This experiential course introduces students to the theory and practice of digital history.

The course offers an overview of digital history as a field, including how it originated out of the fields of public history and humanities computing. Students will examine the theory and debates that guide digital history practice. We will explore a range of tools for historical research and the dissemination of historical information to varied audiences, including digital exhibits, mobile applications for historic sites, digital archives, research databases, and digital mapping tools.

The course includes a practical component in connection with the Scarlet and Black Project (http://scarletandblack.rutgers.edu). Students will work collaboratively to develop the Scarlet and Black Project Digital Archive using the Omeka platform. No prior experience with Omeka or other digital history tools is required for this course.

Scarlet and Black is a public history project that explores the experiences of African Americans and Native Americans at Rutgers University. The project’s initial findings have been published in Scarlet and Black, Volume 1: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers History (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2016).

This course fulfills one of the requirements for the Certificate Program in Public History.