Looking Back and Thinking Ahead: Humanistic Methods and/in Digital Humanities

with Johanna Drucker

Wednesday, 1 May 2019
5.00pm–6.30pm (followed by a wine reception): Old Divinity School, St John’s College, Cambridge CB2 1TP

Methodological concessions to the requirements of formal systems have characterised much of the digital humanities work in the decades since the
initial encounter of computational processing and humanistic scholarship. What are the benefits and losses in this exchange and to what extent is this asymmetry a necessary condition of working in a computational environment? If these are the conditions for work, what are the critical issues that need to be brought to bear on the formulation of our projects and assessments of their outcomes? And if alternatives can be formulated, what would they look like and how would they be implemented? How can we reflect responsibly on digital humanities within the larger ecologies of intellectual work in the current political and ecological climate? This talk looks at these questions from historical and current perspectives but within a framework of critical – and sceptical – epistemology to ask how the future of our work might build on and deviate from the work of the past.

For more information and to register for a place, visit [https://looking-back-thinking-ahead.eventbrite.co.uk](https://looking-back-thinking-ahead.eventbrite.co.uk)

**CDH Funding Opportunities**

**CDH DHOXSS Bursary Scheme 2018/19**

Cambridge Digital Humanities is keen to support participation by University of Cambridge Early Career Researchers in the [Digital Humanities at Oxford Summer School (DHOXSS)](https://www.dhoxss.net/register) – 22–26 July 2019 – and to that end a limited number of CDH Bursaries will be made available on application. These bursaries will cover approved return ground travel Cambridge–Oxford, registration fees and accommodation costs up to an approved maximum of £1300.

Early Career Researchers as defined under this scheme will either be enrolled as PhD student at the University of Cambridge at the time of application, or have completed a PhD no more than five years before the date of the application and hold a current contract of employment or affiliation with the University via the CDH Methods Fellows programme.

The deadline for applications coincides with the close of registration for DHOXSS, i.e. 5 July 2019 ([https://www.dhoxss.net/register](https://www.dhoxss.net/register)).
Call for Case Studies

Seeing/Knowing: Using Visualization as a Research Instrument
with Johanna Drucker

Wednesday, 1 May 2019
11.30am–3.00pm: University of Cambridge

Visualization is a primary mode of knowledge production, but it is often used as a secondary mode of display in highly conventional formats that limit the conceptual dimensions of research. The goal of the workshop is to explore possibilities for innovations in visualization that will expand the vocabulary of current standards in ways that might suit humanities researchers working in digital methods. To do this, we intend to explore three ongoing projects as in-depth case studies that allow us to consider several fundamental data-types and structures within digital humanities work: ontologies/typologies (classification systems), mapping/spatial visualization; chronology/temporality.

For more information and a copy of the application form, click here. The deadline for case studies is 18 March 2019. The workshop will also be open for individual participants, and applications will open for participation after the selection of case studies in late March 2019.

Call for Collaboration

Cambridge Data School

Cambridge Digital Humanities (CDH) welcomes expressions of interest from prospective collaborators for the first Cambridge Data School, to be held in Cambridge from 3–6 June 2019.

The main objectives of the Data School are to:
democratise access to tools and methods for digital data collection, verification, analysis and reporting

foster the development of ethical practices in digital research

encourage dialogue between academia, civil society, the public sector and industry about the social, ethical and policy implications of digital research methods

The Data School will leverage expertise within and outside the University of Cambridge in internet-mediated research and digital verification methods providing practical instruction and knowledge exchange across sectors, professions and disciplines. Participants will be drawn from civil society groups, academia and the public sector. Preference will be given to individuals from organizations with limited access to data-intensive research methods.

The Data School course content will be structured around the life-cycle of a digital research project, covering principles of research design, data collection and wrangling, methods of analysis and visualisation, to data sharing, sustainability and preservation.

For more information and an application form, click here.

Cambridge DH Events

Technologies of Reproduction and the Craft of Activism

Wednesday, 6 March 2019
2.30pm-4.30pm: Room SG2, Alison Richard Building, 7 West Rd, Cambridge CB3 9DT

Professor Annabelle Sreberny (SOAS)
Dr Anne Alexander (CDH, CRASSH)

For more than 500 years the mechanical reproduction of words and images has been a routine of power. Yet copying has also been central to the process of challenging the existing political order through the circulation of unlicensed
books, pamphlets and tracts from hand to hand in the early modern era, to the millions of copies of webpages, Facebook postings, tweets and SMS messages sent electronically during the wave of mass protests and revolutionary upheavals in the Middle East between 2009 and 2013.

This event will explore the relationship between technologies of reproduction and the craft of activism, with a particular focus on the Middle East. Analysis of original photographs taken by Annabelle Sreberny during the Iranian Revolution of 1979 and photographs and documents taken and collected by Anne Alexander during the Egyptian Revolution between 2011-2013 – will provide historical context for the discussion.

For more information, click here

**Klimt's Magic Garden: Making Virtual Reality Real**
Thursday, 7 March 2019
5.30pm: Jesus College (Upper Hall)

A lecture by Dr Frederick Baker (Centre for Film Studies and Wolfson College, University of Cambridge) with introductions by Donal Cooper (Jesus College) & Ben Lumsden (Epic Games).

Dr Baker will present his award-winning VR experience following its successful premiere last year at the Museum for Applied Arts (MAK) in Vienna, as a key element in the city's programme to commemorate the 1918–2018 centenary of Gustav Klimt's death.

Virtual Reality is the new art form of the 21st Century. Frederick Baker has created an artistic Virtual Reality Experience by transforming Gustav Klimt's Stoclet frieze into an interactive landscape on the theme of Expectation and Fulfillment. In collaboration with the 3D designer Markus Cermak, the work uses the unreal engine and gaming hardware to allow the visitor a fully immersive encounter with a digital world which is both film, architecture, fine art and George Taylor's sound track.

Admission free; all welcome. Wine and refreshments will be provided.
Consultancy 101 Workshop
Thursday, 26 March 2019
University Centre, Cambridge

Are you considering becoming a consultant? Perhaps you are already consulting, but want to find out how to work more effectively, get the best price for your skills or discover how to simplify your administrative work?

Cambridge Enterprise is delighted to offer this half-day training course to academics and researchers of the University. We will share expertise on best practice, the University’s approach to academic consultancy, tips on making life easier, and troubleshoot some of the key issues faced by consultants. We end with a roundtable Q and A where you can hear from researchers currently carrying out consultancy work through Cambridge Enterprise.

Registration is open now.

Arthur Schnitzler digital: Save the date
Thursday, 25 April 2019
3.30pm–7.00pm: Cambridge University Library

Launch event to mark the University Library’s hosting of the major international edition project, Arthur Schnitzler digital. The event will include presentations, a reception and a site-specific theatre performance for human puppets.

Archival revolution: how born-digital archives are changing the way we do research
Tuesday, 28 May 2019
2.15pm: Milstein Room, Cambridge University Library

How will the digital revolution impact disciplines such as history and literary studies? How can we best ensure that born-digital documents are preserved
and remain accessible over time? And how can be design new methods to use archives of digital information?

Admission free; all welcome

**Call for Book Chapter Proposals**

**Visual Heritage: Digital Reproduction and Contextualisation in Heritage Science**

This call for chapter extracts follows the highly successful publication of our first edited book “Visual Heritage in the Digital Age”. Published by Springer’s Cultural Computing Series in 2013, this successful volume has been paid-downloaded 25,000+ times. Springer Cultural Computing Series is now interested in publishing a second volume exploring emerging themes in digital heritage. Our broad title, Heritage Science, aims to look at digital technologies with a goal to preserve cultural and natural heritage at a global level and in the face of previously unimaginable threats from climate change, through fake news to catastrophic insurrection.

The deadline is 10 March 2019. For more information, click here

**Conference**

**Digital Heritage in a World of Big Data**

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

University of Stirling

The conference is organised by Chiara Bonacchi (University of Stirling), Rodney Harrison (UCL Institute of Archaeology) and Daniel Pett (Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge), as part of the AHRC-funded Ancient Identities in Modern Britain project and the AHRC Heritage Priority Area Leadership Fellowship.
The conference will discuss technical and conceptual implications of applying data science in and for heritage studies, at the time of the data deluge. It will focus on examining the ontologies, epistemologies and ethics of undertaking digital heritage research drawing on big data.

For more information on the conference and a list of speakers and keynote speakers, please visit the conference website. To register for the conference, click here.