

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ENGL 48143 Introduction to Digital Humanities

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 32503 Textual Research Methods, or MCOM 39003
Communication Research Methods, or instructor consent
Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

An introduction to the emerging and growing field of digital humanities. Explores the digitization of text and text encoding, digital scholarly editions, distant reading, big data in literature, digital pedagogies, social and new media, network theory and historical application, and real world applications. Focuses on in-depth study of a specific text or corpus for project purposes.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Synthesize knowledge of digital humanities theory and current scholarship.
2. Survey intersection of computing with bibliographic work and the development of scholarly tools and digital editions.
3. Devise research methods and apply methodologies and ethics.
4. Interpret learning management systems, digital pedagogies, and multimodal text production.
5. Create digital humanities projects based on student interest.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Defining digital humanities
- B. Introduction to digital humanities theory and practices
- C. Review of digital humanities projects
- D. Big data and distance reading