

[Course] Susan Schreibman (@schreib100), History and future of DH

Questions without answers:

- Is DH a field?
- WHO is a digital humanist?
- What is DH ?
- We speak about "digital humanities", but in Switzerland "Humanities" is not an academic category...<= this is a real question ! I don't think it is in France either :-/

[Participants are invited to give their 1 line "elevator-pitch" that best defines DH]

- "Dust meets geeks" by Andreas Perret
- "Humanities using digital tools"
- "Putting Shakespeare on iPads" : Laura Mandell cited by Schreibman. Discussion here : <https://twitter.com/pauldoshea/status/349889786133221376>

Re-thinking the object life-cycle

Recalls Roberto Busa as founder of DH discipline: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Busa

Busa-Waston cooperation to establish a concordance of St. Thomas Aquinas with punched card IBM machines. Cf. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/higher-education-network/blog/2011/aug/12/father-roberto-busa-academic-impact>

So, Digital Humanities: a field, a tool, a discipline? All of these? None? "I do not think these words mean what I think they mean."

https://twitter.com/twinkling_sheep/status/349891702976290819

Google Ngram montre émergence/décollage de Digital humanities en 2000, remplaçant Humanities computing qu'on voit à partir de 1967-68

[useful_link] Where you can ask any question DH Questions and Answers:

<http://digitalhumanities.org/answers/>

"Binary code, truly universal language".

"Moving from reading and critiquing to building and making" : Digital Humanities, it's about "making" ! <https://twitter.com/GrandjeanMartin/status/349893771334393856>

Developing new tools and softwares...

To be read : Bibliography and the Sociology of Texts by D. F. McKenzie :
<http://www.amazon.com/Bibliography-Sociology-Texts-D-McKenzie/dp/052164495X>

DÉbordement des rôles - Digital Humanists <->Editeurs

RefHow should DH work be evaluated: www.mlajournals.org/toc/prof/2011/1

.DH as pedagogical practice :

Area: Text visualization and Distant Reading:

Biggest corpus yet: Google Books Project

Example of visualiation of language uses at the macro level with Google NGrams:
<http://books.google.com/ngra>

Other example of visualisation of Wikileaks Iraki Wars Data. --> Is Wikileaks a Digital Humanities Project ?

More example of Distant Reading Projects about Agatha Christie and an "obscur Irish Poet"

Area: Virtual Worlds

Exploring virtual worlds and reconstructing historical settings in order to answer historical research questions!

Ref: Being and Seeming: the Technology of Representation by Richard Powers. Online:
<http://www.wildethics.org/essays/being-and-seeming.html>

[useful_tool] <http://www.textarc.org/> = A TextArc is a visual representation of a text—the entire text (twice!) on a single page. A funny combination of an index, concordance, and summary; it uses the viewer's eye to help uncover meaning.

[ref] "Raw Data" Is an Oxymoron (Infrastructures) by Lisa Gitelman
(<http://www.amazon.com/dp/0262518287>)