Digital Humanities and Libraries: Partnership and Collaboration

Mini-Conference on Digital Humanities

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What’s Digital Humanities?

- Started in the 1940s as humanities computing - representation of human record
- Pioneer: Italian Priest, Roberto Busa, for linguistic and literary analysis
- Major text and digital archives in 1990s: Women Writers Project, the Rossetti Archive, and the William Blake Archive - text-encoding for literature
- “Humanities computing” changed to “digital humanities” in early 2000
- Office for Digital Humanities – U.S. federal agency established in 2008
- 2009 MLA convention in Philadelphia - "the first 'next big thing' in a long time
…digital humanities today is about a scholarship (and a pedagogy) that is publicly visible in ways to which we are generally unaccustomed, a scholarship and pedagogy that are bound up with infrastructure in ways that are deeper and more explicit than we are generally accustomed to, a scholarship and pedagogy that are collaborative and depend on networks of people and that live an active 24/7 life online.

—Kirschenbaum, Matthew (2010). What is Digital Humanities and what’s it doing In English Departments? University of Maryland.
“Why Digital Humanities?”

• Five areas where digital humanities aims beyond traditional academic scholarship:
  1. Provide wide access to cultural information
  2. Enable manipulation of data
  3. Transform scholarly communication
  4. Enhance teaching and learning
  5. Make a public impact

  Lisa Spiro: Director of National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE) Labs and Editor of the Digital Research Tools (DiRT) Wiki
Project Examples

- Civil War Washington
- Digital Renaissance Editions
- Driving Through Time: The Digital Blue Ridge Parkway
- Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives
- Invisible Australians
- Journalism's Voyage West
- Mapping Texts
- Mapping the Republic of Letters
- Mining the Dispatch
- Praxis Program
- Scholarly Editing
- Southern Spaces
- Visualizing Emancipation
- Walt Whitman Archive
- Women in Science

University of Alabama Libraries: http://www.lib.ua.edu/digitalhumanities/resources#projects
Tools/Standards: **DH Research Tools**

- [Circos](#) (circular visualization)
- [DH Syllabi](#) (collection of syllabi for digital humanities courses)
- [Digital Copyright Slider](#) (copyright)
- [Google Fusion Tables](#) (data visualization)
- [Google NGram Viewer](#) (text analysis)
- [Mallet](#) (topic modeling)
- [Many Eyes](#) (data visualization)
- [Neatline](#) (maps and timelines)
- [Omeka](#) (content management system for digital collections and exhibits)
- [Scripto](#) (crowdsourcing transcription)
- [Viewshare](#) (collection visualization)
- (cms for blogs and other websites; also has a free [.com](#) version)
- [Zotero](#) (bibliographic management; see [Paper Machines](#) for a text analysis add-on)
- . . . . . . .

- University of Alabama Libraries: [http://www.lib.ua.edu/digitalhumanities/resources#tools](http://www.lib.ua.edu/digitalhumanities/resources#tools)
Tools/Standards: DH Research Tools

- **Scripto** (crowdsourcing transcription)

http://scripto.org/

```
To whom it may concern,

The moment you have taken your determinations, what
will be the doubt, in case Charleston should be evacuated
indeed, we had almost better give any price, than think of
sading it from here. We have met with so many repriess to
delay that we have little hope of success, should it be again
attorned; however if the clothing cannot be had with your
must go from hence.
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September 30th, 1782
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November 3d, 1782.
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Neatline allows scholars, students, and curators to tell stories with maps and timelines. As a suite of add-on tools for Omeka, it opens new possibilities for hand-crafted, interactive spatial and temporal interpretation.
True Humanities

- Texts
- Maps
- Music
- Art
- Manuscripts
- Image
- Media
- Other data

louisdietvorst.wordpress.com
Examples: Dunhuang Cave Art 敦煌

- Dunhuang Mogao Caves or Mogao Grottoes; Caves of the Thousand Buddhas;
- Some of the finest examples of Buddhist art spanning a period of 1,000 years (from 4th – 14th century);
Rediscovery and preservation 保护方面，数字化技术的应用将是永久性无损保存敦煌石窟艺术信息的新手段，为敦煌石窟的保护和修复提供有效的参考资料，通过人工智能与图像处理技术可探讨古老的壁画衰退演变的过程以及重现原貌；
为了探索使用先进的信息技术保存古老的敦煌艺术，敦煌研究院与浙江大学合作从1998年1月到2002年4月的4年多的时间里就“多媒体、智能技术与艺术复原”项目联合攻关，取得了明显的研究成果…

- Quick and clear imaging
- Easy indexing and searching;

Dunhuang Cave Project  敦煌研究

- Promotion 弘扬方面，运用虚拟漫游技术制作的虚拟敦煌石窟 (Virtual Dunhuang Cave Project)，为游客欣赏敦煌艺术提供了在洞窟现 场难以看到的实景，还可应用人工智能 和图像处理技术 创作敦煌风格 的艺术作品和旅游纪念品，等等
Examples: Valley of the Shadow Project

- A digital history project hosted by the University of Virginia Library: [http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/](http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/)
Valley of the Shadow Project

"The Valley of the Shadow is ... more like a library than a single book. There is no "one" story in the Valley Project. Rather, what you'll find are thousands of letters and diaries, census and government records, newspapers and speeches, all of which record different aspects of daily life in these two counties at the time of the Civil War. As you explore the extensive archive and you'll find that you can flip through a Valley resident's Civil War diary, read what the county newspapers reported about the battle of Gettysburg, or even search the census records to see how much the average citizen owned in 1860 or 1870."

Valley of the Shadow Project

- Interact with organized data:

The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War

Using the Valley Project

Click here for resources on using the Valley Project

Virginia Center for Digital History

University of Virginia Library
Valley of the Shadow Project

- interactive

The animated map shows the theater-level movements of units from Augusta County, Virginia, and Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Each major battle they fought in is linked to a fact sheet which provides detailed information on that unit’s experience there. We have maps for the following units from Augusta County: 5th Virginia Infantry, 1st Virginia Cavalry, 14th Virginia Cavalry, Staunton Artillery; and Franklin County: 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry, 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry, 126th Pennsylvania, and 107th Pennsylvania.

View the Animated Theater Map and select one of the Augusta or Franklin County units from the Unit pulldown menu.

Note: Requires the free Macromedia Shockwave plug-in.
Role of Libraries in Digital Humanities

- Recreating
  - Data curation/information management

- Collecting
  - Digital collection development policy – scholarly information

- Managing
  - Emulation/migration – periodic transfer from one Hardware/software configuration to the other

- Disseminating
  - Democratizing dissemination of information
  - Role of IR

- Preserving
  - Evaluation of technological tools
  - Sustainable model

- Accessing
  - Enabling technology
  - Information equality
Partnership & Collaboration

- Rich tradition of faculty-library partnerships
  - Rossetti Archive at the University of Virginia
  - Walt Whitman Archive at the University of Nebraska
  - Women Writers Resource Project at Emory University
  - London Lives at the University of Sheffield
Supporting Digital Humanities

- Digital humanities job archive [http://jobs.lofhm.org/](http://jobs.lofhm.org/)
- Change of focus – digital humanities
  - From traditional to digital
    - The Praxis Network (7 universities): Brock University, Graduate Center, CUNY, Duke University, Hope College, University College London, Michigan State University, University of Virginia ([www.praxis-network.org](http://www.praxis-network.org))
      - Equip students with technical, creative, practical skills to apply information, communication, and computing technologies to the humanities – Uva
      - Provide alternative academic careers – MSU
      - Strengthen engagement at the institutional level – Hope
      - Develop a broad range of digital projects – public presence of its digital humanities
      - Equip students to work on challenges from humanities and computer science perspectives – UCL
      - Learn new digital scholarship, promise of own research for students – Duke
      - Combine theory and practice, create integrative digital media projects
Digital Humanities Centers

- 2011 ARL (Association of Research Libraries) Report on Digital Humanities
  - 126 members; half responded
  - 8 has digital humanities centers
  - Half provide ad hoc services/support

- 2012年11月 Nov. 2012
  - About 100 centers established worldwide
  - Half in United States (about 50)
  - Of those in US half (25) are in libraries

Digital Humanities Center at Duke University Libraries

- A digital humanities center is an entity where new media and technologies are used for humanities-based research, teaching, and intellectual engagement and experimentation.
- The goals of the center are to further humanities scholarship, create new forms of knowledge, and explore technology’s impact on humanities-based disciplines.
- Partnership: Scholar, Librarian, and IT Expert

- Duke University Libraries: [http://guides.library.duke.edu/digital_humanities](http://guides.library.duke.edu/digital_humanities)
A Digital Humanities Center (at Duke)…

• builds **digital collections** as scholarly or teaching resources; **creates tools** for authoring (i.e., creating multimedia products and applications with minimal technical knowledge or training)
• builds, analyzing humanities collections, **data, or research processes**; managing the research process;
• uses digital collections and analytical tools to **generate new intellectual products**;
• offers digital humanities **training** (in the form of workshops, courses, academic degree programs, postgraduate and faculty training, fellowships, and internships);
• offers **lectures, programs, conferences, or seminars** on digital humanities topics for general or academic audiences;
• has its own academic **appointments and staffing** (i.e., staff does not rely solely on faculty located in another academic department);
• provides collegial **support** for, and **collaboration** with, members of other academic departments within the DHC’s **home institution** (e.g., offers **free or fee-based** consultation services; enters into collaborative projects with other campus departments);
• provides collegial support for, and collaboration with, members of other academic departments, organizations, or projects **outside** the DHC's home institution (e.g., offers free or fee-based consultation to outside groups; enters into collaborative projects with external groups);
• conducts **research** in humanities and humanities computing (**digital scholarship**);
• creates a zone of **experimentation** and **innovation** for humanists;
• serves as an **information portal** for a particular humanities discipline;
• serves as a **repository** for humanities-based digital collections (e.g., Web sites, electronic text projects, QuickTime movie clips);
Role of Libraries

• Academic library efforts
  ◦ Digital Humanities Center, Columbia University
  ◦ Digital Humanities Commons, UCLA
  ◦ Digital Services Center, Rutgers-Newark
  ◦ Digital Humanities Center, University of Alabama

• Examples of DH librarian job responsibilities
  ◦ Yale University-Librarian for Digital Humanities Research
  https://collaborate.library.yale.edu/lhr-public/jobs/digitalhumanities.aspx
  ◦ Brown University-Digital Humanities Librarian
  http://library.brown.edu/cds/pages/job-posting-digital-humanities-librarian
  ◦ York University-Digital Humanities Librarian
  http://webapps.yorku.ca/academichiringviewer/viewposition.jsp?positionnumber=1186
Librarian for Digital Humanities Research
–Yale University

• Position Description Highlights

◦ serve as an advisor, advocate, and implementer for humanities
◦ have a deep interest in the artifacts of scholarship—such as books, manuscripts, or maps—and a commitment to a vibrant future for the humanities
◦ provide the vision and strategic leadership for incorporating current and future technologies into the research activities of the humanities community…
◦ a combination of strong academic background in the humanities with technical knowledge, curiosity about how technology is affecting research
◦ a keen interest in text mining and analysis, natural language processing, geospatial analysis, data visualization, and image analysis.
Digital Humanities Librarian
- Brown University

- Position Description Highlights
  - integration of digital resources and methodologies with traditional resources and approaches into the research, teaching, and learning missions
  - keep abreast of digital methodologies and to use such tools and skills in the solution of humanities research problems
  - advise teaching faculty on the creation of digital objects and providing technical support for use of analytical tools;
  - maintain a strong level of competence in scholarly communications issues such as new forms of publication, copyright, open access, repositories, data curation, and licensing of online resources
  - knowledge of available print and electronic resources to build appropriate collections
Digital Humanities Librarian
- York University

• Position Description Highlights

  ◦ A strong educational background in the humanities
  ◦ A solid understanding of the research process and the ways in which new technologies are affecting the production dissemination, and reception of texts in the humanities
  ◦ Demonstrated ability and interest in exploring and evaluating emerging technologies in support of digital humanities
  ◦ Broad knowledge of print and digital information resources relevant to the social sciences and humanities
  ◦ Expertise with current web technologies
  ◦ Evidence of leadership ability, professional initiative, and flexibility
  ◦ Excellent analytical, interpersonal, and communication skills
  ◦ Strong public service ethic and background.
The Digital Humanities Center (DHC; formerly the Electronic Text Service) in 305 Butler Library provides extensive services to support researchers in the humanities working with digital texts, still and moving images, and other materials. We are in the midst of a project to expand this facility to better meet the technology needs of our users, and welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Humanities & History Information
- Mission & Program of the DHC
- Music & Arts Library (Wiener)
- Subject Guides
- Butler Reference Staff

Technology & Facilities
- Scanning & Editing Texts & Images
- Digital Video Editing
- Citation & Notes Management
- Textual & Qualitative Analysis
- Personal Digital Archiving

Reference & Training
- Workshops & Training
- DHC Service Hours
- Butler ReferenceService Hours
- Send us e-mail
- Schedule consultation
- Ask a Librarian

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Support the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities
The Center for Digital Research in the Humanities (CDRH) advances interdisciplinary, collaborative research, and offers forums, workshops and research fellowships for faculty and students in the area of digital scholarship. This is a life-changing experience for students and faculty alike, leading to new ways of thinking about the humanities. Through the CDRH, faculty and students create research sites and tools that push our understanding of history, literatures, languages, and culture.

As a Program of Excellence at UNL, the Center has received funding from the university, but private support has also been critical to its success. Please consider supporting the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities.

Quick Facts
- CDRH is a joint program of the UNL Libraries and the College of Arts & Sciences
- In 2008, the CDRH published "Promotion & Tenure Criteria for Assessing Digital Research in the Humanities"
- CDRH joined centerNet, an international network of digital humanities centers, in 2007.
- CDRH was designated as a Center by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska in 2005.
- UNL has invested $3.9 million in Programs of Excellence funds for the Center from 2004-2015.
Partnership & Collaboration: Working Together Successfully

- Scholar expertise – knowledge in the field
- Librarian expertise – information management (data curation): preservation and access, etc.
- Role of libraries: support learning, teaching & research
- Provide a welcoming and supportive environment
- Facilities & space
Future Development

- Framing the library as a **productive** place, a **creative** place, producing and creating something – whether that be digital scholarly works or something else entirely – will open the door to allow the library into the life of the user.

- One role for the library in DH, then, is to **support the journey of research** as a means in itself, and encourage **imaginative, new, transformative** uses of the products of research.

  - Kirschenbaum, Matthew. (2010). What is Digital Humanities and what’s it doing in English Departments?
Thank You!

Questions?