*Newspaper Database Analysis*

In this exercise you will be using the *Los Angeles Sentinel* and the *Los Angeles Times* databases to explore media coverage of the Watts uprising. The intention is to learn more about Watts and how a database can be used as digital humanities tool.

**Deliverables**:

* Notes that will help you thoroughly articulate your answers to the questions below.
* 3 articles in pdf form (see #4 below)

**Getting Started**:

* Open up two different browsers, e.g. Chrome and Safari. This will help prevent technical issues.
* In both browsers go to the [Library website](http://library.lmu.edu) and, in one browser, search for the *Los Angeles Times* database in the library catalog. Do the same for the *Los Angeles Sentinel* in the other browser. For more on accessing and using these databases visit [lmu.box.com/v/DatabaseHelp](https://lmu.box.com/v/DatabaseHelp))
* Conduct all searches (explained below) in both databases.

**Searches/Questions:**

**1.)** Terms used to describe the event:

***Search A***: “Watts Rebellion” (use quotation marks)

**Publication Date Range**: *August 8, 1965-December 31, 1993*

***Search B***: “Watts Uprising” (use quotation marks)

**Publication Date Range**: *August 8, 1965-December 31, 1993*

***Search C***: “Watts Revolt” (use quotation marks)

**Publication Date Range**: *August 8, 1965-December 31, 1993*

* For each search, identify the peek date range(s) (e.g. 1990-1993) of a terms’ use. Based on what you can discern from the articles, what is the historical context that helps explain the rise in the use of that term?

**2.)** Articles during and just after the uprising:

**Search**: *Watts Riot* (don’t use quotation marks)

**Publication** **Date** **Range**: *August 8, 1965-September 30, 1965*

**Document Type**: *Article*

* Look at the journalists/writers. Are there any notable figures? Is there anything you can find out about some of them in a Google search?
* Are there any consistent characteristics you can identify, e.g. aspects of tone, rhetoric, perspective, etc.?

**3.)** Front page articles:

**Search**: *Watts Riot* (don’t use quotation marks)

**Publication** **Date Range**: *August 8, 1965-August 31, 1966*

**Document Type**: *Front Page Article*

* In what months do the *Watts Riot* related articles appear on the front pages of the *LA Times* and the *LA Sentinel*? What is the general tone and/ or focus of these articles? Does this tell you anything about the media coverage of the Watts events?

**4.)** Identify 3 specific articles you would like to talk about in class. Be prepared to explain why you chose them and what significance they play in your understanding of the uprising.