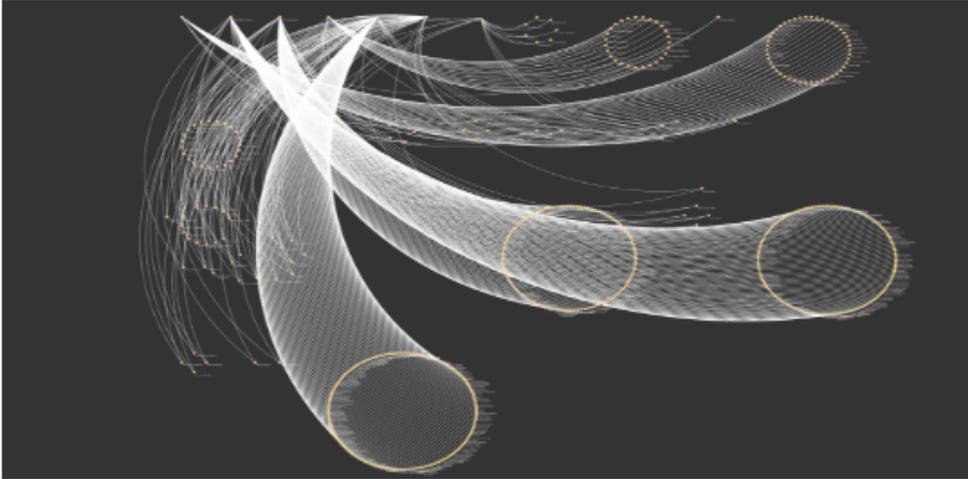# Introducing Digital Humanities

ILS 695

Instructor:
Dr. Matthew Hannah

Contact:
hannah8@purdue.edu

Meeting Times:
T/Th 1:30-3:20

Meeting Location:
TBD

Office Location:
HSSE Library 154

Office Hours:
T/Th 1-2

Course Description

What if we could read thousands of novels at the same time? What interpretations might we discover? Scholars of the humanities have increasingly turned to such computing methods to pose new questions and unearth new answers to those questions. This burgeoning field, known as the "Digital Humanities," provides tools for scholars and students to analyze, engage, and theorize history, culture, and text with methodologies derived from technology. Such tools promise electrifying vistas for humanistic inquiry, but what does this mean for the future of the humanities? How do digital methods relate to "analog" scholarship? How do we balance new tools with existing forms of analysis? By the end of the term, you will have developed an understanding of the field's evolution.

Purdue's Honor Pledge

"As a boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together - we are Purdue."

This course requires no previous technical expertise, but students should be willing to experiment with digital tools, to work collaboratively with other students, and to engage creatively with digital methods.

Learning Outcomes

1) To learn the basic vocabulary and concepts in digital humanities. To gain familiarity with digital humanities projects, critical work, resources in the field, and hands-on experience of building a scholarly digital research project.

2) To gain experience working collaboratively with others on a joint project.

3) To perform critical, formal analyses of DH projects, digital media, and digital tools.

4) To write focused, analytical essays in clear, grammatical prose.

5) To employ logic, creativity, and interpretive skills to produce original, persuasive arguments.

6) To gain familiarity with digital tools used in in the field of digital humanities to create new knowledge of humanities subjects.

Assignments and Grading
Grant Proposal (25%)
Final Digital Project "Pitch" (15%)
Final Digital Project (25%)
Twitter Activity (10%)
Discussion Leaders (10%)
Pod Presentations (15%)

Grade Range
A 90-100% (A+ is not offered)
A- 90-93%
B+ 87-89%
B 84-86%
B- 80-83%
C+ 77-79%
C 74-76%
C- 70-73% (Passing)
D+ 67-69
D 64-66%
D- 60-63%
F 0-59%

■ Analytical Paper (25%) ■ Project Pitch (15%) ■ Digital Project (25%)
■ Twitter (10%) ■ Discussion Leaders (10%)
■ Pod Presentations (15%)