DLA

the Digital Liberal Arts Initiative @ Middlebury College

Read on for news from the DLA about what we're up to this year and how we can help you.

December 2019

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Winter Events

Introduction to Text Mining Workshop

Have you heard the phrase "text mining" and wondered exactly what that means? Are you curious about how digital tools can help you analyze large amounts of text? Join Ryan Clement, Data Services Librarian, Leanne Galletly, User Experience and Digital Scholarship Librarian, and Sarah Payne, DLA Postdoctoral Fellow, for an introductory workshop on text mining. This two-hour workshop will introduce participants to the the text mining tool Voyant and provide further avenues for text analysis exploration. No prior experience with text mining is required. **Click here to RSVP.**

Date: January 17, 2020

Time: 9-11 AM

Location: Wilson Media Lab, Davis Family Library

Civic Science

Please join the DLA for a talk by Sara Wylie, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Health Science at Northeastern University. Wylie is the co-founder of the Public Laboratory for Open Technology and Science , a non-profit that develops open source, Do It Yourself tools for community based environmental analysis. She is also the co-founder of the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative, a collaboration of academics and non-profits working to track and respond to changes in U.S. federal environmental governance. Her book, *Fractivism: Corporate Bodies and Chemical Bonds* (Duke UP 2018), is an ethnographic study of the role science based NGOs played in the emergence of public concerns about the human and environmental health impacts of chemicals used in natural gas extraction, particularly hydraulic fracturing. She is developing new ways of studying and intervening in large-scale environmental health issues through a fusion of social scientific, scientific, and art/design practices.

Date: February 21, 2020

Time: 12:15-1:30 PM

Place: CTLR Lounge, Davis Family Library

Look for an email invitation to follow in early February with a link to RSVP for this catered lunch.

Leaks, Hacks, and Scandals: Arab Culture in the Digital Age

Discussing his recently published book, *Leaks, Hacks, and Scandals: Arab Culture in the Digital Age* (Princeton UP 2019), Tarek El-Ariss explores the way modes of confrontation, circulation, and writing shape contemporary knowledge production and critiques of power. Focusing on a new generation of activists and authors from the Arab world and beyond, El-Ariss connects Wikileaks to *The Arabian Nights*, Twitter to mystical revelation, cyberattacks to pre-Islamic tribal raids, and digital activism to the affective scene-making of Arab popular culture. Tarek El-Ariss is Professor and Chair of Middle Eastern Studies at Dartmouth College. His research interests include Arabic literature, culture, and art, modernity studies, and comparative literature and critical theory. He is also the author of *Trials of Arab Modernity: Literary Affects and the New Political* (Fordham, 2013) and editor of *The Arab Renaissance: A Bilingual Anthology of the Nahda* (MLA, 2018).

Date: February 24, 2020

Time: 4:30-6 PM

Place: Axinn Center 229

The DLA is pleased to co-sponsor this event, which is hosted by the IGS Program (Middle East Studies Track).

DLA Summer Institute

The DLA is excited to announce that our videographic criticism workshop, "Scholarship in Sound & Image," will be offered again this coming summer! During this two week workshop, led by Christian Keathley, Jason Mittell, and Catherine Grant, participants will learn how to conceive and produce film and media criticism via digital sound and moving images. The workshop will be held in Middlebury, VT from June 14 – 27, 2020. Tuition, which includes food, lodging, instruction, and access to campus resources, is $2,750. Participants should be scholars working in film and media studies or a related field – the workshop is appropriate for faculty, graduate students, or academic professionals.

Click here for more info

Deadline for Applications: February 1, 2020

Apply for Funding

Want to attend a digital scholarship conference or hire a student research asisstant to work on a digital project? We've got funds for that. **Our next funding deadline is January 15.** Subsequent

applications will be due by March 15 and May 15. Click here for more information on the types of funding we provide. Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with DLA Postdoctoral Fellow, Sarah Payne, prior to submitting applications.

Apply here by January 15

Project Highlight
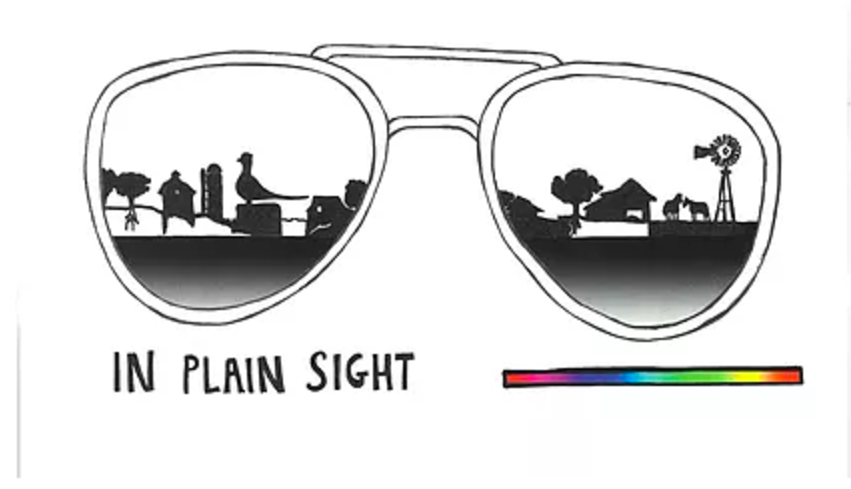
In Plain Sight Documentary

According to Carly Thomsen, Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies, there is a common sentiment that rural locations are conservative, backwards, and decidedly inhospitable to LGBTQ individuals. However, Thomsen aims to challenge this misconception with her documentary, *In Plain Sight*. The film follows LGBTQ women in the rural midwest who actually want to stay where they are; they're happy and supported in their rural communities. As the project website notes, "the film asks how we have come to imagine what life is like for LGBTQ people in rural places--and provides an opportunity to imagine it otherwise." With support from the DLA, Thomsen was able to complete the film and has screened it at Out on Film: Atlanta's LGBTQ Film Festival, St. Cloud State University, and Middlebury College. Of the Middlebury screening, Thomsen notes: "I was especially delighted to see so many students, colleagues, and friends [...] I couldn't believe that nearly a hundred people were in the audience!" Future plans for the project include finding a distributor, applying to other film festivals, and working on her book, which is related to the film. **Click here to watch a preview of the film!**

Featured Resource

"What is a Feminist Lab?" Symposium Videos

In April 2019, the University of Colorado Boulder held a two-day symposium entitled, "What is a Feminist Lab?" As stated on the event's website, the symposium examined "the recent proliferation of labs, surveying the lab landscape and exploring ways in which intersectional feminist approaches can be integrated into labs and the work they do." The event featured a range of interdisciplinary feminist scholars such as Tara McPherson, Jacqueline Wernimont, and Marisa Parham, among others. The organizers recently made the recordings of the talks available online. Each video is about an hour long and features two speakers. Talks include Elizabeth Losh's discussion of the Equality Lab at William & Mary and Ashley Baccus-Clark's discussion of her work at the Hyphen-Labs. Check them out to learn how we can make lab spaces more intersectional and inclusive!

External Opportunities

Legal Literacies for Text Data Mining Institute

We want to empower digital humanities researchers and professionals to be able to confidently navigate law, policy, ethics, and risk within digital humanities text data mining projects — so that they can more easily engage in this type of research and contribute to the advancement of knowledge. The Institute supports 32 participants — 16 digital humanities researchers and 16 digital humanities professionals. Digital humanities professionals are people like librarians, consultants, and other institutional staff who aid researchers in their text data mining research. Building LLTDM will be hosted at UC Berkeley from June 23-26, 2020.

Click here for more info

Deadline for applications: December 20, 2019

CFP: US Latino Digital Humanities

The University of Houston US Latino Digital Humanities (USLDH) program is a digital scholarship/research undertaking to provide training and research on US Latino recovered materials. The Grants-in-Aid program is designed to provide a stipend to scholars for research and development of digital scholarship in the form of a digital publication and/or a digital project. The grant covers any expense connected with research that will advance a project to the next stage or to a successful conclusion. Scholars at different stages of their careers (Academics, librarians, advanced graduate students, independent scholars, etc.) are encouraged to apply for a stipend of up to $7,500 for investigative work. Grantees are expected to budget for a 2-day trip to Houston for in-person training at Recovery.

Click here for more info

Deadline for applications: December 20, 2019

Programming4Humanists

Programming4Humanists provides courses designed to introduce participants to methodologies, coding, and programming languages associated with the Digital Humanities. We focus on creation, editing, and searchability of digital archives, but also introduce students to data mining and statistical analysis. The Spring 2020 Programming for Humanists (P4H) course will be two separate 8 week courses. Part I – Digital Editions, Start to Finish begins January 17, 2020 through March 6, 2020 and Part II – Python for DH Crash Course begins March 20, 2020 through May 6, 2020. Those who should attend include faculty, staff, librarians, undergraduates, and graduate students, and anyone interested in acquiring skills for work in digital humanities and cultural analytics.

Click here for more info

Registration for Part I opens on January 3, 2020

Registration for Part II opens on March 2, 2020

Recounting Algorithms: A Workshop on Critical Algorithm Studies in the Library

How can libraries and archives best contribute to emerging critical discourses around algorithms, machine learning, and artificial intelligence? Recounting Algorithms is a two-day workshop, supported by the Council on Library and Information Resources and hosted by the University of Toronto Mississauga Library, that aims to enrich the intersections of critical algorithm studies and academic librarianship. We invite proposals for pedagogical resources, creative projects, and library services that explore how libraries can support and build on investigations of algorithmic systems (including, machine learning and AI) and their enabling social conditions. While proposals should be oriented toward the library as a context for sustaining and supporting instruction and critical inquiry, we encourage submissions from non-librarians, particularly from educators, researchers, graduate students, artists, journalists and advocates.

Click here for more info

Deadline for proposals: January 17, 2020

If you have any questions about the DLA, please contact us at dla@middlebury.edu.

add contact information here