Recommended Readings for Public History Courses

Archives

Prepared by the NCPH Curriculum and Training Committee, November 2020

Note: Recommendations are for graduate level. Readings that are also suitable for undergraduate level are indicated by (UG) at the end of the annotation.


This provocative collection initiates a vital conversation about how archives around the world are constructed, policed, manipulated, and experienced. It challenges the claims to objectivity associated with the traditional archive by telling stories that illuminate its power to shape the narratives that are “found” there.


This revised second edition contains a wide range of topic-specific expertise that comprises both an enduring text for preservation and collections care students, as well as an essential one-stop reference for cultural heritage professionals—particularly those in small-to-medium-sized organizations where resources are limited and professional help is not always accessible.


Since its original publication Hunter's manual has been "not only a rich and ready reference tool but also a practical resource for solving problems" (Catholic Library World), and no text has served as a better overview of the field of archives. Newly revised and updated to more thoroughly address our increasingly digital world, including integration of digital records and audiovisual records into each chapter, it remains the clearest and most comprehensive guide to the discipline. (UG)