

**Carleton University
Fall 2026 Course Outline
Department of English
College of Humanities**

DIGH 2001A / ENGL 2400A

**INTRODUCTION TO
DIGITAL HUMANITIES**

T/Th 11:35am - 12:55pm

Location: Online Synchronous

Prerequisite(s): Second-year standing

Instructor: Dr. Chris Eaket

Office Location: 1913 Dunton Tower

Email: christophereaket@cunet.carleton.ca

TA: TBD

Office Hours: Online by appointment

(Note: Please include DIGH 2001 or ENGL 2400 in the subject line of all emails)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class (DIGH 2001/ENGL 2400) is a broad introduction to the field of Digital Humanities, focusing primarily on what the discipline *is*, what it allows scholars to *do*, and what types of *questions* it seeks to answer. The DH Tools & Methods class (DIGH 2002/ENGL 2401) is the complement to this class, which deals much more with software & tools specifically. *Do you have to be able to program ahead of time for either of these classes?* *NO*. We're here to: figure out what a computer can tell you about language and literature; how the online world changes how we receive, interpret, and create texts; what digital culture is; and eventually, give you the tools & skillsets to do that yourself.

This is primarily a reading, application, & inquiry-based class (see the full syllabus below). We ask big philosophical questions, examine (online) objects of study, discuss them, and try to come to some conclusions or consensus. On the whole, DIGH 2001 is designed to help one figure out what *kind* of digital humanist one might be, where one's skills and interests lie, and what kinds of texts and questions one might want to examine in the future.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The class is part survey, part history, part ethics class, and part inquiry-oriented investigation of relevant topics. As such, students should come away with an idea of the types of questions DHers ask and why, and well as being able to ground those concepts in a historical context. Overall, the class is designed to give people an overview of the field, and learn which DH topics, projects, and sub-fields are most relevant to their own disciplines and investigations.

IMPORTANT DATES -- Fall 2026

September 9	Fall term begins.
September 22	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in fall and fall/winter courses.
September 30	Last day to withdraw from fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal).
October 26-30	Fall break, no classes.
November 15	Last day for academic withdrawal from fall courses.
December 11	Fall term ends. Last day of fall and fall/winter classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule.
December 12-23	Final examinations in fall courses and midterm examinations in fall/winter courses will be held.

RULES OF THE ROAD

- This class isn't designed to turn you into programmer or anything of the sort overnight – it's primarily a theoretical course designed to introduce folks to DH and help you find out what "flavor" of DHer you might be. You're not expected to know everything out of the gate. Practice. Try everything. Play. Find what's most useful. Go with it.
- No one in this class is stupid. Ever. DH requires thinking in a different way and that can take time. Just because someone hasn't acquired a skill yet or a mode of thinking yet doesn't mean they're any better or worse than anyone else. Patience. Empathy. Trade skills. Everyone is a knowledge resource for everyone else.
- Sharing skills, tools, and ideas are part of what DH is (or should be) all about. "None of us is as smart as all of us" — Kenneth H. Blanchard
- We're all on Team Human, so we're all in the same boat. Everyone (including myself) has a chance to learn from everyone else here, in a respectful, safe environment.
- Be respectful of others with your presence, time, & attention.
- Discrimination or disrespect of any type will not be tolerated. Full stop.
- Feel free to bring your own experiences, scholarship and interests to bear on the work at hand. The more invested you are in it, the more interesting the end product will tend to be. Chances are, others will have had similar experiences to share that will be catalyzed by your contribution.
- Connect with others. Five intelligent people over coffee can teach you as much as any class -- five DH people with laptops, possibly even more so.
- Be prepared and ready to engage with the materials. It really does make things more fruitful and insightful for everyone.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will engage with readings & issues on the topic of Digital Humanities
- Students will gain an appreciation for the scope and sub-fields of DH
- Students will write response papers dealing with major debates within DH, as well as learning to analyze & critique digital artifacts from a DH perspective
- Students will collaborate with others on a Design Project, which involves conceptualizing and outlining specs for a new DH resource that could be feasibly implemented
- Students will be able to articulate "what kind of DHer they are" and have an idea of the types of projects and research they might like to pursue in the future

TEXTS

None. No (purchased) texts required – all of our readings will be online via Brightspace.

OTHER RESOURCES

Facebook and Discord groups, as well as the Brightspace forums, will be available for students to ask each other questions, share resources, find groupwork members, collaborate, and socialize.

EVALUATION

DH Critical Review	10%	SEPT 24
Midterm Response Paper	20%	OCT 15
Design Document	25%	NOV 5
Flash Analysis	10%	NOV 19
Final Paper	30%	DEC 8
Participation	5%	

*Full requirements will be discussed in class and assignment descriptions posted to Brightspace.
Please note that for assignments with due date ranges, these indicate when the assignment dropbox opens (can be handed in) and closes (must be handed in)*

DH Critical Review: 10% (2-3p)

The review is designed to familiarize people with the types of projects that Digital Humanities practitioners work on and do a brief critique on one of them. The review is comprised of a brief discussion of the project (list provided) and its purpose, as well as a thinking-through of the choices that were made in creating it and how these might affect the end user. One should give first impressions, do an overview, then discuss relevant thoughts on: intended audience, data sources, presentation & UI, clarity of findings, choices in preservation, chosen methodology or modality. A list of suggested possible projects for analysis will be available on Brightspace.

Midterm Response Paper: 20% (6-7p)

This research project involves attempting to answer one of our questions from the syllabus - or any other associated topics discussed in class (ex. the digital divide, open data, public-facing DH). The paper should be in the form of a *thesis-based research paper* in MLA format. At least *six* secondary sources are required for this paper, and people are free to use up to two articles assigned for class; the *majority of research should be through the library and academic sources* (ie. you should not rely purely on Internet sources for an academic paper of this type). This is designed to be an opportunity to build on the readings and explore a question relevant to your interests.

Flash Analysis Assignment: 10% (2-3p)

These are a short analysis of a current, controversial issue in technology and culture — something in the news right now (not a historical case study). Think of it as a rapid-response version of the response paper. Your argument should be grounded in course material, compressed into 2-3 pages and tied to discussions and debates surrounding technology that are occurring right now. These should include: a concise summary of the controversy; a connection to at least one concept from the course; a clear and reasoned critical position; a few sentences acknowledging counterarguments or the limitations of your

argument; how things might play out in the future.

Design Document: 25% (~3-5p / person)

In groups of 4-5, come up with a hypothetical DH project. It can be a website, app, interactive story, game, online archive, or something similar. Outline its purpose, users, usefulness, rationale, possible technologies used, and simple design mock-ups, or reference similar sites, games, or projects to get across what you

would like the site to look like or how it might function. Groups can be chosen by students (preferred)

--

using Discord, class forums on Brightspace, or the chat function in Zoom before and after class -- or assigned by the professor if required.

Final Paper: 30% (6-8p)

Individually, choose an object of study: a video game, interactive fiction, website, digital project, tool, or

other digital artefact. Analyze it from a DH perspective, using materials from class and from secondary sources. The goal of this project is to have you choose a particular "school" of DH & a particular digital

object-of-study, and deploy concepts from class (and the field itself) as a means of analyzing that object through the lens of Digital Humanities.

Participation: 5% (Ongoing)

As shown by attendance, engagement, questions, and discussions.

Please use MLA (Modern Language Association) document & documentation style. For relevant examples, see:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html

"Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean."

FORMATTING & ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

Papers should be formatted double-spaced on 8 ½ x 11" white paper. Please ensure a 1" margin on all sides of the page and use a 12 pt Times font or equivalent. Also, remember to keep backup copies of your papers, either hard copy or on a flash drive.

In most cases, *assignments will be completed or handed in via Brightspace*. The exception to this rule is the group design project, which can be emailed, done as a website, or presented through some other form of media (as long as all of the material in the assignment outline is covered).

ATTENDANCE

Students will be allowed three absences. Additional absences will impact the final grade. Absences and contributions to the class overall are taken into account when calculating the final participation grade. If you need to be absent from class due to unforeseen circumstances, email me *before* class to let me know you will not be attending and (in general) why. Try to get notes and materials from others to see what we've covered.

In cases where you are experiencing problems in class, or have circumstances outside of class that are affecting your academic work, the most important thing is to let me know. I don't need to have all the gritty details (and probably don't *want* to know) -- just keep me in the loop so that I know "where

you're at" and hopefully alternative arrangements can be made. If you need some advice, guidance, a referral, assistance, or someone to listen, the door's always open.

*Please note: If you vanish inexplicably for an extended period of time, there's a certain point at which it's out of my hands and I *can't* help you, due to the policies of the university. So don't do that.*

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses (Updated Aug 12,2026)

Academic Dates and Deadlines

This schedule contains the dates prescribed by the University Senate for academic activities. Dates relating to fee payment, cancellation of course selections, late charges, and other fees or charges will be published in the Important Dates and Deadlines section of the Registration Website.

Copies of Written Work Submitted

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

Online Learning Resources

[On this page](#), you will find resources collected by Carleton Online to help you succeed in your online courses; Learning Strategies and Best Practices, Study Skills, Technology and Online Interaction and Engagement.

Academic Integrity Policy

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT)
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own
- failing to acknowledge sources with proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.”

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor.

The Associate Dean of the Faculty follows a rigorous [process for academic integrity allegations](#), including reviewing documents and interviewing the student, when an instructor suspects a violation has been committed. Penalties for violations may include a final grade of “F” for the course.

Co-operation or Collaboration

An important and valuable component of the learning process is the progress a student can make as a result of interacting with other students. In struggling together to master similar concepts and problems

and in being exposed to each other's views and approaches, a group of students can enhance and speed up the learning process. Carleton University encourages students to benefit from these activities which will not generally be viewed as a violation of the Policy. With the exception of tests and examinations, instructors will not normally limit these interactions.

Students shall not co-operate or collaborate on academic work when the instructor has indicated that the work is to be completed on an individual basis. Failure to follow the instructor's directions in this regard is a violation of the standards of academic integrity. Unless otherwise indicated, students shall not co-operate or collaborate in the completion of a test or examination.

Group Work: There are many cases where students are expected or required to work in groups to complete a course requirement. Normally, students are not responsible for violations of this policy committed by other members of a group in which they participate.

More information on the process [here](#).

Academic Accommodations

Academic accommodation refers to educational practices, systems and support mechanisms designed to accommodate diversity and difference. The purpose of accommodation is to enable students to perform the essential requirements of their academic programs. At no time does academic accommodation undermine or compromise the learning objectives that are established by the academic authorities of the University.

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances*, are outlined on the [Academic Accommodations website](#).

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes can be [found here](#).

Addressing Human Rights Concerns

The University and all members of the University community share responsibility for ensuring that the University's educational, work and living environments are free from discrimination and harassment. Should you have concerns about harassment or discrimination relating to your age, ancestry, citizenship, colour, creed (religion), disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender expression, gender identity, marital status, place of origin, race, sex (including pregnancy), or sexual orientation, please contact the [Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities](#) at equity@carleton.ca.

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion can be found [here](#).

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own

educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).
[More information](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

Carleton University strives to provide a safe environment conducive to personal and intellectual growth, free of injustice and characterized by understanding respect, peace, trust, and fairness.

The [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) governs the non-academic behaviour of students. Carleton University is committed to building a campus that promotes personal growth through the establishment and promotion of transparent and fair academic and non-academic responsibilities.

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of extenuating circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work. Requests for academic consideration are made in accordance with the [Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical or Other Extenuating Circumstances](#).

Students who claim short-term extenuating circumstances (normally lasting up to five days) as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor. If the instructor requires supporting documentation, the instructor may only request submission of the University's self-declaration form, which is available on the [Registrar's Office website](#). The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule.

1. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.
2. In cases where a student is not able to complete term work due to extenuating circumstances lasting for a significant period of time/ long-term (normally more than five days), the instructor and/or student may elect to consult with the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses) or Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) to determine appropriate action.
3. If a student is concerned the instructor did not respond to the request for academic consideration or did not provide reasonable accommodation, the student should follow the appeals process described in the [Academic Consideration Policy](#).
4. If academic consideration is granted, but the student is unable to complete the accommodation according to the terms set out by the instructor as a result of further illness, injury, or extraordinary circumstances beyond their control, the student may submit a petition to the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses)/Graduate Registrar (graduate courses). Please note, however, that the course instructor will be required to submit an earned final grade and further consideration will only be reviewed according to established precedents and deadlines. (More information: [Undergraduate](#) | [Graduate](#)).

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of extenuating circumstances, as defined in the [Academic Consideration Policy](#), may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In

specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made.

The application for a deferral must:

1. be made in writing to the Registrar's Office no later than three (3) working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation. In cases of short-term extenuating circumstances normally lasting no more than five (5) days, students must include the University's self-declaration form, which can be found on [the Registrar's Office website](#). Additional documentation is required in cases of extenuating circumstances lasting longer than five (5) days and must be supported by a medical note specifying the date of onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [here](#).

Academic Consideration Policy

As per the [Academic Consideration Policy](#), if students encounter extenuating circumstances that temporarily hinder their capacity to fulfil in-class academic requirements, they can request academic consideration. The Academic Consideration for Coursework is only available for accommodations regarding course work. Requests for accommodations during the formal exam period must follow the [official deferral process](#).

NOTE: As per the Policy, students are to speak with/contact their instructor before submitting a request for Academic Consideration. Requests are not automatically approved. Approving and determining the accommodation remains at the discretion of the instructor. Students should consult the course syllabus about the instructor's policy or procedures for requesting academic consideration. [More information here](#).

Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal

Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend, you must withdraw in Carleton Central within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load. A course dropped after the deadline for financial withdrawal will receive a grade of Withdrawn (WDN), which appears on your official transcript.

Even if you miss the deadline for financial withdrawal, you might decide to drop a course to avoid a failure or a poor grade showing up on your student record and bringing down your CGPA. It is your responsibility to drop the course via Carleton Central within the published [deadlines](#) (see Academic Withdrawal).

If you are considering withdrawing from a course, you may want to talk to an advisor first. Course withdrawal may affect your student status, as well as your eligibility for student funding, immigration status, residence accommodation and participation in varsity sports, etc. Additionally, remember that once you choose your courses, you must use the "Calculate amount to pay" button to determine the correct amount of fees to pay.

Carleton Central is your one-stop shop for registration activities. If you are interested in taking a course, make sure to complete your registration. Simply attending a course does not mean you are registered in it, nor is it grounds for petition or appeal.

Mental Health and Wellness at Carleton

As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#))

- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1

Carleton Resources

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: call 613-238-3311, text 343-306-5550, or connect online at <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: call 613-722-6914 or toll-free 1-866-996-0991, or connect online at <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me Counselling Service: call 1-844-741-6389
- Good2Talk: call 1-866-925-5454 or connect online at <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: for online or on-site service <https://walkincounselling.com>

The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement

The Centre for Indigenous Initiatives is proud to offer culturally centered individual counselling to students who self-identify as First Nation, Metis or Inuk. Through this service, Indigenous students [can access confidential, individual sessions for support with personal, mental health or academic challenges.](#)

Department Contact Information

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