

Digital Library Collections (DLC) Website

A platform for integrated access to CUL/IS specialized, digital collections


September 2014 Status Report



What is the DLC?


- A system for **providing access** to Columbia's cultural heritage digital collections, audio/video collections, and born digital archival collections
- A platform for **integrating access** to Columbia's digital collections
- A set of tools for basic **viewing / playing content** in most media formats
- A framework for bringing to the surface **relationships** between content in Columbia's collections and content in other related collections

Who developed the DLC?

- ❑ **Advisory Group:** Matthew Baker, Robbie Blitz , Jane Gorjevsky, Kate Harcourt, Thai Jones, Chris Sala, Melanie Wacker, Chengzhi Wang
 - ❑ **Project Management Support:** Leo Stezano
 - ❑ **Technical Staff:** Ben Armintor, Eric O'Hanlon, Erik Ryerson
 - ❑ **Project Lead:** Stephen Davis
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What is the timetable for the DLC?

Phase I – Current Timetable

- *December 2013: Work began*
 - August 2014: CUL Staff beta release
 - October 2014: Public beta release
 - October-November 2014: User testing, further development
 - Winter 2014: Public Launch
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What will Phase I content include?

Content as of September 2014

- *John Jay Papers, Lindquist Photos, Community Service Society Photos, Chinese Paper Gods, Jewels in Her Crown, Spanish Civil War, Russian Corps of Pages*

Current target list of collections / projects:

- <https://wiki.cul.columbia.edu/display/PDCV/DCV+Potential+Digital+Content>

Additional collections / projects to come:

- https://www1.columbia.edu/sec/cu/libraries/inside/units/ldpd/reports/2014/current_digital_collections_2014-02-14a.pdf

What will it not include?

- Digitized books (CLIO → Hathi Trust, Internet Archive)
- Web archives (Archive-It)
- Finding aids (*but finding aids can link to the DCV*)
- Collections / content with no metadata


Size of DLC site

- ❑ Ca. 30,000 items as of 8/5/2015
- ❑ Over 500,000 items by the end of 2014 (43,000 (Lehman) + 5,000 (Greene & Greene) + 3,000 (Urban) + 1,300 (Biggert), 10,000 (Hebrew Mss.) + 36,000 (University Seminars) + 375,000 (IFP) + 20,000 (Durst) + various online exhibitions)

What features are be in Phase I?

- Browsable list of collections / projects
- Keyword searching within individual projects or across all projects
- Standard facets across all collections: names, material types, collection names, repositories, chronology
- Custom facets where needed: e.g., geographic
- Flexible displays for images; zoomable, multiresolution image functionality

Features in Phase I, cont.

- Persistent identifiers
 - Function to generate a standard citation for individual objects
 - Search engine optimization features
 - Full-text searching where supported by the data (e.g., IFP, University Seminars, Hubert Harrison Papers)
 - Ability to report errors
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What about restricted content?

There will actually be two separate digital collection viewers:

- One available publicly, world-readable
- One restricted to on-site access in a specific custodial location (for example, for parts of archival collections, for content that is under copyright but can be made available locally as preservation copies)

Having two separate, parallel viewers will help ensure the privacy and security of restricted content.

What if there is already a website for the collection?

- All collections (i.e., “projects”) will have landing pages in the DCV, with basic information about the content.
- If a project already has a public website, the landing page will make it easy to jump to the external custom website.
- If a project / collection does not have a public website, the DCV landing page will serve as the home page for the project / collection.

DLC Desiderata

- Visualization tools
- Visual navigation
- Analytic tools
- Linkages to related content, local or remote
- Deeper integration with finding aids
- Open API for access via other applications
- Oral History content

New DLC Platform advantages

- ❑ Fedora, Hydra, SOLR, Blacklight – standard tools, technology stack – broad national and international support
- ❑ All new DLC projects can be built on this platform
- ❑ Projects can be developed / made available more quickly
- ❑ Past projects can be migrated into the future more easily
- ❑ New functionality can be made available to existing / past projects
- ❑ Assets can be managed
- ❑ Metadata can be curated

DLC Beta Site

<https://dcv-private-test.cul.columbia.edu/>