iSkills Introduction to Web Archives Session Handout: Bodleian Libraries Web Archive (BLWA)

For the following tasks you will need to go to the following URL:
https://archive-it.org/home/bodleian

Task 1a: Searching and finding information on the BLWA

- Go to https://archive-it.org/home/bodleian and click on the ‘Sites’ tab (Between Collections and Search page text)
- Next, use the basic search bar and search for the keyword: ‘Rowing’ to find the Magdalen College Boat Club website.
  - How many seeds exist for this search query?
  - How many times has this seed(s) been captured?
- Click on the URL section (e.g. starting in http://www...) to enter the Wayback interface showing all web archive captures.
- Click on the Crawl from June 8th, 2017 to access an archived copy of the website.
- Using only the archived version of the website find the following information:
  - In which year was the Magdalen College Boat Club was established?
  - What subject does the ‘Captain of Boats’ committee member study at Oxford?

Task 1b: Advanced searching techniques on the BLWA

- On the BLWA Archive-It Search page click on the ‘Search Page Text’ tab below the main search bar, to swap to a page text search.
- Search for ‘general election’ in the search bar.
  - How many results do you receive from this search?
• We are interested in the 2015 General election, use the ‘Advanced Search’ options on the left of the window to help us narrow the search.

• Use the ‘Exact phrase:’ and the ‘Capture date range:’ search options to narrow the search.
  o How many times was ‘General Election’ mentioned across all collections in 2015?

• Using the advanced search options find the following information:
  o How many pages relating to ‘women’ can be found in the Science, Medicine and Technology collection between September 2013 – November 2014.
  o In November 2016 which collection had more results related to ‘Brexit’, the Arts and Humanities collection or Social Sciences collection?

Task 2a:

• Go back to https://archive-it.org/home/bodleian and click on the collections tab.

• Chose the University of Oxford Colleges collection.

• Click on the URL under ‘All Souls College’ to enter the Wayback interface showing all web archive captures.
  o Notice that the website has been captured 27 times since 2016.
  o With what frequency is the website being captured (i.e. backed-up by our archive)? Can you think of why we are doing it at this frequency?

• Click on the first capture of ‘Apr 24, 2016’ and the last capture of ‘Oct 13, 2018’. Important: make sure to open them in a new tab or window.

• At first glance the website seems relatively unchanged, apart from the News and Dairy the website seems relatively unchanged.
Click on the tab ‘Research’ on both websites and click on Classical Studies. Do you see any changes here? If so, why do you think it is important that the archive captures this information?

Task 2b:

The All Souls College Oxford website has undergone only minor changes. However, there are a number of websites in our collection that have undergone a massive change within the last year.

- Go back to https://archive-it.org/home/bodleian and click on the collections tab.
- Chose the University of Oxford collection.
- Scroll down to ‘Faculty of Classics, Oxford’, or use the search function on your computer (Ctrl+F).
- Click on the URL under “Faculty of Classics, Oxford” to enter the Wayback interface showing all web archive captures.
- Click on the first capture of ‘Dec 8, 2017’ and the last capture of ‘Dec 8, 2018’.
- Do you see how much the websites have changed over time? Take some time to click around the website and compare the two.

Task 3 Citing

- Use the citation guide above to provide correct citations for the following seeds (websites) in the BLWA. Search for the following seeds in the BLWA, find their wayback URLs and cite them correctly according to the BLWA preferred citation guidance.
o ‘http://www.rdm.ox.ac.uk’ Captured on August 18th, 2015. Part of the University of Oxford collection.

If you need any help, please ask us! Once completed wait for the answers.

Want to nominate a website for the BLWA? Go to the following link and give us a nomination!
https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/beam/webarchive/nominate