TCU/IAM Assignment at Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University Library

Assignment: To locate and write about two resources from the collections of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Learning outcomes:
- Increase student knowledge of labor history
- Improve research skills both online and in a library setting
- Improve critical thinking, writing, and communication skills

Assignment, Part 1: Visit to the Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University Library
- Students will visit Georgia State University Library for an overview of the collections and online resources. (30-45 minutes, with time for questions after)

Assignment, Part 2: Using Archival Materials Online
- The student will use Georgia State University Library’s Digital Collections to find an article from the Machinists Monthly Journal and Machinists Newspaper for each of the following topics: diversity, strikes, negotiations, transportation. Print and attach relevant articles.
- Go to: http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/
  - Browse or search the IAMAW Publications portion of the Digital Collections website for articles related to the four topics above. Be creative with your search – use “trucking industry” instead of transportation or “Asian-Americans” instead of diversity.

Assignment, Part 3: Using Archival Materials in Person
- The student will use Georgia State University Library’s website for the IAM to identify an item of interest, will visit the Archives to review the document, and will write about the document. What is it? When was it created? Who created it and why? What does it tell us about the IAM’s history? Why did the student choose it?
- To prepare, go to http://library.gsu.edu/iam
  - Under Manuscripts, choose an IAM collection and open its finding aid
    - Click link and when page loads, click “Open Finding Aid” button.
  - Peruse the finding aid for a document or folder of interest
  - At Archives, recall box with the folder you’ve chosen and review the contents
  - Take a photograph or ask that a photocopy be made. Photocopies are $.25/each.
- Turn in copies of your chosen document along with your assignment.

Remember:
- Special Collections and Archives is open to visitors Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM
- Visitors will have to sign in at Library North and leave an ID; Special Collections is on the 8th floor of Library South
- Make sure to set aside ample time to do your research, at least an hour and a half.

Edited October 15, 2012