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*Interpreting World Heritage Through Undergraduate Video Documentary: A Case Study*

This presentation—which could take the form of either a paper or a digital humanities project demonstration—will discuss my experience producing short videos about the Moravian Church Settlements–Bethlehem UNESCO World Heritage Site through an undergraduate video documentary course at Moravian University. In Spring 2026 my students and I will collaborate with Moravian University Archivist Cory Dieterly, who is creating a virtual tour of the God’s Acre Cemetery within the UNESCO World Heritage Site in downtown Bethlehem. Working in small groups, students will produce short documentaries interpreting historical and contemporary elements of God’s Acre as a supplement to Mr. Dieterly’s immersive virtual tour. The paper/project demonstration will describe the pedagogical opportunities and challenges of incorporating world heritage frameworks into an undergraduate public history curriculum. I will highlight the successes and shortcomings of my students and my own effort to document and interpret God’s Acre for non-academic audiences. The presentation will pose the following questions:

- How can world heritage interpretation support the desired learning outcomes of an undergraduate curriculum?
- How should collaborators structure a project so that it advances the goals of the world heritage site, the academic course, and external partner institutions?
- What are reasonable expectations for project outcomes when working with inexperienced students who bring a range of commitment, training, and ability?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of video as an interpretive medium?