





**Faculty Member Contact Information**

<b>Name</b>	Jason Stacy
<b>Contact Info</b>	
SIUE Email	jstacy@siue.edu
Campus Box	1454
<b>Department</b>	History

**1 Funded, Two Unfunded URCA Assistant**

	This position is <b>ONLY</b> open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	<b>M</b>
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
<b>X</b>	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
	This project deals with community outreach.	
<b>X</b>	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	<b>I</b>

**Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?**

Yes

**How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?**

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

9

**Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?**

HIST 410 3

**Location of research/creative activities:**

Remote research with weekly meetings on campus

**Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?**

I am currently a contributing editor for the Walt Whitman Digital Archive ([whitmanarchive.org](http://whitmanarchive.org)), the premier digital archive for works by and about the poet Walt Whitman. In this capacity, I assist in the transcribing, encoding, and annotating of Whitman's journalism. Presently, the Whitman Archive holds unedited scanned issues of the *New Orleans Crescent*, for which Whitman wrote between 1848 and 1849. I would like to work with a group of URCA assistants to continue the process of preparing these editorials for publication on the Walt Whitman Archive. This will entail transcribing from the original newspaper issues the articles written by Whitman, annotating them for historical context, and encoding them in an XML file for inclusion on the Walt Whitman Digital Archive.

**Brief description of student responsibilities?**

Under my supervision, each student will edit one week's worth of editorials over the course of the semester (approximately five to seven editorials per student). This will entail 1) discussing with me which articles in a given week were probably by Whitman based on bibliographical and textual evidence 2) transcribing those articles into Word file for collation with the originals 3) annotating each article to provide historical and biographical context for the individuals and events that appear in each article 3) encoding transcriptions and annotations into an XML file using the program oXygen, an XML editing program that I will teach them to use.

**URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?**

Students will learn the basics of digital textual editing, including:

1. Strategies scholars use to identify an author's work.
2. How to research, construct, and cite historical/biographical annotations to assist readers in understanding a historical document.
3. How to transcribe and encode a historical document in preparation of publication in a digital format.

**Requirements of Students**

**If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:**

NA

**If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?**

NA

**Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:**

NA

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**

NA