

University of Alabama in Huntsville

LOUIS

Summer Community of Scholars (RCEU and
HCR) Project Proposals

Faculty Scholarship

1-1-2023

UAH Disc Golf History

Drew Adan

University of Alabama in Huntsville

Reagan Grimsley

University of Alabama in Huntsville

Follow this and additional works at: <https://louis.uah.edu/rceu-proposals>

Recommended Citation

Adan, Drew and Grimsley, Reagan, "UAH Disc Golf History" (2023). *Summer Community of Scholars (RCEU and HCR) Project Proposals*. 400.

<https://louis.uah.edu/rceu-proposals/400>

This Proposal is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Scholarship at LOUIS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Summer Community of Scholars (RCEU and HCR) Project Proposals by an authorized administrator of LOUIS.

RCEU 2023 Project Proposal

Project Title

UAH Disc Golf History

Faculty Information

Name: Drew Adan (Mentor) ; Reagan Grimsley (Adjunct Mentor)

Status: Faculty

Department/Program: Library/ Department of Archives and Special Collections

College: Library

Phone: 256-824-6526

UAH Email: drew.adan@uah.edu

Proposal ID RCEU23-LIB-DA-01_____

RCEU 2023 Project Proposal

I. Project Description

The UAH disc golf course is one of the oldest in the world, turning 45 this year. Designed while the sport was in its infancy, the course grew to international renown because of its challenging pin placement. It hosted the 1983 and 1993 Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) Championships, as well as other prestigious tournaments in the emerging sport.

The UAH Department of Archives and Special Collections proposes an RCEU project to document the history and culture of the UAH disc golf course and its influence on the sport. Through archival research and oral history interviews, the student will create a pop-up and digital exhibit to showcase the findings of their research. In addition to the exhibit, the student will also create a Clio walking tour of the course that incorporates both current and historic photographs.

II. Student Duties, Contributions, and Outcomes

a. *Specific Student Duties*

The student will have an assigned workspace in the UAH Archives and Special Collections Digital Initiatives Lab for the duration of the project. Archives and Special Collections is open 9 to 4 Monday through Friday, during which time the student will work on historical research, content selection or digitization, oral history interviews, and exhibit or Clio tour development. The project may also involve travel to regional archival repositories that house materials related to local disc golf history, as well as site visits to take photographs or establish coordinates for geolocative features of the exhibit or tour. Exhibit content will be stored on the Archives and Special Collections server and the student will work with the Systems Librarian and Digital Archivist to make sure the exhibit adheres to OIT policies and best practices for digital content curation and storage. The student will design the exhibit for a broad target audience. Upon completion, the student will work with faculty mentors to advertise the exhibit and tour both on campus and in the community.

b. *Tangible Contributions by the Student to the Project* (10% of Review)

The student will be responsible for creating a clear historical narrative for the history of the UAH disc golf scene and locating appropriate primary and secondary sources to tell that story. The narrative should incorporate research and content from a wide variety of sources both contemporary and historical. The student will bring together disparate scholarship and resources on the topic of local disc golf history into an exhibit and Clio tour freely available to faculty, staff, students, and the public.

c. *Specific Outcomes Provided by the Project to the Student* (30% of Review)

RCEU 2023 Project Proposal

The student will be learning and practicing historical research, metadata analysis, digital humanities best practices, and exhibit curation. The mentors will help the student find appropriate outlets to share the research, exhibit, and tour with the public in addition to creating the RCEU poster. Students may be co-authors of journal articles based on this project. The student will keep a project development journal, which will provide the basis of their research poster and any future presentations or publications. This journal will also assist in the future maintenance the tour and any future research on the topic. That is, the student will experience project development from start to finish. To do this, the student will learn and apply skills in organization, analysis, research, and the creation of project deliverables.

III. Student Selection Criteria

Any academic rank from freshman to senior. History and English are preferred, especially those with public history, technical writing, data science concentrations. Related disciplines will be considered based on the skills and qualifications of the student candidate.

IV. Project Mentorship

(30% of Review)

The selected student will work closely with faculty mentors to research UAH disc golf history, select relevant materials from the UAH Archives and other archival repositories, and conduct oral history interviews according to local and professional standards. At the beginning of the summer, Archivist Drew Adan and Head of Archives and Special Collections Reagan Grimsley will provide guidance and readings to familiarize the student with the discipline of public history. The team will also analyze other successful projects and initiatives to inform project development. The student will have access to at least one of the faculty mentors daily during the ten-week period. A weekly team meeting will be held to report on progress, provide feedback, and to allow time for open discussion. Mentors will also discuss possible tangible outcomes with the student such as future poster presentations, conference presentations, publications, or outreach to publicize the application.