



You are encouraged to work on this with a partner; even a group of 3 might be possible (but no more than that). You may also work on your own, if you'd rather.

A couple of logistical details:

- As a reminder from the syllabus, this is worth 20% of your grade in this course
- Due Thursday, October 24—and to be informally presented in class that day to your classmates.



Part I: Checking Out Some Archives

This has the goal of getting you moving around a bit on an archival website, checking out its details, organization, materials, etc. Here's the details:

1) **Please choose one of the archives below.** Spend some time navigating through the site, looking at various headings and materials. *Do not* spend 8 hours doing this, but you will need to dig in a bit to see some of what's available, organization, etc.

2) **Alone or with your partner (s), write us a post about the archive.** It should be well-written (and proof-read!) and informative, but does not need to be scholarly or include other research or footnotes. If you'd like, you can include images or other multimedia.

This post should be about 2-3 pages in length (double-spaced, Times New Roman). You may write more if you'd like—and that length should be text alone (so the images, if you include them, don't really count towards to length).

What kinds of things should you address in your post? Don't answer these questions in a step-by-step format--instead you should pick some

of them to focus on and write some nicely worded, well-framed paragraphs incorporating some of these.

But here's some things to consider:

- What kinds of materials does the archive include?
- How are they organized?
- Where did they come from?
- Are there multiple different media types (books, letters, recordings, represented?)
- How long has it been there?
- Is it an online only archive or does it have a physical home?
- If there are materials digitized, how much of the collection is digitized? Are there things that you cannot find online? (Probably a lot....)
- Is the website easy to navigate or confusing?
- Is there a clear way the materials could be used pedagogically? Are there actual pedagogical materials on the website?
- Who do you think might be interested in using these kinds of materials?
- **Pick an item or two from the archive to highlight.**
- **Importantly, it's crucial that you somehow bring together what this might all have to do with music, sound, gender, sexuality, and New York.**

And the list of potential archives--just pick ONE of these to look at in detail:

1. Archives of African American Music and Culture: <https://aaamc.sitohost.iu.edu>
2. Brooklyn Public Library/Center for Brooklyn History <https://www.bklynlibrary.org/cbh/collections/collections-resources>
3. Cherry Groves Archives Collection: <https://www.cherrygrovearchivescollection.com/>
4. Centro Library and Archives Digital Collections for the Puerto Rican Diaspora: <https://centropr.archive.hunter.cuny.edu/collections/>
5. Columbia University Digital Collections: <https://dlc.library.columbia.edu/>
6. Cornell Hip Hop Collection (CHHC) <https://rmc.library.cornell.edu/hiphop/>
7. Digital Transgender Archive: <https://www.digitaltransgenderarchive.net>
8. Harvard The Hip-hop Archive and Research Institute <http://hiphoparchive.org/about/mission>
9. Lesbian Herstory Archives: <https://lesbianherstoryarchives.org/>
10. Library of Congress Digital Collections (includes a lot of NY content): <https://www.loc.gov/collections/>
11. LGBT Community Center National History Archive <https://gaycenter.org/archives/>
12. Metropolitan Opera Archives <https://www.metopera.org/discover/archives/>
13. Museum of the City of New York <https://collections.mcny.org/> (you might also try their digital collections)
14. New York City Ballet Archive: <http://www.nycballet.com/Explore/From-the-Archive.aspx>
15. New York City Municipal Archives <https://www.nyc.gov/site/records/historical-records/collections.page>
16. New York Historical Society: <https://www.nyhistory.org/>
17. New York Philharmonic Digital Archives: <https://archives.nyphil.org>
18. New York Public Library Archives of Sexuality & Gender <https://www.nypl.org/research/collections/articles-databases/archives-sexuality-and-gender> (may require signing up for free NYPL card online to access)
19. New York Public Library Digital Collections: <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>
20. New York Public Library Gay&Lesbian Collections & AIDS/HIV collections: <https://www.nypl.org/lgbtqcollections>
21. New York Public Library for the Performing Arts: <https://www.nypl.org/locations/lpa>
22. New York State Archives: <https://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov/>
23. Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/bingham>
24. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture: <https://www.nypl.org/locations/schomburg>

If you don't see something you'd like to use or are struggling, come see me—happy to talk this out with you or your group mates! Let's have coffee and talk archives, it's my favorite thing :)

Part II: Pitch a Project on Music, Gender/Sexuality, and New York

We'll spend about a month, all told, talking about New York things in this class on music, gender, and sexuality. So we're slight experts at this point :)

Now I'd like for YOU to pitch an additional research project on music, gender/sexuality, and New York.

- 1) **Alone or with your partner (s), write us a post suggesting an interesting avenue for research on music/gender/sexuality and New York.** Obviously you'll need to do a LITTLE research to write this, but the idea is not that you go ahead and do a full-fledged research project here. Just open the door on something for us.
- 2) It should be well-written (and proof-read!) and informative, but does not need to be written in a scholarly tone or include other research or footnotes. If you'd like, you can include images or other multimedia.

This post should be about 2 pages in length (double-spaced, Times New Roman). You may write more if you'd like—and that length should be text alone (so the images or links, if you include them, don't really count towards to length).

What kinds of things should you include in your post?

- What does this topic potentially tell us that's interesting or new or important about music/gender/sexuality in this particular place?
- How does this connect to our preexistent weeks of discussion on New York? Are there themes that interconnect here?

3) **At the end of your post, suggest 3-5 additional sources for us to check out on your topic.** Two of these need to be scholarly, but the rest can be web sites, links, recordings, etc. Please feel free to ask me if you have trouble finding resources.

Rules:

- **Your topic cannot be something we have already covered**
- **Your topic should be something about New York (State or City) and connect to music and gender/sexuality in some way**
- **Your topic should focus on something after the year 1800**
- **Other than that, ANYTHING is fair game :)**

