

# NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Office of the Dean  
1918 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, Illinois 60208-4020  
Telephone (847) 491-7561  
Fax (847) 491-4289

Dear Doctoral Students in the Humanities:

We are looking forward to your participation in this year's Humanities Computing/ Introduction to Electronic Resources training day, scheduled for September 24, 2002. We anticipate that you will find this introductory program invaluable to your work as research scholars, and ask that you read through the information below, as well as the enclosed packet. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stacia Kozlowski ([staciak@northwestern.edu](mailto:staciak@northwestern.edu)) or Jeeyuhn Yoon Kang ([jyo806@northwestern.edu](mailto:jyo806@northwestern.edu)). Please return both the computing questionnaire and the class registration form no later than Monday, September 9. You may complete and send these forms electronically, by following the links in this URL: <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/collections/sept24/index.html>. You may also mail your forms to Stacia Kozlowski, Graduate Program Assistant, Department of English, University Hall 215, Evanston, IL 60208-2240.

The aim of the September 24 sessions is to ensure that entering doctoral students have a solid working overview of those electronic resources that are relevant to their research and are readily available, either generally via the web, or as proprietary databases which are restricted to members of the Northwestern community. While sessions such as the ones being offered on September 24 cannot come close to being exhaustive, they can be an extremely useful beginning.

All participants will attend a two-hour morning training session on EndNote, a bibliographic software product that humanities scholars are discovering is a powerful tool not only for locating and organizing bibliographic information, but also for managing research databases containing abstracts, text excerpts, and reading notes. So that we may structure these sessions to match the level of computer expertise of the group, we ask that you complete the brief questionnaire enclosed, and return it along with the other necessary papers in this packet.

The afternoon of the 24th will be devoted to subject-specific sessions. Eleven afternoon sessions have been developed, based on the disciplinary interests of the participants, who represent an array of subject areas/departments; these sessions are described on the attached form. We ask that you use the form to select and rank your top four choices of afternoon sessions from the list of eleven. We anticipate actually offering the top eight choices, with each student taking a total of two afternoon classes. The intention, you will see from the list, is to offer cross-disciplinary training with a focus on resources which are not easy to master -- for example, one session will focus on the uses of the *Early English Books Online* (EEBO) database, while another emphasizes electronic resources for the study of urban environments. The ultimate aim is to offer sessions that span the topical and disciplinary interests of the incoming students. With the exception of a special session on Slavic resources, we are not offering any general library reference training on September 24, although we will alert you to other such opportunities.



The schedule of the day's events, and the questionnaire and session selection forms, are included in this mailing. We will determine the time slots for individual sessions once we have identified the eight which will actually be offered. Note that the last set of sessions will end at 3:30. Although we know that some students will need to leave by 3:00, we do hope that the majority can stay for the entire day.

We look forward to seeing you on September 24.

Sincerely,

John Bushnell

Associate Dean  
Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences

Ruth Reingold

Director, Computing Technology  
Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences