JSTOR
Open Community Collections
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The problem(s)

**Difficult to discover:** seldomly in the places where research starts

**Out of context:** unconnected to the secondary literature (journals, books)

**Expensive to maintain:** ongoing investment required to keep relevant for evolving research and teaching needs (e.g. text and data mining)

**Long-term preservation:** not a priority
Why JSTOR

Successful track record of unlocking the value of underutilized content

Building primary source collections for close to 15 years in close partnership with libraries and museums around the world
Why JSTOR

**JSTOR is a starting place for research**, particularly in humanities and social sciences

**Integrated and cross-searchable** with the wide array of journals, books, primary sources, and images

Active corpus management, and **continued reinvestment in the content**

JSTOR’s mission is to ensure the **long-term preservation** of the content on its platform
Open Community Collections on JSTOR

Collaborating with libraries to make JSTOR “your platform”

not just a place that hosts licensed content, but a place that integrates with the library’s digitized special collections
Collection guidelines

- Text and image content only at this stage
- Institution-cleared permissions to provide access globally
- Harvest/migrate/export metadata AND content (CONTENTdm, DSpace, Islandora, Internet Archive)
- MOU for participants
Where are we?

- **270+ collections from 70+ institutions** & growing daily
- Indexed in Google; syndicating to discovery services soon
- Meet accessibility mandates via JSTOR platform
- Easy integration with course syllabi/LMS
- Delivering **impact evidence**
What’s next?

Key areas of evaluation

- Migration and harvesting
- Metadata enhancement and enrichment
- Discovery, accessibility, non-consumptive research
- Capturing and linking references
- Discovery, including Google
- Text and data mining
- Impact metrics, including inferring research vs. teaching use
- Preservation
Open Community Collections
Usage Snapshot

- 192 countries have accessed content
  - 4,500+ distinct institutions
  - 68% of all item requests come from outside US
  - Avg. number of countries reached per collection: 16

- ~181K item requests
  - Cumulative Citations: 20K

- Discovery
  - JSTOR (57%); Google (15%); Academic (3%)

Fleet Library at RISD: Loeb Symmetry Portfolio, Loeb Silk-screen print
Charter Member Survey, September 2020

Initial contributors highly satisfied

95% extremely or slightly satisfied with the process and outcomes

89% extremely or somewhat likely to recommend sharing institutional collections on JSTOR to peers or colleagues

97% strongly or somewhat agree that JSTOR makes it easy to make their collection available on JSTOR

84% extremely or somewhat likely to add other collections
Thank you

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