GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB

An innovative platform accessible to the entire academic community regardless of skill level, *Gale Digital Scholar Lab* allows the application of sophisticated digital humanities research methods to Gale's digitized collections of market leading primary sources, encouraging new and exciting scholarly discoveries. The *Lab* team is continually working with end users and advisors to evolve and enhance the platform user journey.

THE EVOLUTION OF *GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB* IS HERE
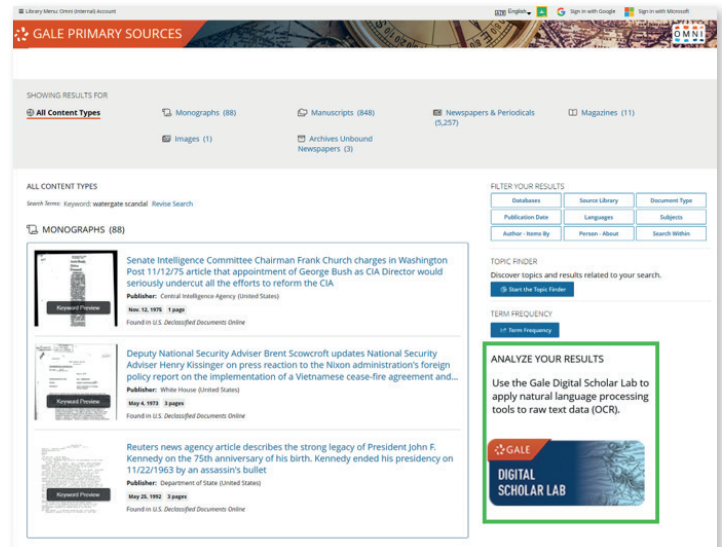
GREATER ALIGNMENT WITH *GALE PRIMARY SOURCES*

Gale Digital Scholar Lab's recent refresh more closely ties the product with the *Gale Primary Sources* platform and user experience. As a result, librarians, instructors, and students have a more seamless research, instruction, and learning experience across products that includes:

An updated search experience aligned with the *Gale Primary Sources platform.*

- An OCR Confidence Range filter that allows researchers to filter their results by OCR Confidence Score and quickly grasp the approximate accuracy of the OCR output.

- Increased alignment with WCAG 2.1 accessibility standards.

- Persistent links between the two platforms that will support iterative research (slated for Fall 2022).

Preview of the link between the Lab and Gale Primary Sources

WORKFLOW ENHANCEMENTS

Layouts for *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*'s core **Build**, **Clean**, and **Analyze** workflow were updated based on customer feedback, and a revised Analyze dashboard provides researchers with an at-a-glance view of their work.
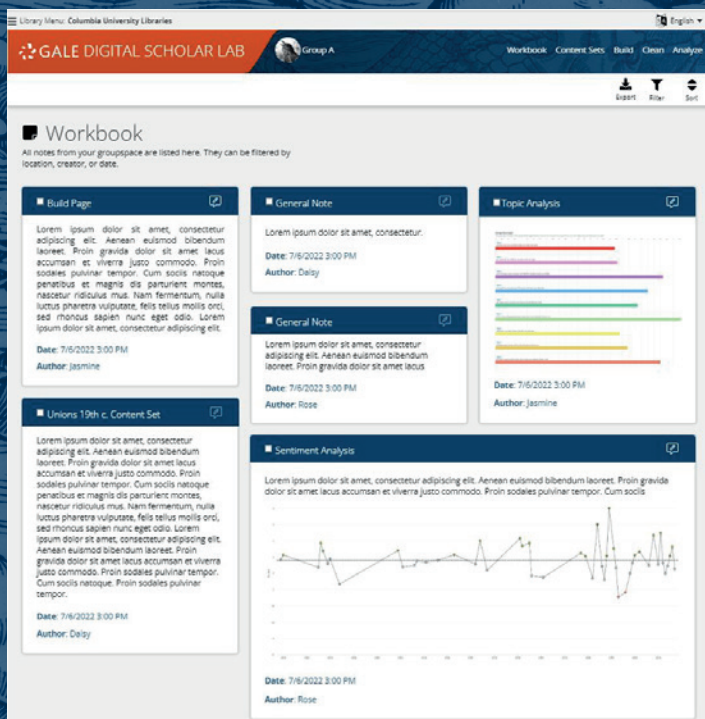
ANALYSIS TOOL ENHANCEMENTS

All tools in the product were redesigned to be more interactive and give users more control over updating and running analyses. A pane providing context, help links, and controls specific to each visualization minimizes scrolling and navigating away from analyses to find information. The design also facilitates moving from distant to close reading more easily—so that researchers can learn more about documents within the visualization through an inspect panel and then go directly to the desired document. New download formats provide flexible options for building on data analysis both inside and outside of the platform, and tabular data downloads increase accessibility for all product users. Clear status updates and a new auto-refresh feature help users manage their analyses.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT

A critical component of Gale Digital Scholar Lab since its launch in 2018 has been a Learning Center, which contains with multimedia help and curriculum materials, including sample text and data mining projects that promote digital literacy and learning outcomes for job readiness. Building on the success of this model, Learning Centers rolled out to 12 *Gale Primary Sources* archives in 2021. These Learning Centers are tailored to each unique archive and include key topics, sample searches, case studies, and contextual materials. They will become available for 20 additional products this year and are based on ACRL and Society of American Archivists Guidelines for Primary Source Literacy learning objectives.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP

The following key areas for future enhancements have been identified in close consultation with librarians and instructors at institutions that reflect the global users of *Gale Digital Scholar Lab* and *Gale Primary Sources*.

Collaboration workbook prototype

COLLABORATION

Product enhancements that facilitate classroom working group and research group collaboration. For example, a workbook (at left) where teams can keep track of project progress.

LOCAL COLLECTIONS

Product enhancements to the local collections upload feature.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES SKILLS

Product enhancements that expand digital skills development through

- Greater alignment between *Gale Primary Sources* and *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*.

- New, ready-made Learning Center data sets for instructional use.

- Exploring TDM and coding.