English 7396
Special Topics: Introduction to Digital Humanities

Spring 2014 ~~Tuesdays 2:30-5:30~~ Cullen

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office hours: by appointment only

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the theory and practice of the digital humanities, with a particular focus on its relation to literature. Central to the digital humanities and to this course is the dialectic inquiry between using computational methods to analyze cultural artifacts and using humanities methods to analyze technological artifacts.

Although no programming or other technological expertise is expected prior to enrolling in the course, success in the course requires:
• a laptop you can use during class meetings (PC/Mac/Linux)
• a technological curiosity at both the theoretical and practical level
• a willingness to experiment with a variety of digital tools and methods

Course Requirements/Grading
▸ class participation (15%)
▸ 8 keyword posts (15%)
▸ 1000-word keyword essay (20%)
▸ weekly lab notebooks (25%)
▸ final project (25%)

Preparation for class includes: keeping up with the reading; writing down ideas and questions for discussion; completing the lab exercises; bringing laptop & necessary texts with you to class.

Participation includes: bringing key words, questions, and ideas to the table for discussion; working productively with colleagues during lab sessions; posting to forums.

Weekly assignments Written work will be submitted using turnitin.com via links within Blackboard. Lab notebooks are due by 11:00 am on Tuesdays; if you do not have the full write up completed, at least turn in your partial write up based on in-class work.

Core Principles

Be present. Take care of your personal errands before class, silence your cell phone, arrive and settle in to fully be present.

Focus. Review your notes on the reading. Think about what seems most important and interesting to you. What questions do you have about the material?

Connect. Listen to what others in the room are saying. Contribute your observations and ideas. Pay attention to what resonates with you -- in the text, in the lecture, or in the discussion.

Required Texts
✶N. Katherine Hayles, My Mother was a Computer (U Chicago, 2005)
*Jerome McGann, Radiant Textuality (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004)
*Franco Moretti, Graphs, Maps, Trees (Verso 2007)
*Matthew L. Jockers, Macroanalysis: Digital Methods and Literary History (University of Illinois Press, 2013)
*Stephen Ramsay, Reading Machines: Toward an Algorithmic Criticism (University of Illinois Press, 2011)
*additional readings online /BB

Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's work as your own. If you are discovered to have plagiarized in completing any course assignment, you will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Under Department and College policy, you may also fail the course.

Day	Before Class	In Class
1/14	Introduction / Defining the Digital Humanities Kathleen Fitzpatrick, The Humanities, Done Digitally. The Chronicle of Higher Education (8 May 2011). (http://chronicle.com/article/The-Humanities-Done-Digitally/127382/) Matthew G. Kirschenbaum, What is digital Humanities and What's It Doing in English Departments? ADE Bulletin 150 (2010):1–7. (http://mkirschenbaum.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/kirschenbaum_ade150.pdf) Todd Presner, Digital Humanities 2.0: A Report on Knowledge. Connexions (8 June 2010). (http://cnx.org/content/m34246/latest/)	Lab 1: word clouds
1/21	Digital Criticism Jockers chapters 1–4	Lab 2:Voyant
1/28	Text Analysis I Jockers chapters 6–7 Witmore "Text: A Massively Addressable Object" http://dhdebates.gc.cuny.edu/debates/text/28	Lab 3: Voyant, corpus tools
2/4	Text Analysis II Ramsay chapters 1, 5	Lab 4: Ngram viewer, Bookworm
2/11	Textual Deformation Ramsay chapter 3 McGann chapter 4	Lab 5: regular expressions
2/18	Topics Jockers chapter 8 additional reading TBA	Lab 6: in-browser topic modeling
2/25	Textual Editing I Price, "Edition, Project, Database, Archive, Thematic Research Collection: What's in a Name?" DHQ 3.3 (2009) (http://www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/vol/3/3/000053/000053.html) McGann chapters 2–3	Lab 7: exploring the archives
3/4	Textual Editing II Smith "Electronic Scholarly Editing" (www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/) Hayles chapter 4	Lab 8:XML/TEI
3/11	NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK	
3/18	Text Encoding McGann chapter 5	Lab 9:TEI
3/25	Maps Moretti chapters 1–3 Wilkens "Canons, Close Reading, and the Evolution of Method" http://dhdebates.gc.cuny.edu/debates/text/17	Lab 10: Google Earth

4/1	Networks reading TBA	Lab 11: Gephi/NodeXL
4/8	Code Hayles, chapter 1–2 additional reading TBA	project work
4/15	Bodies Hayles chapter 9 Ramsay chapter 4	project work
4/22	Project Presentations	n/a