student organizations.

Hours:

Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Fri.:
8:30 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 5:00
The Ethnography of the University Initiative EUI (www.eui.uiuc.edu) engages students in research on what they know and care about: their own universities. Student work is public and preserved, housed in a dynamic on-line archive designed to encourage future generations of students to build on past student research. EUI guides students to think about colleges and universities in relation to their communities as well as in national and global contexts. EUI researchers reflect on their findings to identify concrete ways that the University can better fulfill its many missions. EUI leads students to become engaged citizens, actively and critically contributing to public life.
During the classes, faculty introduce:

- Research methods
- Research ethics – recruitment, consent, etc.
- IRB process
  - Research summaries are submitted at end of semester
- Intellectual property issues
- Open access issues
Research happens...
Students do use IDEALS during research

- To find work on the same or similar topics
  - Background information
  - Starting point for their research topic

- To find parallel topics in order to examine different research methods and tools

- To differentiate their work from previous projects
Student work in IDEALS

- Students have choice to deposit in IDEALS or not
- Students may restrict access to Illinois community or make it completely open
- Students can choose to deposit under a pseudonym
- Students provide abstract and keywords
- Deposit includes: research question, research instrument, methodologies, analysis of data and, in some cases, the research data itself
Example of Student Projects Available in IDEALS

- Language Causes/Affects Asian International Students' Self-segregation
- Is There an Invisible Boundary Between the Races at UIUC? (Ashanti Barber)
- “Is he crazy?”: Students “encounter” confrontational evangelism at ISU (Joel Marino)
- Islamic Feminism and All-Female Housing (Anonymous)
- Korean Grocery Stores Influence on Korean American Identity (Brian Worrasangasilpa)
- Making Change: Institutional Channels or Direct Action? (Cristobal Valencia)
- The “U” Word: Undocumented Students in Higher Education (Mayra S. Lagunas)
- Working in Dining Services: Just a Paycheck? (Sha’Donna Woods)
- Development of Research Skills in UIUC History Students (Hilary Iden)
- Policing Hate Crimes on Campus (Amjad Alomari)
- Romantic Relationships and the University (Ingrid Bergstrom)
Some quick stats and facts

- Over 60 classes taught since 2002 at the University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Parkland College

- Projects have been archived since 2005

- Nearly 300 projects archived – approximately 50% of the items are archived

- Projects are also presented at a research symposium and prizes given for best research projects
Opportunities, challenges, questions

- Engage students and faculty in discussions around IP, access, and publication issues
- Archiving original data
- How many students are actively using previously archived work?
- How do students decide whether or not to make their work available? How do they decide to restrict access or not?
- Long term role of the Library in archiving student research
That project, to this day, remains the most interesting research project that I have ever engaged in.
—Andrew Roback

As a student who came to college from a city public school, it was my own undergraduate research experience with Ethnography of the University Initiative that led me to graduate school. - Teresa Ramos

EUI gives both students and faculty a better understanding of each other. It provides students a glimpse of what it is like to conduct research, but it also allows professors to understand what their students truly are interested in and how they are as . - Andrew Hernann

To allow students' work and research to be archived for future use is a powerful tool for the University. —Jennifer Duffy, Caroline Schreiber, Matt Dixon
Contact Information

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