

# Scope Document

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## Civil Rights Digital Library Portal

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<b>Goals &amp; Objective:</b> Create a seamless virtual library on the Civil Rights Movement, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Union searching of related digital collections on a national scale</li><li>• Browsing of collections by topic, institution, media type, and other criteria</li><li>• Integrates learning objects (interactive timeline, map, essays, activities, etc.) produced by the Franklin College and the New Georgia Encyclopedia</li></ul>	

### **Background/Narrative:**

#### Rationale

- 1) Leverage and add value to existing digital library projects by connecting them via a Web portal.
- 2) Promote an enhanced understanding of the history of one of the most significant movements in the evolution of American democracy.
- 3) Provide a model of multi-state cooperation in delivering educational content via the Internet.

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## Background/Narrative (cont.):

### Scope Summary

The Civil Rights Digital Library Portal will provide a seamless virtual library on the Civil Rights Movement by aggregating and presenting metadata describing digital collections on a national scale. Resources digitized with IMLS funding will receive first priority. A listing of confirmed and potential content partners is provided in the Appendices to the grant proposal.

### Metadata Aggregation

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) will employ multiple means to acquire metadata for the union catalog, depending on the technical capabilities of content partners and the current state of their metadata:

- 1) Harvesting via the Open Archive Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI PMH) for OAI-compliant collections
- 2) Bulk load of records in Comma-Separated Values (CSV) format
- 3) Input by repositories via Web forms in the META collection builder interface
- 4) Created by DLG staff in META collection builder interface

The DLG recognizes that it will need to create a substantial number of new metadata records for the project, and it has accounted for this labor and knowledge-intensive process by incorporating a Metadata Librarian and additional metadata services into the project budget.

### META System

The DLG will adapt the META database system as the mechanism for collecting, indexing, and presenting aggregated metadata. GALILEO programmers developed META in partnership with DLG in 2004 to serve as a union catalog of collections on Georgia history and culture. It serves as the database providing functionality for the reconceived and redesigned Digital Library of Georgia Web site, which premiers in 2005. The beta version is available at:

<http://purl.galileo.usg.edu/dlgbeta>. Subsequently, it will be available as the DLG site at:

<http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu>.

The META system provides for metadata at three levels: 1) repository, 2) collection, and 3) item. This multi-level description scheme insures structure and context for the metadata, and it supports the various kinds of functionality in the public interface. In addition to facilitating collection browsing by institution, the repository-level records promote the library, archive, museum, or other institution from which the digitized object is derived. It includes information on contacts, rights, mission, additional holdings, etc. that helps to generate and provide guidance on the use of cultural institutions. The Dublin Core based collection-level records accommodate various forms of browsing. In the DLG redesign, these include browsing by topic, time period,

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## Background/Narrative (cont.):

county, media type, and collections A-Z. The collection-level records also accept special instructions to facilitate specified behaviors, such as linking to pre-defined groups of items within a collection by a given criteria such as topic or geographic location. The Dublin Core based item-level records facilitate searching—including by advanced searching features--at the object level across the collections represented in the database.

The META system is designed to produce HTML versions of metadata records on a public Web server to allow access to the repository via Web search engines. OAI data provider capability currently is under construction, as is automated link checking to verify the accessibility of the content described.

## Portal Interface

The Civil Rights Digital Library Portal will provide the following features:

- Browsing collections by topic, institution, media type, and A-Z
- Keyword searching of item-level records
- Advanced searching of item-level records with searching by creator, title, subject, date, and keyword
- Advanced searching of item-level records with limiting by institution, collection, and date
- OAI compliance as a data provider
- Integration of learning objects produced by the project, such as interactive timeline, maps, multimedia presentations, lessons, activities, etc.
- Automated link checking
- Collection builder interface for content partners to add or edit metadata records

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**Deliverables:**

*< Tangible and intangible products, processes, results and services >*

- 1) Repository of aggregated metadata describing digital collections on the Civil Rights Movement
- 2) Interface providing features described in the "Portal Interface" section of the scope document narrative
- 3) Assessment and revision of portal through a process of stakeholder review

**Boundaries:**

*< Empowerment limits and project constraints >*

- 1) Limited to content on the Civil Rights Movement, with a focus on the period 1955-1968

**Cross-Project Dependencies:**

- 1) Digital video archive component
- 2) Learning objects component