

Charlie Gibbons

Digital Archivist, Librarian II

The University of Alabama in Huntsville Archives, Special Collections, and Digital Initiatives

M. Louis Salmon Library

301 Sparkman Dr. | Huntsville, AL 35899

(256) 824-6528 | charlie.gibbons@uah.edu

EDUCATION

M.A. in History, Auburn University

Archival Studies Program Certificate

May 2016

Thesis: “Building a Black Belt Empire: Charles H. Miller in Marengo County, Alabama, 1870-1917”

B.A. in German, The University of Alabama in Huntsville

May 2024

B.A. in History, Auburn University

Summa cum laude, Honors Scholar

December 2013

EMPLOYMENT

**Apr. 2023-
Present** **Digital Archivist/Librarian II**
The University of Alabama in Huntsville Archives and Special Collections

**Aug. 2021-
Apr. 2023** **Digital Archivist/Librarian I**
The University of Alabama in Huntsville Archives and Special Collections
Manage digitization and digital preservation programs. Manage institutional repository and online manuscript collections. Develop and maintain a controlled vocabulary database for in-house description. Provide archives-focused library instruction for UAH courses and teach primary and secondary source research skills. Supervise undergraduate student projects and academic internships, including document transcription projects, digitization projects, and digital exhibit development. Serve as World Languages and Cultures Department library subject specialist. Assess German-language print and manuscript acquisitions and provide guidance for processing German-language manuscript collections. Provide reference services to Archives patrons and manage reference scanning services.

**May 2018-
July 2021** **Digital Projects Specialist**
University of Alabama in Huntsville Archives and Special Collections
Create digitization and metadata workflows according to national standards for archival materials. Design and manage digitization lab. Create file naming

conventions and file cleanup procedures. Implement a digital preservation program. Supervise digitization student assistants. Facilitate online access to collections through Omeka Classic content management system. Provide reference services to Archives patrons.

- July 2016-
Apr. 2018** **Education Program Specialist
Alabama Bicentennial Commission**
Implemented digitization project to provide K-12 teachers with access to archival collections from repositories statewide, including selecting appropriate historical documents and images for digitization, and digitizing and transcribing items. Curated and arranged themed primary source packets for teachers. Digitized and described World War I records. Provided reference services to educators and historians developing Alabama history-based professional development programs.
- Feb. 2014-
Aug. 2014** **Clerical Aide
Alabama Department of Archives and History**
Selected, digitized, and arranged hundreds of photographs in the Alabama Architectural History Program collection. Selected and digitized 27 Civil War-era newspaper articles for the Ford's Theatre Remembering Lincoln digital collection.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Aug. 2014-
May 2016** **Graduate Teaching Assistant
Auburn University History Department**
Assisted World History professors with administering exams, attendance, and grading. Facilitated classroom discussion.
- Sept. 2015-
Dec. 2015** **Graduate Student Intern
Auburn University Special Collections**
Developed transcription standards for Auburn University Special Collections. Transcribed over 300 pages of nineteenth-century letters from the Whitfield Family Papers.
- Sept. 2011-
Sept. 2014** **Saturday Museum Staff
Alabama Department of Archives and History**
Assisted visitors to the children's gallery with questions and activities, supervised volunteers, monitored the front reception desk, and managed the museum store.
- May 2012-
Aug. 2013** **Student Worker
Alabama Department of Archives and History**
Digitized over 3,000 items from eleven collections, including photographs, postcards, 35mm slides, glass plate negatives, and Civil War letters.
- Sept. 2009-
Aug. 2011** **Volunteer
Alabama Department of Archives and History**

TEACHING AND INSTRUCTION

Historic Textile Mills of Huntsville digital project workshop and guest lecture. HY 495/595, instructor Reagan Grimsley, Spring 2025.

Study abroad digital project workshop. HON 399 Honors Research in London, instructor Reagan Grimsley, Spring 2025.

Introduction to primary source research in ASCDI. ARS 355 Documentary Photography I, instructor Jose Betancourt, Spring 2025.

“Digitization at UAH Archives, Special Collections, and Digital Initiatives,” guest lecture. HY 495/595, instructor Reagan Grimsley, Spring 2025.

“So you want to start an institutional repository: What do you need to know?” Alabama Library Association Scholarly Communication Round Table webinar, with Amy Reese (UAB) and Allison Boswell (Jacksonville State University), Spring 2025.

Introduction to primary source research for 6th graders, guest lecture at Monte Sano Elementary School, Spring 2025.

“Huntsville Then and Now” digital project workshop. HON 101 Intro to Honors Research, instructor Reagan Grimsley, Fall 2024.

Hands-on primary source research sessions. HON 101 Intro to Honors Research, instructor Susan Friedman, Fall 2024.

Introduction to primary and secondary source research. HON 101 Intro to Honors Research, instructor Reagan Grimsley, Fall 2024.

Co-instructor, HON 399 Honors Research in London, with Reagan Grimsley, Spring 2024.

German-language highlights from Archives and Special Collections. WLC 409 Senior Seminar: Comparative Language and Culture, instructor Leslie Kaiura, Spring 2024.

Hands-on primary source research sessions. HON 101 Intro to Honors Research, instructor Susan Friedman, Fall 2023.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. HON 105 Honors English Seminar, instructor Alanna Frost, Fall 2023.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. HY 310 Introduction to Public History, instructor Brian Odom, Fall 2022.

Hands-on primary source research sessions. HON 101 Intro to Honors Research, instructor Susan Friedman, Fall 2022.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. HY 490/590 Research Seminar in History, instructor Andrei Gandila, Fall 2022.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. EH 440 Technical Communication at NASA, instructor Ryan Weber, Fall 2021.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. ARS 355 Documentary Photography I, instructor Jose Betancourt, Fall 2021.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. EH 105 Honors English Seminar, instructor Alanna Frost, Fall 2021.

Omeka and Neatline tutorial. HY 485/585 Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, instructor Molly Johnson, Fall 2019.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. HY 490 Research Seminar in History, instructor Stephen Waring, Spring 2019.

Introduction to Archives and Special Collections. HY 310 Introduction to Public History, instructor John Mohr, Fall 2018.

STUDENT SUPERVISION AND LEARNING

Kathy Spetman, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Bachelor of Science in Library Science practicum, Spring 2025.

Morgon Newquist, "Called to Care: Faith-Based AIDS Responses in 1980s/1990s Alabama." Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Charlie Gibbons, mentor. M. Louis Salmon Library - Archives and Special Collections, Summer 2024.

Rebekah Faris, "Culinary Bridges: Food, Identity, and Integration Among German Rocket Wives." Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Molly Johnson, mentor; Charlie Gibbons, adjunct mentor. UAH History Department, Summer 2024.

Merritt Fisk, "Merchants and Mill Workers: Harrison Brothers and Huntsville Commerce, 1897-1903." Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Drew Adan, mentor; Charlie Gibbons, adjunct mentor. M. Louis Salmon Library - Archives and Special Collections, Summer 2023.

Sean Berry, "Jewish Experience in Huntsville," Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Reagan Grimsley, mentor; Charlie Gibbons, adjunct mentor. M. Louis Salmon Library - Archives and Special Collections, Summer 2022.

Ericka Dudley, Clayton State University School of Graduate Studies, Master of Archival Studies internship, Summer 2022.

Phaedrus Taylor, UAH English Department, Technical Writing internship, Spring 2022.

Tia Lovelady, UAH English Department, Technical Writing internship, Fall 2021.

Tawny Hillis, UAH World Languages and Cultures Department, German internship, Fall 2021.

Jacob Kachelhofer, UAH History Department, Public History internship, Summer 2021.

Sarah Cauthen, UAH English Department internship, Summer 2021.

Sara Kaparos, "Mapping Marshall Notables," Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Reagan Grimsley, mentor; Charlie Gibbons, adjunct mentor. M. Louis Salmon Library - Archives and Special Collections, Summer 2020.

Emily Therrell, "Mount Paran Cemetery Digital History and Mapping Project," Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates. Christine Sears, mentor; Charlie Gibbons, adjunct mentor. UAH History Department, Summer 2020.

Amina Divoll, University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, Master of Library and Information Science internship, Fall 2018.

WRITING

Gibbons, Charlie. "Review: *Engagement in the Digital Era*." *Provenance* vol. 38, no. 2 (2022).

Gibbons, Charlie. "Hungry for History: Bringing Back Social Studies in Alabama." Article, *AASLH History News*, Winter 2018.

Gibbons, Charlie. "William Benjamin Craig." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, December 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Milford Wriarson Howard." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, November 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Albert Taylor Goodwyn." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, November 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Sibyl Murphree Pool." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, November 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Oscar Lee Gray." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, November 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Richard Henry Clarke." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, October 2015.

Gibbons, Charlie. "James Taylor Jones." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, October 2015.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Marion Military Institute." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, September 2015.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Henry W. Hilliard." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, August 2015.

Gibbons, Charlie. "George Washington Taylor." Article, Encyclopedia of Alabama, December 2014.

EXHIBITS

Gibbons, Charlie. *Gays and Friends: UAH's First LGBTQ Student Organization*. Exhibit open to the general public, M. Louis Salmon Library, 2022.

Adan, Drew, Charlie Gibbons, Reagan Grimsley, and William Morris. *Frances C. Roberts: Her Life and Legacy*. Traveling exhibit, University of Alabama in Huntsville Archives and Special Collections, 2021-2022.

Adan, Drew, Charlie Gibbons, and Reagan Grimsley. *To Land on the Moon: Huntsville and the Apollo Program*. Exhibit open to the general public, M. Louis Salmon Library, 2019.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Gibbons, Charlie and Reagan Grimsley. "Ready for Launch: Building an Institutional Repository from the Ground Up." Presentation given at Southern Miss Institutional Repository Conference, April 2022.

Adan, Drew, Charlie Gibbons, and Sara Kaparos. "Plotting in the Archives: Neatline and Digital Humanities Projects at UAH." Panel discussion, Society of Alabama Archivists Annual Meeting, October 2020.

Burwell, Dudley and Charlie Gibbons. "From Alabama to Algeria and Beyond: The World War II Photography of Edwin D. Burwell." Presentation given at Alabama Association of Historians Annual Meeting, February 2020.

Adan, Drew, Charlie Gibbons, and Reagan Grimsley. "Everything Is on the Web, Right? Implementing Digital Access to Collections Through Long-Term Planning Using ArchivesSpace and Omeka." Panel discussion, Society of Alabama Archivists Annual Meeting, October 2019.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Hungry for History: Engaging with Primary Sources in Alabama's K-12 Classrooms." Paper given at Society of Alabama Archivists Annual Meeting, October 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie and Graydon Rust. "Alabama 200 Commemoration Plans and Initiatives." Presentation given at the AlabamaMosaic/Alabama Digital Preservation Network Annual User Meeting, July 2017.

Gibbons, Charlie. "Fighting for Marengo Democracy: The Political Life of Charles H. Miller, 1884-1917." Paper given at Alabama Historical Association Annual Meeting, April 2016.

Boersma, Emily, Amy Christiansen, and Charlie Gibbons. "Beyond the Box: Interpreting Archives and Museums in Public Forums." Panel discussion, Tennessee Association of Museums Joint Conference, March 2016.

Gibbons, Charlie. "The Economics of Power: Charles H. Miller in Marengo County, Alabama, 1870-1917." Paper given at Auburn University Phi Alpha Theta Graduate Colloquium, January 2016.

Campbell, Caroline, Charlie Gibbons, and Anna Traylor. "Where Practice Intersects Theory: Developing Student Skills via Hands-On History." Panel discussion at Society of Alabama Archivists Annual Meeting, October 2015.

Gibbons, Charlie. "'Everyone Needed Something': The C.H. Miller Store at Miller, Marengo County, 1901-1902." Paper given at Black Belt Symposium for History and Culture, April 2015.

GRANTS

"Burwell Family Collection Preservation." Funded by Doris Burwell Foundation (June 1, 2021) (\$5,000.00), Completed, Summer 2022. Charlie Gibbons, program coordinator, with Reagan Grimsley, grant personnel.

"The Life and Legacy of Dr. Frances Roberts." Funded by Alabama Humanities Alliance (January 1, 2020 - December 15, 2021) (\$2,275.00), Completed, Fall 2021. Reagan Grimsley, program coordinator, with Drew Adan, Charlie Gibbons, and Stephen Waring, grant personnel.

"Shooting for the Moon: Digitizing Audiovisual Materials Related to the Apollo Program." Funded by Council on Library and Information Resources (April 30, 2019 - April 30, 2020), awarded April 15, 2019 (\$18,775.00), Completed, Spring 2020. Drew Adan, principal investigator; with Reagan Grimsley and Charlie Gibbons, grant personnel.

"Public Engagement with Historical Records." Funded by National Historical Publications and Records Commission (June 1, 2017), awarded May 1, 2017 (\$148,950.00), Completed, Spring 2019. Steve Murray, Susan DuBose, and Karen Porter, co-PIs; with Charlie Gibbons, grant personnel.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Service to the University

Faculty Senator, Spring 2025-present

Member, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate, Spring 2025-present

Member, Governance and Senate Operations Committee, Faculty Senate, Spring 2025

Library Director review committee, Spring 2024

Secretary, GSM Alliance, 2023-2024

Proxy member, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate, 2021-2024

Service to the Department

German Club night in Archives and Special Collections, Spring 2025

Black History Month block party, Spring 2024

“Dead Technology” Halloween outreach event, Fall 2023

UAH Career Services part-time job fair, Fall 2023

Black History Month block party, Spring 2023

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences internship and career fair, Spring 2023

German Club night in Archives and Special Collections, Fall 2022

Diversity and Inclusion Student Alliance UAH Pride kickoff event, Fall 2022

German Club night in Archives and Special Collections, Fall 2021

UAH Retirees Association photo identification project, 2021-present

Service to the Profession

Treasurer, Alabama Digital Preservation Network, 2022-2025

Member, Alabama Digital Preservation Network Steering Committee, 2018-present

Listserv Manager, Society of Alabama Archivists, 2018-2020

Vice President, Kappa Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, 2015-2016

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Student Research Fellowship, Friends of the Alabama Archives, 2015

Graduate Tuition Fellowship, Auburn University Graduate School, 2014-2016

Caroline F. Kicklighter Award, Auburn University History Department, 2014

Malcolm C. McMillan Paper Award, Auburn University History Department, 2014

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries

Society of Alabama Archivists