Visual Workflow Diagram Translation Exercise

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Description

This is an exercise that asks students to take a visual diagram of a born-digital archiving workflow and translate the visual elements into text-based narrative, using a tabular description template. This lesson uses and adapts deliverables from the OSSArcFlow project (IMLS, 2017-2020).

Learning object type

Lesson plan/materials

Learning objectives

This learning object might be used in a lesson to satisfy the following learning objectives:

- Design a born-digital archiving workflow.
Exercise

1. Read p. 30-41 in the OSSArcFlow Guide to Documenting Born-Digital Archival Workflows
2. Select a workflow diagram from the OSSArcFlow Project (under “2. Born Digital Archiving Workflows”)
3. Translate the processes in the workflow diagram into a narrative by filling in the Tabular Description Template for Born-Digital Workflows

Discussion questions

1. How did you decide to fill in the Phases and Steps of the template?
2. What visual cues did you use to determine the Conditions?
3. What was the hardest part of the process of translating the visual diagram to the narrative description?
4. What are the benefits of using a visual workflow diagram vs. a narrative description of the workflow?
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The BitCuratorEdu project is a three-year effort (2018-2021) funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to study and advance the adoption of digital forensics tools and methods in libraries and archives through professional education efforts. This project is a partnership between Eduopia Institute and the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, along with the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) and several Masters-level programs in library and information science.