Engaging the Archives: Promoting Undergraduate Learning with Archival Sources
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This research project is a joint collaboration between faculty and staff from the School of Information and the Bentley Historical Library on the University of Michigan campus. One of the key initiatives of the Bentley is to increase the use of the Library’s archival collections by students and to assist faculty in designing effective learning experiences for students using the collections. The study, now in its third year, is actively collecting qualitative data on student performance on document-based exercises that utilize archival sources.

**Student Role:**
The student will participate in the following:
- assist in data collection and analysis related to student’s learning outcomes
- attend bi-weekly research meetings
- conduct literature reviews related to student evaluation and learning with archival sources
- practice professional skills such as collaboration, project management, and presentational speaking
- contribute to the authoring of research outcomes via presentations and/or peer-reviewed articles

**Mentoring Plan**
The student will meet with the mentor bi-weekly during individual meetings. The individual meetings will focus on developing personalized goals for academic, professional, and personal growth. These goals will include identifying research interests, outlining specific skills and/or knowledge they hope to gain through the experience, and determining strategies for reaching their goals. In addition to individual meetings, the student will participate in weekly team meetings where they will be exposed to an interdisciplinary and collaborative culture of research. The research team is composed of doctoral and master’s students from the University of Michigan School of Information and School of Education. During the weekly meetings, students will participate in discussions of relevant literature, brainstorming sessions on avenues for scholarly publications, and discussions on how to properly manage and protect confidential research data.