October 25, 2019

Memorandum

To: Wunyabari Maloba
    Professor and Chair, Department of Africana Studies
    Professor, Department of History

From: Trevor A. Dawes
      Vice Provost for Libraries and Museums
      and May Morris University Librarian

I am responding to your request to supply information about the capability of the University of Delaware Library, Museums and Press to support the proposed Master of Arts (MA) in Africana Studies and the Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies.

The University of Delaware Library with its strong humanities, social sciences, interdisciplinary, and electronic collections is well able to support this program. However, no additional funding is available for new resources. Enclosed is a description of library collections, resources and services available for this purpose.

I would be pleased to respond to any questions.

/nb
Enclosure

c: University of Delaware Library, Museums and Press
    Susan Davi, Associate Librarian and Head, Collections and
    Electronic Resources Management Department
    Aimee Gee, Assistant Librarian and English and American Literature Librarian,
    Reference and Instructional Services Department
    Carol Rudisell, Librarian and Head, Reference and Instructional Services Department
    Kaitlyn Tanis, Assistant Librarian and History and Social Sciences Librarian,
    Reference and Instructional Services Department
Report on Library Services and Collections in Support of the Master of Arts and Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies

General Description

The University of Delaware Library, Museums and Press includes the Hugh M. Morris Library, where the main collection is housed; three branch libraries located on the Newark campus, the Chemistry Library, the Physics Library, and the Education Resource Center; and a fourth branch library, the Marine Studies Library, located in Lewes, Delaware. The Library collections parallel the University’s academic interests and support all disciplines. The new program is directly supported by the Library’s strong collections in all areas of the humanities, social sciences and related interdisciplinary areas.

Databases, full-text electronic journals and electronic books, books, periodicals, microforms, government publications, maps, manuscripts and media provide a major academic resource for the University of Delaware, the surrounding community, the state of Delaware and the nation. Library staff members provide a wide range of services.

The Library collections contain over 2,700,000 print volumes, and provide access to more than 700,000 eBooks, 110,000 eJournals, and 400 databases. The collections are broadly based and comprehensive.

The University of Delaware Library is a U.S. depository library and a U.S. patent depository library.

Specific Support for Africana Studies

The Library’s collections are strong and are well able to support the proposed Africana Studies programs. For many years, the Library has supported related undergraduate and graduate programs in history, art history, material culture, American literature, music, anthropology, sociology, political science, area studies, and women and gender studies. The collections in these areas are excellent and continue to grow.

An experienced librarian, Carol Rudisell (rudisell@udel.edu), Librarian and Head, Reference and Instructional Services Department, serves as the Library liaison to the Department of Africana Studies.

In this role, Carol will work with you to:

- Further develop Library collections, both print and electronic to support the teaching, learning and research needs of the program
- Provide research support for faculty and students in a consultation setting
- Provide instruction in a classroom setting
- Serve as a resource for the information needs of the faculty and students as they relate to the Library, Scholarly Communication, Open Access and other topics

Several other librarians have considerable expertise in related subject areas and can provide additional specialized services, as needed:
- Susan Davi (sdavi@udel.edu) – Art History, Material Culture
- Aimee Gee (gee@udel.edu) – English & American Literature
- Kaitlyn Tanis (kltanis@udel.edu) – History, Political Science & International Relations

More than 200 research guides <guides.lib.udel.edu/> in all subject areas have been developed and are maintained by librarian liaisons. These research guides describe library resources and assist students in the research process. These guides introduce students to a wide array of useful resources including databases, eJournals, eBooks, reference materials, visual material and more. The librarians mentioned above are also available to work with faculty to develop research guides for specific courses within this program.

The Library subscribes to more than 400 online databases <library.udel.edu/databases/> which support research in all areas. Among the most important databases for research and study in Africana studies are: Black Studies Center, International Index to Black Periodicals, Race Relations Abstracts, Ethnic NewsWatch, GenderWatch, America: History & Life, Art Abstracts, MLA International Bibliography and Women’s Studies International.

The Library provides access to a number of full-text archival databases which are specific to African American studies. Among these are: African American Biographical Database, African American Newspapers, 1827-1998, African American Newspapers: The 19th Century, Black Abolitionist Papers, Black Drama, Black Thought and Culture, The Black Freedom Struggle in the 20th Century and African American Historical Serials.

The Library provides access to Academic Video Online which includes the Black Studies in Video collection, Docuseek2, and Kanopy – multidisciplinary streaming video collections which include relevant material in history, the arts, politics & current affairs, global issues, gender studies, health & society, and more.

Information from hundreds of current newspapers is available from Nexis Uni (formerly LexisNexis Academic) and Global Newsstream (ProQuest). Access to The New York Times is available from NYTTimes.com. ProQuest Historical Newspapers provides access to the archives of 5 major U.S. newspapers (e.g., The New York Times, Philadelphia Inquirer) and 5 Black newspapers (e.g., New York Amsterdam News, The Philadelphia Tribune).
In addition to its extensive print-based collections, the Library provides access to more than 110,000 electronic journals <library.udel.edu/ejournals/> and more than 700,000 electronic books <library.udel.edu/ebooks/>. Within the Library’s eJournal collection, the social sciences and humanities are very strong, including almost all the journals published by Taylor & Francis, SAGE, Elsevier, Springer, Oxford University Press and Wiley as well as the multidisciplinary collections in Project Muse and JSTOR.

Within the eBook collection, online access to most books published by Springer, now including Palgrave Macmillan, from 2005-present is of particular importance. Other eBooks related to Africana studies are available from Books at JSTOR, ProQuest Ebook Central, and EBSCOhost eBooks.

The Library also subscribes to RefWorks, a web-based citation management tool that can be used with most databases. Access to EndNote Online via the Library’s Web of Science subscription is also available.

The Library has strong collections of film and video <library.udel.edu/filmandvideo/> which support study and teaching in all subject areas.

The Library’s Digital Scholarship team <library.udel.edu/digitalscholarship> works with students and faculty in all disciplines to create and publish digital scholarship, including digital exhibits, data visualization and digital mapping/GIS.

The Library has a nationally recognized Student Multimedia Design Center <library.udel.edu/multimedia/> that provides access to equipment, software, and training related to the creation of multimedia projects. The Student Multimedia Design Center includes over 80 workstations, six studios, and two classrooms focused on multimedia creation. University of Delaware users also may borrow a wide variety of multimedia equipment. Through its Multimedia Literacy program, the Student Multimedia Design Center provides instructional support for faculty seeking to incorporate multimedia into their assignments.

In addition, the Library maintains an Institutional Repository (<udspace.udel.edu/>), which archives research reports, documents, and other resources produced by University of Delaware faculty and students.

Trevor A. Dawes
Vice Provost for Libraries and Museums
and May Morris University Librarian