Digital Humanities and Open Science

Methods, Roles, Challenges

Liam O’Dwyer
Digital Humanities Librarian
Dublin City University
What is Digital Humanities?
What Is Digital Humanities?

The development of new digital methodologies that, combined with traditional humanities methodologies, expands the kinds of research that humanists can do in their own field and in interdisciplinary projects.

Kalani Craig

What Is Digital Humanities?

For me, DH is using technology to support humanistic inquiry.

Tara L. Andrews

What Is Digital Humanities?

For me, the Digital Humanities is more than just an area of study; it is a methodology, a means of approaching our work and our interests. While simultaneously embracing and questioning the technology that surrounds us, we also commit ourselves to a willingness to explore, create, play, and most importantly, collaborate.

Devin Hartley

What Is Digital Humanities?

DH is the digital study of cultural heritage, or the study of digital cultural heritage, or something in between. Or maybe something else entirely.

What Is Digital Humanities?

Digital Humanities involves the mining of sources, using new media tools, so we can interrogate the past with new questions.

James G. R. Cronin

What Is Digital Humanities?

To me, DH embodies research, teaching, and scholarship that is primarily focused on the intersection and relationship of the digital and the humanities.

Jacqueline Hettel
What is Digital Humanities?

The (critical) use of computational or digital methods for investigating and exploring the humanities
Dickens Locations

- The Pickwick Papers and Oliver Twist
- Nicholas Nickleby and Old Curiosity Store
- Barnaby Rudge
- Martin Chuzzlewit & Dombey and Son
- Christmas books and Great Expectations
- David Copperfield
- Bleak House

Hard Times
- Brentford
- Tooley Street
- St Giles in the Fields
- Mayfair (general)
  - ... 5 more

- Little Dorrit
- Our Mutual Friend & The Mystery of Edwin Drood

Locations include:
- Brentford
- Tooley Street
- St Giles in the Fields
- Mayfair (general)
Dickens Locations

- The Pickwick Papers and Oliver Twist
- Nicholas Nickleby and Old Curiosity Shop
- Barnaby Rudge
- Martin Chuzzlewit & Dombey and Son
- Christmas books and Great Expectations

David Copperfield

- St Paul's Cathedral
- The Blue Bull
- Blackheath
- London Bridge
- The Borough
- Blackfriars
- Windsor Terrace
- St Luke's Workhouse
- Strand
- Drury Lane
- Fleet Street
- Covent Garden Market
- The Adelphi
DH Project Types

- Text Analysis
- Data Visualisation
- Mapping / GIS
- Online Exhibit
- Multimedia Narrative
- Digital Edition
- Topic Modeling
- 3D Imaging
- Crowdsourcing
DH Project Model

Sources -> Processes -> Output
Lesson Index

Our lessons are organized by typical phases of the research process, as well as general topics. Use the buttons to filter lessons by category. If you can’t find a skill, technology, or tool you’re looking for, please let us know!

- ACQUIRE (10)
- TRANSFORM (30)
- ANALYZE (14)
- PRESENT (18)
- SUSTAIN (3)

- APIS (3)
- PYTHON (19)
- DATA MANAGEMENT (7)
- DATA MANIPULATION (18)
- DISTANT READING (10)
- SET UP (7)
- LINKED OPEN DATA (2)
- MAPPING (11)
- NETWORK ANALYSIS (5)
- WEB SCRAPING (6)
- DIGITAL PUBLISHING (8)
How Did They Make That?

- Methods, processes and tools central to DH
- Implications for outputs
- Relevance to Open Science
Digital Humanities and Open Science
“Open science is the movement to make scientific research, data and dissemination accessible to all levels of an inquiring society.”
Open Science

Commonly held to encompass:

- Open Source Software
- Open Data
- Open Access
- Open Notebooks
- Open Research Data
Digital Humanities and Open Science

- Challenges around Open Science & HSS
- Digital Humanities an easier match?
- Rethinking outputs
DH Project Model (again)
Digital Humanities and Libraries
WHAT IS DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND WHAT’S IT DOING IN THE LIBRARY?

tl;dr – Libraries and digital humanities have the same goals. Stop asking if the library has a role, or what it is, and start getting involved in digital projects that are already happening. Advocate for new expanded roles and responsibilities to be able to do this. Become producers/creators in collaboration with scholars rather than servants to them.
Digital Humanities and Libraries

- Library as collector, curator, creator
  - Researcher roles
- Library as collaborator, partner
- Library as space
- Content access routes
  - APIs
  - Collections as Data
  - Cultural Heritage Reuse Charter
The Digital Humanities & Digital Cultural Heritage Working Group is building a knowledge network within European libraries with an interest in digital humanities.

It operates as part of LIBER's Strategic Direction on Digital Skills & Services, which in turn is one of the key pillars of our 2018-2022 Strategy.

The Working Group's main activities are to identify and to share the library services for supporting digital humanities, and to establish key prerequisites in order to enable libraries and librarians for the related tasks. We are doing this by establishing teams, which are focused on various aspects of the knowledge network. The teams, and by establishing teams, which are focused on various aspects of the knowledge network. The teams, and their topics, are as follows:

- **Team 1** – Enhancement of skills in the field of digital humanities for librarians. Team Leader: Caleb Derven (University of Limerick, Eire).
- **Team 2** – Cooperation and relationship between libraries and research communities. Team leader: Liam O'Dwyer (Dublin City University, Eire).
- **Team 3** – Roles of libraries in digital humanities and awareness raising in academic libraries. Team leader: Kirsty Logstad (University of Edinburgh, Scotland).
- **Team 4** – Recommendations for identifying and establishing policies and profiles regarding digital humanities' portfolios. Team Leader: Tammy Verbake (KU Leuven, Belgium).
Publishing and Digital Humanities
Digital Humanities Journals

Archive Journal
Frontiers in Digital Humanities
DHQ Digital Humanities Quarterly
DSH Digital Scholarship in the Humanities
Digital Studies / Le champ numérique
Journal of Cultural Analytics
JDH Journal of Digital Humanities
Journal of the Text Encoding Initiative
Thresholds
Introducing Data Sets – A New Section
Andrew Piper / 10.12.17

We have launched a new section at CA focusing on the creation of data sets for the study of culture.

Building data sets takes a lot of work. In fact, it often takes the most amount of work. And it involves a great deal of critical choices. We want to reward that work and also make those decisions more transparent. By creating a peer-reviewed section that focuses on the creation of new data sets for public use, we want to start a conversation about data and the study of culture.

What are we looking for?

Any data set that you think is relevant to the study of culture is eligible for this section. An appropriate essay is one that addresses questions like: What questions does your data enable others to ask? What other kinds of data is your data in conversation with? What are the representational problems you faced when collecting your data -- what is your data representative of? How are you trying to address the under- or mis-representation of some aspect of culture or some cultural community? What steps did you take to prepare your data for computational analysis? What problems or concerns do you have about the biases encoded in your data? What in short are the limits of this data?
Transmedia Collage is a project that explores how a climate of structural violence has impacted the health and well-being of black and brown teens and the communities in which they live on Chicago’s South Side.
PUBLISHING DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

The nascent fields of digital humanities and computational social sciences have ballooned in recent years. Emergent technologies and scholars’ increasing fluency with these technologies are providing academics with new ways to visualize, analyze, and interpret data. Yet, there are no formal channels for publication or consistent peer review standards for digital projects. Our initiative, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, allows us to advance a publishing process that helps authors develop their concept (in both content and form) and reach their market effectively to confer the same level of academic credibility on digital projects as print books receive. For more information, see our blog, FAQ and proposal guidelines.

The Initiative

![A Digital Publishing Initiative](image)

Publications

- **Nicholas Bauch**, *Enchanting the Desert* (May 2016)
- **Samuel Liebhaber**, *When Melodies Gather* (Spring 2018)
- **Thomas S. Mullaney**, *The Chinese Deathscape* (Spring 2018)
- **Alisa Lebow**, *Farming Revolution* (Spring 2018)
- **Lincoln Mullen**, *America’s Public Bible* (Fall 2018)
- **Elaine Sullivan**, *Constructing the Sacred* (Fall 2018)
- **Daniel Rosenberg**, *Time Online* (Spring 2019)
Challenges / Opportunities
Challenges / Opportunities

- DH is experimental
  - Flexible approach
- DH is collaborative
  - Researcher as library, researcher as publisher
- New outputs – tools, methods, data
  - Standards, interoperability, reusability, openness
  - New publishing methods too
- New infrastructures
  - Post publication peer review
Thank you

@lib_liam
liam.odwyer@dcu.ie
Credits

- Presentation template by SlidesCarnival