

Name: Hannah Phillips  
Majors: History and Middle East/South Asia Studies  
Graduation Year: Spring 2019  
Year: Fall 2018-Spring 2019

1. What project were you involved in?  
I was involved in the Media Project during my year in Dr. Joseph's lab. I covered the terms 'Gulf of Arabia/Persian Gulf' and 'Oman' through the decade of 1900 – 1909.
2. When did you join the lab?  
I joined the lab in the Fall of 2018 at the beginning of my senior year at Davis.
3. How did you hear about the lab?  
The internship was advertised in one of my history classes during spring quarter 2018.
4. What was the greatest learning experiences you obtained from lab?  
One of the greatest learning experiences I obtained from the Media Project, was being able to collaborate with such a strong and supportive team. Much of the work was done individually and getting to dive into a topic brought a lot of insight. However, being able to share on a weekly basis any research issues that arose, clarifying questions, and being able to share new patterns in our research provided so much feedback. Hearing from Dr. Joseph directly during our weekly meetings and seeing how so many of the patterns we were discovering added to the overall representation of the Middle East/North Africa.
5. In what ways has the lab challenged you?  
It has challenged me both as a young professional and an academic to build interchangeable soft skills and commit to a project outside of my course work. It challenged my world view to see certain stereotypes and images used to represent this region of the world, being cultivated and redeveloped in varying contexts. Tracking a decade of tropes and ideas attached to terms, like 'the Gulf of Arabia/Persian Gulf' and noticing the patterns and ideas projected onto this region, forced me to notice these same ideas still being represented in contemporary media.
6. Why is the lab a unique experience for undergraduate students?  
The lab is a unique experience for undergraduate students because the opportunity to conduct a prolonged research project, being able to present research at conferences/symposiums, and being able to build relationships with graduate students and university staff in more professional settings.
7. How has the lab prepared you for future endeavors?  
My time in the lab of Dr. Joseph's lab gave me the opportunity to develop research skills, professional development and a network of likeminded colleagues.