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The University of York is building a digital library to provide ingest, storage, discovery and access for multimedia content. The digital library has taken OAIS (reference model for an Open Archival Information System) as its high-level model and has selected Fedora as the underlying technical architecture.

The project is part-funded by JISC as "SAFIR". Further info: http://www.york.ac.uk/library/elibrary/digitallibrary.htm

**Introduction**

**Designated Community**

Who is this for?

A mix of University of York staff or students, external content providers and external consumers.

**Key considerations**

- What do our users want?
- Do these needs differ across different subject 'communities'?
- How do we manage usability issues for different levels of expertise and different user expectations?

**Information**

Content and metadata

What comes in, what gets stored and what flows out again?

**Key considerations**

- What types of content?
- How is it packaged?
- How are collections and aggregations managed?
- How are the relationships between objects captured?
- How is the content described (and discoverable)?
- How is it identified, persistently?

**Functions**

What does the digital library have to do?

**Key considerations**

- Ingest – get content and metadata in
- Access – get content out
- Data Management and Archival Storage – store and facilitate discovery
- Preservation Planning – plan for the future
- Administration – manage human and policy tasks within the system

**Interoperability and Integration**

With internal and external systems, such as the Yorkshare VLE, identity management systems, White Rose Research Online and external federated search services.

**Key considerations**

- What standards do we need to use?
- Do these systems have open APIs?
- What data can we share and re-use?

**FEDORA**

Flexible Extensible Digital Object Repository Architecture

The Fedora technical architecture can support the functions and information flow for York’s Digital Library. Its object model answers our key considerations.