

# DIGITIZING CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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## TRANSITIONING TO DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP TEACHING

- What is digital scholarship?
- Why do I want to integrate DS?
- What makes an effective + meaningful digital activity/assignment?

#### Digital Scholarship

Digital Humanities / Digital Social Sciences / Digital History / Digital Archaeology / Digital Literature / Digital Anthropology / Digital Science Communication / etc.

Digital Scholarship ≠ Using digital tools

Digital Scholarship = Examining the impact of certain digital tools/methods (or a lack thereof) on scholarship

## TRANSITIONING TO DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP TEACHING

- What is digital scholarship?
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#### Why am I digitizing my classroom?

This is a hands-on digital scholarship/digital skills course

I was assigned a DL course

I feel pressured to do so

# Why am I digitizing this particular assignment or topic?

Digital Scholarship examines the impact of certain digital tools/methods (or a lack thereof) on scholarship

Where can I draw connections between course materials + today's digital climate?

	SACRED FRAMEWORKS		
Thursday, September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Who are the Greeks?		
Tuesday, September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Greek Sacred Vocabularies  Reading: E ch 2, 3, 4, 26; C ch 1  Optional: E ch 5 + 9 explains how archaeologists  use literary and material evidence		
Thursday, September 9 <sup>th</sup>	Nature vs Environment vs Landscape vs?  Reading: Roediger and DeSoto 2016; Van Dyke 2008		
Tuesday, September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Archaeologies of Nature + Final Project Introduction Reading: Bradley 2000 (selections); Robinson 2016 Optional: E ch 14 traces history of myth		
	MOUNTAINS: SLOPES AND PEAKS		
Thursday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Guest Speaker: Dr. Laurie-Ann Britt Smith (College of Holy Cross Writing Center)		
Tuesday, September 21 <sup>st</sup>	What Makes a Mountain "Sacred"?  Reading: Buxton 1992; E ch 25		
Thursday, September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Minoan Peak Sanctuaries  Reading: Peatfield and Morris 2019; E ch 18		

From my course Groves, Swamps, Springs, and Caves: Sacred Landscapes in Greece





Hastings Contemporary's robot, in front of Graham Sutherland's "Thorn Head." Estate of Graham Sutherland; via Daniel Katz Gallery; Hastings Contemporary

Students had to find examples of virtual sanctuaries. I compiled them and they explored. We made connections to the theories and practices from antiquity, and students were able to challenge their notions about what counted as a "landscape".

Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>
Wikipedia Assignments Due:
Begin Moving Your Work to Wikipedia

Sacred Webscapes

Reading: Explore virtual pilgrimage sites;

Mansour 2019; E ch 37

Thursday, December 9th

Outsider's Gaze: Tourists and Refugees

Reading: Tsoni 2016

Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>
Final Article Due!

# THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT DIGITAL PUBLICATION



#### Sensing Ancient Greek Processions

Natalie Susmann, PhD

Ancient Greeks celebrated their gods with lively processions. We have a ton of archaeological and textual data to learn from, but it's difficult to imagine all of the different smells, tastes, sights, noises, and textures. This essay uses a modern religious festival in Massachusetts to explain why ancient processions were such spectacles. We discover that ancient Greek processional participants and spectators came together to shape this sensory experience.

Software = Juncture

#### armen Festa in Nonantum, Massachusetts

ng about future archaeologists and their research questions. They created these scenes for other and they all knew what a processional environment was like. This is why the Saint Mary of Carmen prog this live procession, we can begin to understand what sensory data is missing from the archaeologi-

carmen Society hosts a multi-day lonantum, Massachusetts. Like most e St Mary of Carmen Festa combines secular, family-friendly events. 11 and concert series in Hawthorn I their scholarship and community

n the last day of the Festa. The socitue out of Our Lady Help of sh the statue through the streets of s later, they arrive at the carnival. The jates, eventually resting underneath iter that night, the statue is returned ks and the "Flying Angel" ceremony, to the church basement, where it



Software = StoryMaps



#### **Competing Visions of Eurasian Conquest**

Representations of Central Asia in Board Games

Isaac Solly December 18, 2022

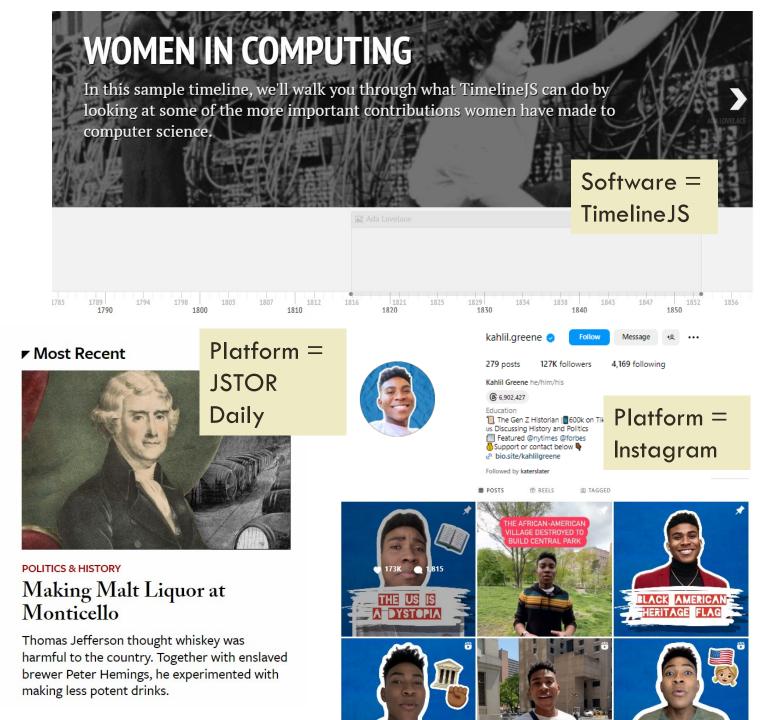




Such a light-handed approach stands in stark contrast to the history of the region, which included hostage-taking and fur tributes with natives "subjected to much exploitation and cruelty" (8). One of the issues is that the game does not engage with the idea of contracted-out labor: in order to hunt in a region, a player must have their mobile "cossack" figure in

### Ask your students to think about why

- Who am I trying to reach?
- What message do I want to spread?
- For teachers: what are the assignment goals? (beyond learning a "digital skill")
- Is my audience or my information at risk online?



# Ask students to review existing projects and platforms:

- Am I discovering anything new?
- Is it hindering my learning/discovery?
- Were the extra steps worth the effort?
- Is it removing or reinforcing disciplinary barriers?
- Can I improve public dissemination/engagement?
- What are the limitations of digital technology? What precautions should I take?

# Digital Scholarship **≠**Using digital tools or making websites

data collection

visualization

analysis

#### DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP TOOLS + METHODS

data management

writing

outreach

dissemination

#### HISTORIOGRAPHY

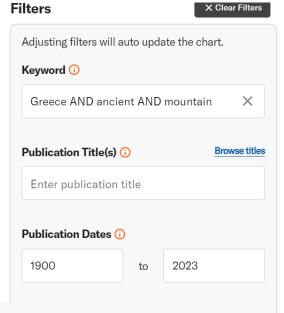
## What are people publishing about + how does it change over time?







#### https://constellate.org/



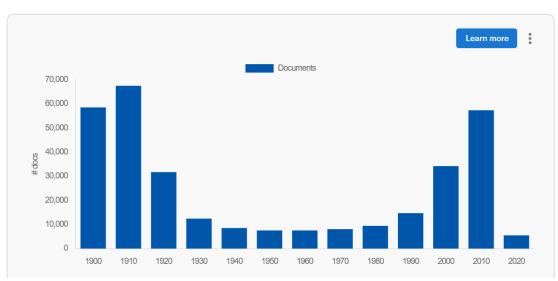
bronze age, iron age, hellenistic

\*\*Mof documents

\*\*Mof

#### Your dataset results - (322,689 total documents)

Greece AND ancient AND mountain from 1900 - 2023



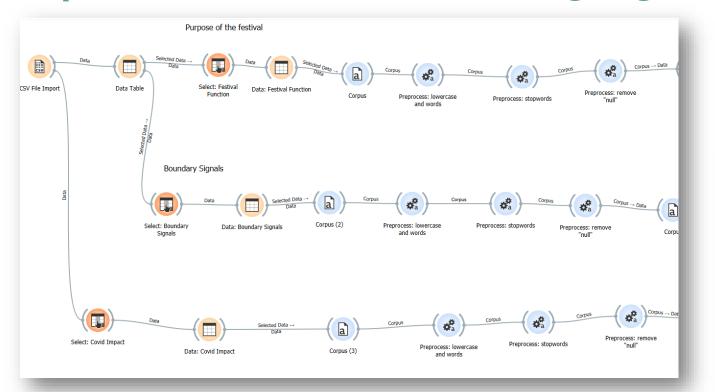
Software = Constellate

#### TEXT ANALYSIS

What words do people use most?

# neighborhood donate community donation procession started pray day money church italy talanpin old many feast society honor sample statue religious put people statue religious festa nonantum 1935 mary patron years immigrants ones families celebrate

Have your own text? You can analyze patterns + detect tone of language



Is the tone negative or positive?

How did Covid impact your experience?

Last year was the first time in the 85 year history of the Saint No carnival, but the statue (S,S, Santa Maria Del Carmine) pro I didn't attend

Missed the fest terribly last year

2020 impact was sad, But community did their best

Have been couped up all year plan to attend this year, Was callast year there was no Festa, I have attended every year since

I didn't attend Did not have Festa

I enjoyed the Covid-19 experience more it was a smaller even they cancelled the Festa

No Festa last year

I didn't attend

Software = Orange

# ChatGPT is a good option for in-class text analysis activities or testing your research questions



Tally the number of times different nature words are used



Please perform a sentiment analysis of this passage and provide a numerical comparison of neutral, positive, and negative language



Here's a numerical breakdown of the sentiment in the provided passage:

- Neutral Language: 69%
- Positive Language: 18%
- Negative Language: 13%

Please note that this breakdown is based on a general assessment of the language used in the passage and may not capture the full complexity of sentiment in the text. Sentiment analysis is subjective and can vary depending on the interpretation of the text.



To tally the number of times different nature-related words are used in the passage, we'll count the occurrences of select nature words. Here's the tally:

- Rain: 5 mentions
- Forest(s): 6 mentions
- Trees: 14 mentions
- Watercourses: 1 mention
- Brooks: 1 mention
- Rivers: 1 mention
- Leaves: 6 mentions
- Willows: 1 mention
- · Moss: 3 mentions
- Ferns: 2 mentions

Software = ChatGPT Text = selection from Winds of Winter (Martin)



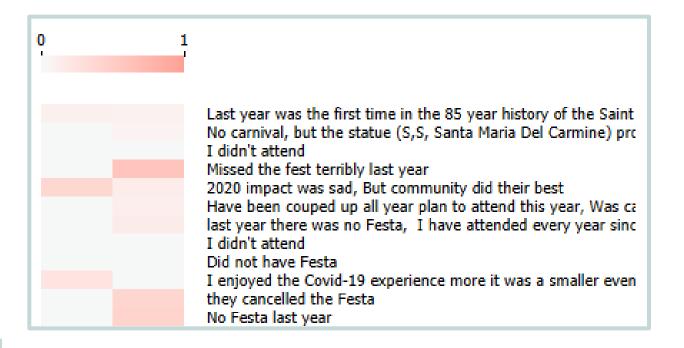


Tally the number of times different nature words are used



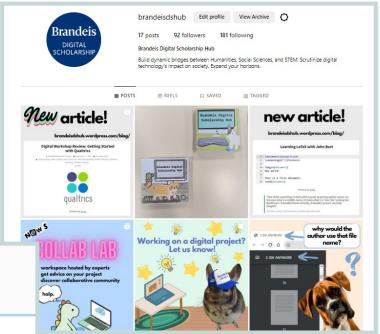
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- Could I yield these results just by reading? Are they more precise?
- What tool(s) + settings did I use?
   How did they impact the results
- Are these results meaningful?

#### RESOURCES





#### Digital Scholarship Collab Lab

If you're working on a digital scholarship project and want some advice, this new service is for you! Take advantage of working in a collaborative space with an in-room expert who is ready to answer q... More

DS Hub Collab Lab

#### https://brandeisdshub.wordpress.com

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Lecturer, Classical and Early Mediterranean Studies

#### **Brandeis DS Hub**

Brandeis' all-new Digital Scholarship Hub provides students, faculty, and staff with hands-on learning resources, events, and compelling stories about Digital Scholarship discovery.

Discipline Guides

Find a Tool

DSHub Blog

Get Involved