



# The Cultural Work of the Digital Humanities

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# What is the Digital Humanities?

What is the Role of the Humanities at this Historical Conjunction?

The relationship between culture & technology

Forms of human being

Forms of human relationship

Modes of communication

Forms of expression

Knowledge creation

Knowledge dissemination

Practices & Infrastructures of Cultural Reproduction



## Interdisciplinarity as a Foundation

- To create new knowledge across the disciplines
- To identify the horizons of new research
- To engage multiple intelligences
- To create deep knowledge: to know something is to “know it” from multiple perspectives
- To be a leader among peers
- To create the institutional culture for the education of the next generation of scholars, scientists, engineers, humanists, teachers, artists, and global citizens



## An Ethical Framework For Cross-Disciplinary Collaborative Research

- Intellectual Generosity
- Intellectual Flexibility
- Intellectual Reliability
- Intellectual Humility
- Intellectual Confidence

# Computational Humanities

Early Precursors (1967-74)

Author Subject Index to Computers and the Humanities

Association for Computing and Humanities (1978)

[www.ach.org](http://www.ach.org)

Institute for Advanced Technologies in the Humanities (IATH, 1992)

[www.iath.virginia.edu](http://www.iath.virginia.edu)

Maryland Institute for Technology and Humanities (MITH, 1999)

[www.mith2.umd.edu/](http://www.mith2.umd.edu/)

Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations

[www.digitalhumanities.org/](http://www.digitalhumanities.org/)

Digital Humanities Quarterly

[www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/](http://www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/)



# Digital Humanities

## HASTAC

Humanities Arts Science Technology Advance Collabatory  
(founded 2002)

## Humanities Institutes through the US & Europe (1990s)

Stanford Humanities Lab

Umea Humanities Lab

Digital Studio for Public Humanities at U of Iowa

## US Gov National Endowment for the Humanities (2000s)

Office of Digital Humanities



## Emergent Genres of Digital Scholarship

- Animated archive
- Experiential argument
- Interactive documentary
- Spatialized essay
- Historical simulation
- Data visualizations
- Cultural analytics



## Some Examples