

Undergraduate Research Opportunity

PROJECT

Salt River Stories Research Experience

Erin Craft

History

Hours required p/week:	9
Credits anticipated:	3

Through Salt River Stories (<https://saltriverstories.org/>), Arizona State University students and faculty curate the region's history in collaboration with a variety of community partners that include historic preservationists, archivists, and community activists. Partners have included the Arizona Historical Society and the Tempe Historical Society, as well as to the members of the historic preservation community. With more than 250 digital interpretive stories, Salt River Stories receives more than 20,000 unique visitors per year. Student research and writing connections visitors to a more sophisticated view of the region's history—that introduces them to sophisticated historiography, original research, and engaging historical writing. If you have a passion for research and writing, including exploring hidden history, this project is for you.

TEMPE

ONLINE

STUDENT

Research assistant's duties:

Students will research, write, and edit digital histories of Phoenix around a topic of interest to students—but negotiated with project leaders. Students will also learn important curatorial skills for the 21st century, including understanding metadata, copyright, effective internet (and primary-source) based research, and other details of digital storytelling.

Required skills or qualifications:

Desired qualifications include strong writing skills; good communication skills; interest in Oral History; time management skills; computer literacy.

Skills student will acquire:

Students will be exposed to a real-world historical project and be able to describe that work on their resume or CV; also, at the end of the semester, students will publish authored stories that can be a strong supplement to an application to graduate school (history or professional schools) and/or provide strong evidence of writing on a student's resume. Students will develop or hone historical research and writing skills, and learn about digital storytelling and interpretation. Other skills will include learning about metadata; content management systems; place-based storytelling, and "curation"—a vital skill of 21st century education.