

Creating an FL-Islandora site for your institution

FLVC is implementing a common digital library platform, based Islandora software, for the State Universities and Colleges in Florida. This common digital library platform gives these institutions the ability to manage and present their digital assets on a shared system managed by FLVC.

Many institutions have been digitizing or collecting born digital assets such as photographs, newspapers, and books. Digital library platforms enable institutions to share their digital assets on websites such as PALMM, Florida Memory, Digital Library of the Caribbean, and Central Florida Memory.

As part of FLVC's implementation of Islandora (called FL-Islandora), each University and College will have its own Islandora site/website which will reflect that institution's branding and will contain materials owned by that institution.

Islandora is an open-source software framework designed to help institutions and organizations and their audiences collaboratively manage, and discover digital assets using a best-practices framework. Islandora was originally developed by the University of Prince Edward Island's Robertson Library, but is now implemented and contributed to by an ever-growing international community.

Your Islandora site will have the following characteristics:

- Your Islandora site will reside on a shared FLVC server, and FLVC System Administrators will support the site and perform all necessary hardware and software maintenance.
- FLVC Digital Services staff will work with you and train you to use Islandora software to create new collections, and to load and manage digital objects and staff users.
- Once your site goes public your digital assets will be discoverable by the public.

Types of materials currently supported in FL-Islandora:

- Single photographs or images (jpeg, png, gif, jp2 file formats)
- Single PDF files
- Audio files/recordings (mp3 and wav file formats)
- Sets of related files or images (text, images, audio, in any combination)
- Electronic Theses and Dissertations, including those restricted to on-campus viewing
- Multi-page books, which are viewable via a page-turning function
- Multi-media collections (text, images, audio)
- Newspapers

Functions and features currently available in FL-Islandora:

- The ability to implement an FL-Islandora website for an individual institution, with institution-specific branding of the site and its collections.
- The ability to batch-load objects, or load one-by-one via the user interface.

- The ability to restrict viewing of objects and collections by user role (“anonymous” users, and various levels of staff user)
- The ability to restrict viewing of objects based on user IP range, which is commonly used to restrict viewing of materials such as Electronic Theses and Dissertations to on-campus IP addresses.
- Full-text indexing

Implementing your institution’s Islandora site

The general process for implementing your institution’s Islandora site is as follows:

- FLVC creates your Islandora site and consults with you about basic theming and images for your site. Initially your Islandora site will be accessible only by select staff at your institution. There is no set deadline for you to make your site open and discoverable by the public.
- You’ll receive training in how to create collections and load digital objects to Islandora, and how to create descriptive metadata for your objects.
- You’ll be able to participate in an FL-Islandora listserv to share your questions and experiences with other FLVC Islandora (FL-Islandora) users.
- You’ll be able to collaborate with other FL-Islandora users to define additional features for FLVC to implement in the system.
- FLVC will support your questions and problems via the FLVC Help Desk.
- If your institution does not yet have any digital images FLVC can refer you to resources that will help you to get started with digitization.
- If your institution has digital assets that are currently stored on another system we can advise you about migrating those materials into the FL-Islandora system.