Maggie Jack
DLI Doctoral Fellow

Biography

I am a PhD Candidate in the Department of Information Science at Cornell University where I broadly research the creative use of digital tools in postcolonial and post-conflict settings. I have investigated the impacts of rapid digitization on precarious labor, informal markets, and international development organizations – often revealing issues of infrastructure, logistics, and platform politics in postcolonial settings. I also research culturally-specific norms of online privacy and global computing safety. My dissertation investigates the ways that contemporary Cambodian technology producers and media creators repair, collect, and disseminate historical media artifacts, often using digital tools. It links contemporary Internet infrastructures to earlier media forms (particularly radio and film), and is based on five years of research in Cambodia, including twenty months full-time from June 2017 to January 2019. I utilize my academic background in the history of science (BA Harvard College; MPhil University of Cambridge) and professional experiences in the technology industry and the international development sector to approach questions of global computing with multiple lenses. I have a minor PhD concentration in Anthropology and am a member of Cornell's Southeast Asia Program. I am thrilled to join the supportive group of scholars at the DLI who will help me push my ideas forward next year.