

DIGITAL HUMANITIES IN THEORY AND PRACTICE



ENGL 6130

Alexa Alice Joubin

What is at stake in scholarly research is not simply finding answers to a question, but formulating conceptually articulated and rich questions. Digital and communication technologies are transforming humanities research and helping scholars ask new questions.

This seminar explores the history of digital humanities, theoretical issues it raises, and major methodological debates.

- No computer skills beyond basic familiarity with word processing and Internet access are required

Goals

- Develop the skills and vocabulary necessary for working at, and engaging with, the intersection of the humanities (particularly literary and cultural studies) and technology

- Grasp major theoretical developments
- Examine existing digital humanities projects
- Situate your own research interests within the larger context of digital humanities theories and practice

Highlights

- Historicize and theorize DH practices
- Curate your scholarly and digital presence
- Participate in GW's inaugural Digital Humanities Symposium, Jan. 24-26, 2013; www.gwu.edu/~acyhuang/DH2013.shtml
- Guest speakers to cover medieval, early modern, nineteenth- and twentieth-century British and American drama, poetry, and fiction: Janelle Jenstad (Univ. of Victoria via Skype), Chris Sten

(GW), Jeffrey Cohen (GW), Margaret Soltan (GW)

Topics

- Theories of epistemology
- Access and inclusion
- Challenges of working with and against multiple media
- (In)visible histories of race, gender, and avenues of access
- Disability, cultural difference, and linguistic diversity
- Visual and print cultures, embodiment, archiving the ephemeral
- Canon formation, close and distant reading strategies
- Questions about the values, methods, and goals of humanistic inquiries at the intersection of digital media and theory