

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.

October 2019

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Fall Events

Digital Humanities at Work: A
Scholarly Example from the
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From Batavia to the Gold Coast: Mapping Textile Circulation in the Dutch Global Market



The Dutch East and West India Companies (VOC and WIC) were for a time the preeminent early modern circulators of luxury and wholesale goods for the European market. Textiles were one of the primary goods moving through these global networks, and could include luxury Chinese silks, Dutch linens, exotic hand-painted or printed handkerchiefs, and cheap woven cottons. While few early modern textiles remain, evidence of their importance as intercultural mediators persists in archives and published sources as well as through their re-presentation in paintings and prints. This talk, presented by Marsely Kehoe of Hope College (top) and Carrie Anderson of Middlebury College, will introduce an ongoing digital art history project,



From Batavia to the Gold Coast: Mapping Textile Circulation in the Dutch Global Market, which seeks to make connections between economic, social, and visual data through an open-access database, interactive map, and visual textile glossary. This event is free and open to the public.

Co-sponsored with the Department of History of Art & Architecture

Date: Wednesday, October 16

Time: 4:30-5:30 PM

Place: Mahaney Arts Center, Room 125

Data Science and the Digital Liberal Arts Academic Roundtable

Panelists: Sarah Laursen (Art History), Matt Lawrence (Sociology), Alex Lyford (Math), Jason Mittell (FMMC), Caitlin Myers (Economics), Amy Morsman (History), Phil Murphy (MIIS)

What is data science? What is the Digital Liberal Arts? How do they connect to each other? How are they different? How do they connect to the education envisioned by our new strategic plan? As Middlebury plots its future curricular course, we've identified a set of digitally-oriented initiatives that we believe will play an increasingly significant role in the future of liberal education both here and within higher education more broadly. As a way into this complicated topic, we want to hold an open conversation amongst our faculty who are already deeply engaged in these practices, as well as those who want to learn more about these developing areas. Our panelists will share their thoughts on these questions as a way to begin what we hope will be a campus-wide, year-long conversation. Lunch will be provided beginning at 12:15. This event is open to the public, but for catering purposes please RSVP [here](#) by October 24.

Date: Tuesday, October 29

Time: 12:15-1:30 PM

Place: CTLR Lounge, Davis Family Library



The Accidental Black Digital Humanist

The DLA is excited to welcome Daryle Williams, Associate Professor of History and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the University of Maryland. Williams is the Project Director of [Slave Biographies: The Atlantic Database Network](#) and the Co-Principal Investigator on [African-American History, Culture and Digital Humanities](#). This lunchtime talk will cover one historian's journey through a burgeoning academic subfield known as black digital humanities. Special focus will be placed on the structural, circumstantial, and accidental conditions that led a somewhat conventional text-bound humanist to embrace digital tools of inquiry, analysis, and knowledge production. The discussion will include both personal and programmatic reflections on the possibilities of black DH in our times of stress and disruption in the liberal arts. Lunch will be provided beginning at 12:15. This event is open to the public, but for catering purposes please RSVP [here](#) by October 25.

Date: Thursday, October 31

Time: 12:15-1:30 PM

Place: CTLR Lounge, Davis Family Library

Related Events

Our partners in the [Office of Digital Learning & Inquiry \(DLINQ\)](#) have created programming this fall to help deepen and broaden your awareness of issues related to student accessibility and attention as well as your own digital privacy. Click [here](#) to check out their offerings.

Apply for Funding

Want to attend a digital scholarship conference or hire a student research assistant to work on a digital project? We've got funds for that. **Our first funding application deadline is November 15.** Subsequent applications will be due by January 15, 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 November 15

Featured Resource

Low-Tech Approaches to Digital Research

Are you interested in integrating digital tools into your classroom, but facing barriers regarding time, course content, and technical expertise? This slideshow, produced by Jentery Sayers, provides multiple options for more low-tech assignments. Examples include making prototypes, wireframes, and rulebooks or manuals. The emphasis is less on technical mastery and more on teaching students various methodologies. For instance, making a manual encourages students to consider context and design as well as how "rules and procedures are enacted through steps." Included are sample assignments for each option. Sayers is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Victoria and the editor of *Making Things and Drawing Boundaries: Experiments in the Digital Humanities* (2017).

External Opportunities

CFP

Digital Humanities 2020

The Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO) invites submission of proposals for its annual conference, July 20-25, 2020 at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Canada. Submissions will be accepted in Algonquin, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish.

The theme of the 2020 conference is "Carrefours/Intersections," a place where roads or streets meet. We specifically invite proposals that relate to our sub-disciplinary conference interests: First Nations, Native American, and Indigenous Studies; public digital humanities; and the open data movement. We welcome all who identify themselves as working in the broad variety of disciplines, methodologies, and pedagogies that the digital humanities encompasses.

[Click here for more info](#)

Deadline for submissions: October 15, 2019

CFP

Current Research in Digital History

The Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media invites submissions for the third annual Current Research in Digital History conference. Submissions should offer historical arguments and interpretations rather than showcase digital projects. The format of short presentations provides an opportunity to make arguments on the basis of ongoing research in larger projects. Graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals. Some travel funding for presenters is available. Presentations will be peer-reviewed and published in an online publication that accommodates dynamic visualizations and narrative.

[Click here for more info](#)

Deadline for submissions: October 25, 2019

CFP

Gender and Sexuality in Information Studies Colloquium 2020

This gathering seeks to create an inclusive space for difficult, fruitful conversations around technology, however defined, as it affects and is affected by race, gender, sexuality, and ability. We aim to foster conversations that consider “technology” as the expression of material cultures, labor, and embodiment; as well as sites of empowerment or oppression.

In libraries, and in the professional discourses of librarianship and information studies, we often talk about “technology” as a means to an end. Or, we speculate about technology as though it emanated from the horizon of a futurity that appears sometimes threatening, sometimes empowering, but always inevitable: e.g., artificial intelligence will “revolutionize” the ways we find and use information. Both kinds of discourse omit the ways technologies begin and end in the flesh — how technologies shape habits of body and mind, just as those habits influence the design and construction of technologies.

[Click here for more info](#)

Deadline for submissions: November 15, 2019

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

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