EDTF CHEATSHEET

Commonly Used Dates

	Example Item	*Format*	*Example Date*
Year	Book with publication year	YYYY	1902
Month	Monthly journal issue	YYYY-MM	1893-05
Day	Letter	YYYY-MM-DD	1924-03-03
Time	Born-digital photo	YYYY-MM-DDTHH:MM:SS	2003-12-27T11:09:08
Interval	Compiled court documents	YYYY/YYYY*	1887/1889
Season	Seasonal magazine issue	YYYY-SS	1957-23
Decade	WWII poster	YYYu	194u
Approximate	Map "circa 1886"	YYYY~*	1886~

Some Complex Dates

Example Item	*Kind of Date*	*Format*	*Example Date*
Photo taken at some point during an event August 6-9, 1992	One of a Set	[YYYY..YYYY]*	[1992-08-06..1992-08-09]
Hand-carved object, "circa 1870s"	Extended Interval (L1)	YYYY~/YYYY~*	1870~/1879~
Envelope with a partially-legible postmark	Unspecified	"u" in place of digit(s)	18uu-08-1u
Map possibly created in 1607 or 1630	One of a Set, Uncertain	[YYYY, YYYY]*	[1607?, 1630?]

* "Year" is used as an example, but each date could have month or day precision as well

DATE NORMALIZATION

Basic Date Displays

Day: 1927-03-15   >>displays as>>   March 15, 1927

Season: 1956-21   >>displays as>>   Spring 1956

Complex Date Displays

Kind of Date	*EDTF Example*	*Some Possible Display Options*
Partial date (missing month)	1905-uu-03	_____ 3, 1905 ? 3, 1905 [month unknown] 3, 1905
Uncertain date	1938-06?	June 1938? Possibly June 1938 June 1938 (uncertain)
Interval with uncertain start or end	1864/unknown	1864 through Date Unknown 1864 through ? 1864 through [unknown]

EDTF ANALYSIS IN UNT DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Breakdown of Valid Dates

Kind of Dates	*# Dates*	*% of Valid Dates*
Year	58,232	14.9
Year and Month	25,892	6.6
Year, Month, and Day	290,670	74.4
Year, Month, Day, and Time	110	.3
Interval	2,154	.6
Level 0 Totals	**377,059**	**96.5**
Approximate/Uncertain	2,283	.6
Unspecified	94	.03
Extended Interval	207	.05
Season	188	.05
Level 1 Totals	**2,609**	**.7**
Partial Approximate	3	.0008
Partial Unspecified	7	.002
One of a Set	4	.001
Level 2 Totals	**14**	**.004**

LINKS

UNT Libraries Metadata Guidelines for Dates:
http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-projects-unit/date

Library of Congress Extended Date/Time Format (EDTF) 1.0:
http://www.loc.gov/standards/datetime/pre-submission.html

UNT EDTF Validator: http://digital2.library.unt.edu/edtf/