

The Grateful Dead Course @ UNCG: Peace, Love, and Library Collaborations

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Background

In 1989, Dr. Rebecca Adams of UNCG took 21 students on a bus tour following the Grateful Dead community. Now, 30 years later, the course has evolved into an online Gerontology class titled "The Grateful Dead Legacy." In the Spring of 2019, two UNCG librarians supported the course in a variety of ways, including helping to compile resources into a LibGuide, asynchronous online instruction, and participation in a one-day conference held at UNCG related to the course. The Gerontology librarian discussed the LibGuide as a resource for all interested, including alumni and students. This conference was part of a year long celebration of the Sixties at UNCG which included multiple events specifically focused on the Grateful Dead.

Timeline

July 2018: Dr. Adams reaches out to librarians for assistance

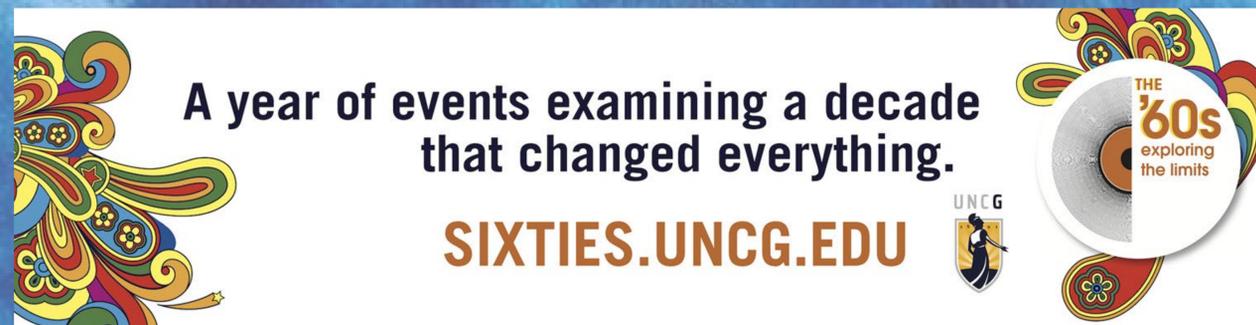
Fall 2018 semester: Planning for the course in the spring, including creation of LibGuide and formatting suggested sources in APA style

January 2019: Development of an asynchronous instruction module for students to complete in Canvas

March and April 2019: Consultations with students completing projects

April 2019: Grateful Dead conference at UNCG

Rachel Olsen
Gerontology Librarian



Sarah Dorsey
Music Librarian



Library Instruction

A Canvas module was created to allow students to learn about library resources at their own pace. Finding books and articles, evaluating sources, and using information ethically were the main topics covered in the module.

Most students responded well to this format, and the average grade on the library assignment was an 83%.

GRO 589:
Library Research Unit



Challenges, Outcomes, and Future Directions

Because neither librarian identifies as a "Deadhead," this course presented a particular challenge. Fortunately, Dr. Adams provided most of the materials that appear on the bibliography, leaving only a moderate amount of research to be completed by librarians and interns.

Students and alumni seem happy with the resources compiled and have used the LibGuide often. An instructor in the department of Community & Therapeutic Recreation has expressed interest in collaborating with the Music librarian on a course in Spring 2020 related to Phish!



phish.net/faq/official-logo



View the LibGuide and Bibliography at uncg.libguides.com/gratefuldead

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