

Research Methods

Name: _____

Homework Assignment # 7 – Unobtrusive Research: Historical/Comparative Research

After completing this assignment you will be able to:

- 1) Use existing sources of primary data to answer research questions and
- 2) To use electronic databases to locate sources of primary data.

Part A: *Before* class on (**Tuesday, Nov. 11th**) please take at least 15 minutes to review the exhibit in the new Mary English Commons (Satterlee first floor near the entrance to Flagg Hall). After our field trip to the Crumb Library answer the following based on your review of the Mary English Commons exhibit and the materials in SUNY Potsdam's Archives and Special Collections.

- Describe some of the ways campus life (social and academic activities, social norms, gender roles, day-to-day activities, etc.) has changed for students at Potsdam over the past century:

- List the sources you used in making these observations:

Part B: Using one of the electronic data resources presented in the library workshop locate a primary data source collection that could be accessed for historical research. More details:

Think of an important person, group, place, or event in history of interest to you. Locate a collection of primary source materials related to this person or organization. Or simply browse one of these sites until you find a topic of interest. Name your topic, identify the data collection and its location, and list the contents of the collection.

Example:

Person, Group, Place or Event: The Oneida Community (a 19th century Utopian community)

Primary Data Collection: The Oneida Community Collection

Location: Syracuse University's George Arents Research Library - Syracuse, New York

Contents: Journals, letters, diaries, autobiographical sketches, miscellaneous unpublished writings.

Person, Group, Place or Event:

Name of Primary Data Collection:

Location (name of library or organization housing the collection and the city and state):

Contents:
