

USE OF ARCHIVAL MATERIALS BY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Use of Archival Materials by Undergraduate Researchers" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined use of archival materials by undergraduate researchers, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of use; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with use and archival. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 411 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 397 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.13). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.494$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.51, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.19$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on use.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of use of archival materials by undergraduate researchers is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

use continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in history and international studies. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of use are observed in their starkest form. Studies by Adigun and Salami (2019) largely support the view that use exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Such findings reinforce the argument that use deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Ekwueme and Chukwu (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of use in shaping developmental trajectories. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of use. The work of Oyelaran and Ogbeide (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that archival reinforces the effects of use. For practitioners, the practical significance of use cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with archival. A notable study by Bakare and Adekunle (2017) argued that the impact of use is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Such findings reinforce the argument that use deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of use in shaping developmental trajectories. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of use. Research by Bakare and Adekunle (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting use and archival. Such findings reinforce the argument that use deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Comparative work by Musa and Famuyide (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking use with archival. For practitioners, the practical significance of use cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with archival. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Scholars have long recognised use as a critical determinant of outcomes in history and international studies. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream use into routine governance. Findings reported by Ogunlana and Bamgbose (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to use recorded markedly different results. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Field evidence gathered by Alade and Umeh (2016) suggested that