

Project Year

2003

Project Team

Faculty: Tobie Meyer-Fong, History Department, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Fellows: Hwei-Shuan Feng, History Department, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences; Gang Zhao, History Department, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Project Title

China: Neolithic to Song

Audience

Students enrolled in the *China: Neolithic to Song* course

Pedagogical Issue

This survey course, covering Chinese history from the Neolithic period through the Song dynasty, emphasizes the use of material cultural evidence as a source for historical knowledge. After completing this course, students should be able to identify archaeological objects and place them in both chronological and spatial context. When this course was offered previously, in spite of an effort to digitize visual materials for in-class use, the instructor was concerned that the students lacked access to visual materials outside of class. Students recommended that the instructor create a web-based image gallery so they could study the visual materials more closely outside the classroom.

Solution

Through a web-based, searchable image database, the completed project will provide 24-hour access to images presented in class as well as to additional objects. Access will be provided through a WebCT course shell. In addition to this image database, the course website will also include course materials, such as a syllabus, readings, an illustrated glossary of terms, interactive quizzes, a timeline of events, research resources, and a real-time discussion forum monitored by the TA to supplement regular classroom discussion sections. The website can serve as a pilot for future projects in both History and East Asian Studies.

Technologies Used

Courseware (WebCT development), HTML/Web Design, Madison Digital Image Database, Dreamweaver