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Special Collections at the University of Arizona Libraries holds an extensive collection of reproduced Aztec Codices – screen fold books created by pre-contact and colonial Aztecs full of visual imagery regarding daily life and histories. Most of the originals were destroyed. The sweeping illustrations contained within the facsimiles are the basis for cultural study of the Aztec Empire. These reproductions are invaluable resources provided by the University of Arizona Libraries, the first of many which were integral in the research process of this project.

The purpose of this project is to contribute a historical and scientific argument for testing of the Aztec Calendar Stone and its plaster casts for blood or iron remnants. Positive tests would contribute evidence towards the proposition that this monolith functioned as a sacrificial stone. Cross-disciplinary research projects, connecting specifics between culture and material science, demonstrate the relevancy that ancient art has within the modern world. In taking on such an interdisciplinary project, an array of resources are crucial to fully explore external areas of research.

Access to databases consisting of academic journals is an indispensable service provided to students by the University of Arizona Libraries. Our team took full advantage of this resource, supporting arguments developed within our own fields of research in art history and museology through databases such as *JSTOR* and *ARTbibliographies Modern*. Our project also required extensive knowledge of areas regarding blood science, geology, and anthropology. We furthered these ideas generally outside of our area of specialization utilizing databases such as *AnthroSource*, *ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global*, and *Materials Research Database*. Availability of these resources was the groundwork for a project of this scope.

Ebooks and interlibrary loans were essential aspects of our research, as well. Aside from determining the fundamental characteristics of material science related to the project, another phase involved tracking and locating specimens which could hold up for theoretical testing. Published materials available within the University of Arizona Libraries, as well as from other institutions, proved exceptionally useful throughout this process. A newspaper article located in New Mexico was accessed via the interlibrary loan system, leading our team to the location of another sample for examination. Presently, we have located full size plaster replications of the Aztec Calendar Stone at the National Museums Scotland, the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, and the Musée du quai Branly.

At times, academic pursuits might seem too pedantic or conceptual. Tracing the cultural dissemination and display of plaster casts formed during the nineteenth century could be dismissed as superfluous. Aligning this project with the study of material sciences achieves greater significance. The University of Arizona Libraries have helped root our research within a tangible realm – one accessible to wider audiences. After attending one of the University of Arizona Libraries' paneled events back in October, *Getting Published: Unraveling the Journal Publishing Process*, we are more motivated than ever to share our research and contribute new perspectives to the field of Mesoamerican studies.