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Undergraduate Research: Andrea Gustavson on teaching undergraduates at the Harry Ransom Center

American Studies

We love it when we can draw your attention to the awesome teaching our grad students do and the exciting research our undergraduates do. Today, we'd like to

AMS :: ATX is a blog dedicated to representing the many activities and interests of the department of American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. Together with the department's Twitter feed, this blog exists to serve the AMS and Austin communities by acting as a hub for up-to-date information on events and opportunities at UT and beyond.



point you toward the Harry Ransom Center’s **newsletter**, Ransom Edition, where our very own Andrea Gustavson talks about her work teaching undergraduates in the archive.



Teacher Andrea Gustavson shares photography materials with undergraduate students in her class “American Images: Photography, Literature, Archive.” Photo by Robert V. Reichle.



Undergraduate in the class “American Images: Photography, Literature, Archive.” Photo by Robert V. Reichle.



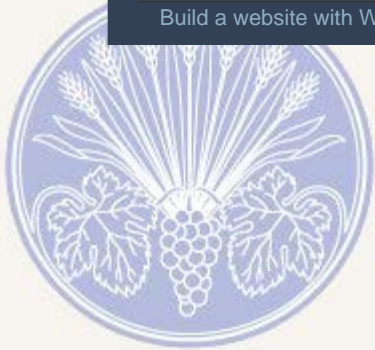
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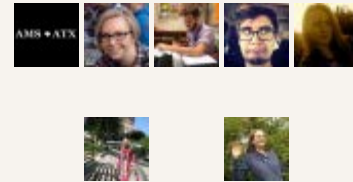
Here's a taste of Gustavson's article:

In the fall, I taught a class called "American Images: Photography, Literature, Archive" that made extensive use of the collections at the Ransom Center. Each week, the students and I explored the intersections between photography, literature, and archival theory using the Center's primary materials as the foundation for our discussions. On Mondays and Wednesdays we met to discuss the week's reading, closely reading passages or images and making connections to contemporary events. On Fridays the students had the opportunity to view rare manuscripts and photographs that illustrated, extended, and even challenged many of the concepts we had discussed earlier in the week. Over the course of the semester, the students worked within a variety of written genres as they built toward a final project for which they conducted their own original research.

Check out the full article [here](#).

Gustavson is a PhD candidate in American Studies here at UT and she worked as a

Contributors



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graduate intern in Public Services and as a Graduate Research Assistant at the Ransom Center in 2010–2014.



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