

# CURE Course Assessment

The final step in creating and teaching the course you redeveloped through Mellon Initiative funding is providing a written assessment at the conclusion of the semester when it was first taught.

Please use this form to submit your assessment regarding your CURE, including feedback on course structure, content, and future improvements.

Congratulations on teaching your CURE course for the first time!

Course title \*

U.S. History through Reconstruction

Instructor(s) \*

Erin Kramer

When did you teach the CURE course for the first time (semester and year)? \*

Spring 2020

How many students were enrolled in the course? \*

28

Please describe the CURE project. The description should include the research question(s) the class addressed, the types/methods of research, how much time the class spent on the CURE during the semester, how the results of the research were disseminated, and how students were evaluated. \*

Students were asked to annotate a primary source manuscript that we hold in Special Collections. They were asked to research different terms from the manuscript to give readers a more in-depth understanding of the text and different approaches to it, and to put it into the context of Civil War-era San Antonio. Because of COVID and the shift to online learning mid-semester, students didn't end up doing as much of the research, but they still read and annotated parts of the manuscript.

Which aspects of the CURE were most successful? \*

Students really enjoyed working with the manuscript and learning about local history. We held a virtual visit to Special Collections and they got to work virtually with other manuscripts related to the main text, which deepened their understanding of it.

Which aspects of the CURE did not work as intended?

The entire project didn't go as planned but only because of the shift to virtual learning. This project is very much hands-on and requires multiple trips to Special Collections. Once we are back to having all students on campus, I will roll out the project more thoroughly. I am having the students do research this semester, though, because the research component definitely seemed to interest them.

What improvements (if any) would add to the success of this CURE? \*

It's so hard to gauge only because of the shift to the virtual format right as we were about to begin the project. I think the project will work really well once we are all back on campus.

If possible, please upload the syllabus and CURE project description/prompt/assignment given to the students.

 Research Project...