Carleton University  
Department of English Language and Literature Fall 2017  
English 2400/DIGH 2001 Sec. A  
Prerequisite(s): second-year standing

Introduction to Digital Humanities:  
Digital Methods for Cultural and Literary Study

Tues/Thurs. 10:05 – 11:25  
Room: 417SA

Instructor: Dr. David Stymeist  
Office: 1819 DT  
Email: david.stymeist@carleton.ca

Office Hours: TBA, or by appointment.

Course Description

**Digital Humanities** involves the intersection of digital technology with humanities disciplines.
You might ask “What are the Humanities?” The Humanities are academic disciplines that study all the expressions of human culture, (literature, theatre, history, art, linguistics, geography, and philosophy).

Digital tools and technologies have enabled both artists and humanities critics to expand and revolutionize their practices. Not only have electronic resources and tools shaped almost every current cultural project, but the concepts and modes of the digital world continue to shape our intellectual and social processes.

This course is designed as an introductory investigation of the new and ever-changing world of Digital Humanities.

Some of the topics that we will examine include digital text analysis and mapping tools, new digital literary genres, video-game narrative, hypertext, electronic poetry, social media narrative, blogging, project coding, data mining and privacy, digital archives in the humanities, database research, facsimile reproduction, and electronic curatorial projects.

Previous experience with computer programming, coding, or scholarly software is not required, although students must be open to reading and writing with various media, and exploring new digital tools.

Classes will consist of a combination of lectures, practice, and discussion. I expect every student to attend lectures and come prepared to engage in a lively discussion of the works, practices, and tools in question. This is a second year course and classes will emphasize active learning. The more you are willing to put into the class, the more you will get out of it!

**Texts and Tools:**
- Online articles.
- Library Access to Electronic Databases and Archives.
- Online text analysis tools.
- Assigned games, such as *Against All Odds* (Flash, internet access) *Fallout: New Vegas* (Bethesda Softworks), any platform.

**Required Term Assignments**

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critical review of blog, website, or DH online project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Project, or Research Essay</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Tests</td>
<td>10%</td>
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(Note: The Digital Project might entail setting up a Blog, or Website on a Humanities topic of special interest to you and entering a number of posts, or entering a number of
new Wikipedia (or other online encyclopedia or wiki) entries on literary or humanities topics, authors, texts, or producing a rudimentary DH archival or curatorial site.)

[A Detailed Schedule is posted on CULearn]

Course Regulations
The mark distribution for the year will be Term Grade: 100%. Class participation marks will include participation in class discussion, response to written comments on graded assignments, consistent attendance, and full reading preparation for each assigned text. Consistent attendance is required in this class; students failing to attend an absolute minimum of 20% of the classes will not receive grades for their assignments.

All assignments must be handed in on the date specified unless cleared previously with the professor. Papers must be handed to me in person or to the drop box in the English department office (1812 Dunton Tower) on the due date. If you choose to use the drop box, you must be prepared to incur any late penalties that may accumulate due to the unlikely occurrence of the paper’s loss or misfiling.

Late papers and projects will be penalized 2% per day that the assignment is overdue. Papers without medical extension will not be accepted after two weeks of the due date. No faxes or emails of essays will be accepted. Please keep a copy of your assignment in case of loss by any cause. Students can expect to receive graded feedback in a timely manner; the instructor reserves the right to limit commentary on late essays. Students are required to submit all major assignments (review, essay or digital project, tests) in order to pass the course as a whole.

Class etiquette: All digital activity in the class with personal devices should be directly connected to class activity; in other words, you shouldn’t be checking your Facebook page.

Grading System:
Assignments in this course will be graded using the letter grading system: A-, A, A+ (Excellent); B-, B, B+ (Good); C-, C, C+ (Satisfactory); D, D+ (Minimal pass); F (Failure). Percentage conversion: A+ (90-100%), A (85-89), A- (80-84), B+ (77-79), B (73-76), B- (70-72), C+ (67-69), C (63-66), C- (60-62), D+ (57-59), D (53-56), D (50-52), F (0-49).

Plagiarism
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.”

This can include:
--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;
--submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

*Pregnancy obligation:* write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

*Religious obligation:* write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).