

Innovative Teaching Methods and Practices in Digital Humanities

DARIAH-EU VCC2 Workshop at DH 2014 Lausanne
July 7, Swiss Tech Convention Center, EPFL, Room 3B

The growing interest in Digital Humanities has resulted in an increasing number of individual courses, modules and even degrees covering a broad range of topics at the cross-section of humanities and ICT-based methods. Despite numerous efforts to formally train students and researchers in the wide-ranging field of Digital Humanities, "scholarship in this area has tended to focus on research methods, theories and results rather than critical pedagogy and the actual practice of teaching" (Hirsch 2012). The increasing recognition and institutionalization of digital humanities in academic departments seems to have been coupled with the traditional and highly problematic division of labor between research and teaching as two antagonistic activities, of which only the former significantly contributes to the advancement of academic careers, including tenure. For that reason one of the most important questions facing our field today remains whether we can — in both theoretical and practical terms — pursue not only new ways of thinking about the humanities, but also new ways of teaching and interacting with students as part of our core professional activity.

With this workshop, we hope to convene colleagues with an interest or actual experience in using innovative methodological approaches to teaching Digital Humanities to showcase precedent-setting developments, and encourage the participants - and, consequently, the DH community at large - to share their thoughts and ideas on how the development of a digital pedagogy for digital humanities should proceed. We would like to explore how DH processes and challenges that emerge out of building tools, developing projects and using computational methods to analyze data, influence ways in which to engage students and whether this engagement can, should and does in fact lead to epistemological turns and pedagogical transformations.

The workshop is part of the efforts of the European ESFRI initiative *Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities* (DARIAH) to promote and support the use of research data and ICT methods and technologies in the Humanities. The co-leaders of the DARIAH-EU task group *Training and Education* - Claire Clivaz, Walter Scholger and Toma Tasovac - will be your hosts.

A tangible outcome of the workshop will be the preparation of a report on *Digital Teaching Methods and Practices in DH* which will document the best-practice examples presented during the workshop, but also the issues - and, hopefully, solutions - raised during the discussions and participant-driven breakout sessions.

Further information and the abstracts of the selected showcases are available at:

<http://informationsmodellierung.uni-graz.at/de/aktuelles/dariah-workshop-dh-2014/>

Schedule

Morning Session: Showcases and best-practices for digital humanities pedagogy

In the morning session, several participants selected from a dedicated call for contributions will have the opportunity to present their ideas and/or actual teaching methods and materials.

9.00-9.30	Welcome and Introduction
9.30-10.30	Showcase Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:30-9:45 <i>Computer Science for Historians</i> - Francesco Beretta• 9:50-10:05 <i>Computational methods in the humanities</i> - David Birnbaum• 10:10-10:25 <i>Towards multimodal literacies: "eTalk", a new form to transmit knowledge</i> - Cyril Bornet, Claire Clivaz, Nicole Durisch Gauthier, Frédéric Kaplan
10.30-11.00	Coffee Break
11.00-12:05	Showcase Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10:45-11:00 <i>ClipNotes in the Classroom: Digital Film Annotation and Collaborative Learning</i> - Andrew de Waard• 11:05-11:20 <i>From Primary Data to Multiple Narratives: Open Source Tools for Cultural History</i> - Kostis Kornetis, Anna-Maria Sichani• 11:25-11:40 <i>The Teething Troubles of Teaching Digital Humanities: Sharing knowledge and mapping challenges</i> - Fernie Maas, Stef Scagliola, Els Stronks• 11:45-12:00 <i>Constructionism and the pedagogy of text analysis in the DH classroom</i> - Aris Xanthos

Afternoon Session: Challenges in DH pedagogy

The afternoon session will provide a forum to discuss the most prominent challenges and issues in (digital) teaching of DH. Drawing on the impressions and ideas presented during the Showcase Session, we will assess what the main challenges in DH are and agree on specific issues and topics for further discussions which will be taken to breakout sessions moderated by the workshop leaders. In addition to discussing solutions to common challenges, participants will also enter in a critical discussion of the necessary next steps in promoting DH through digital pedagogy.

1.00-1.30	Impulse Talk <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>DH Methods Training in an International Context</i> - Ray Siemens
1.30-1.45	Plenary Session (<i>agree on Breakout Sessions Topics</i>)
1.45-2.30	Breakout Session 1
2.30-2.45	Coffee Break
2.45-3.30	Breakout Session 2
3.30-5.00	Plenary Session and Best Contribution Award