

## ACLCP Continuing Education Grant Report

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In the summer of 2023, with the assistance of an ACLCP Continuing Education Grant, I took an online course from Indiana University—LIS-S 604: Tools for Digital Preservation. This course introduced me to several common tools used for digital preservation, including:

- [Teracopy](#): This tool allows you to preserve file metadata when copying files from one location to another.
- [WinDirStat](#): A program that provides you with file inventories, including space used and file and folder counts.
- [Bagger](#): A fixity tool checker that allows you to create “bags” of files using the Library of Congress BagIt standard and assign checksum values to them. This allows you to verify if a file has been changed; if the file has changed, the checksum will not match, and an error will be shown.
- [DataAccessioner](#) and [DA Metadata Transformer](#): These tools work together to accession digital files, assign checksum values to them, determine files formats, and create inventories of digital materials.
- [Bulk Extractor](#): This program scans files for personal identifying information and alerts you if present.

Beyond tools specific to digital preservation, the course also showed the command line interface, Python, and GitHub can be used in digital preservation workflows to develop inventories, determine file formats, and create documentation.

The course was invaluable in helping me develop a practical understanding of how these tools work, and how they can be chained together to develop digital preservation workflows. I am currently using several of these tools as part of accessioning and appraising digital archival material in Musselman Library’s Special Collections and College Archives. Used in concert with our ArchivesSpace instance, we have brought in large amounts of material from offices on campus. While some technical knowledge certainly helps when working with digital preservation, many of the tools and workflows do not require a high level of technical expertise. While this course did not count towards my Certificate in Archival Management that I am currently working towards, it, alongside other courses I have taken in digital preservation and web archiving, are helping shape the future of digital archiving at Gettysburg College. I am thankful for the support of ACLCP and appreciate the organization’s ongoing support of academic librarians in Pennsylvania.