

1 Digital Humanities – An Introduction

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Today

- Intro
- A partial history
- Course syllabus
- What is DH?
- Project examples (will move mostly offline)
- A Little Game

Patience and Attention!

- Online classes move **slowly!** Async lectures will help a little, but please be patient
- Even so, **please pay attention** or this will be much harder!

Sign up for Slack!

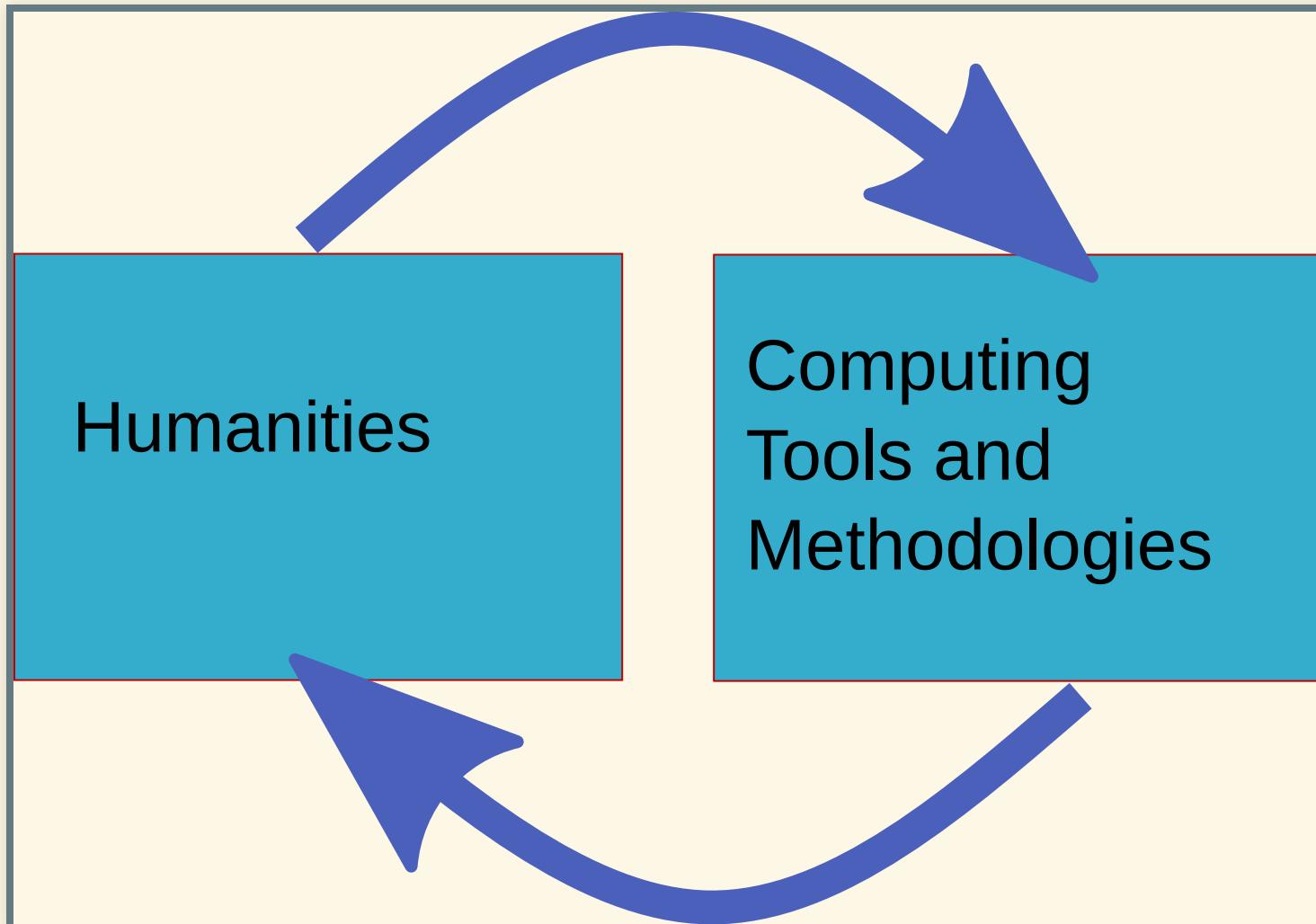
I'd like to keep all chat in **Slack** during class. So please click on this link in your copy of the lecture notes:

Introductions

Me Historian of Science, Emphasis on “Engaged Teaching”

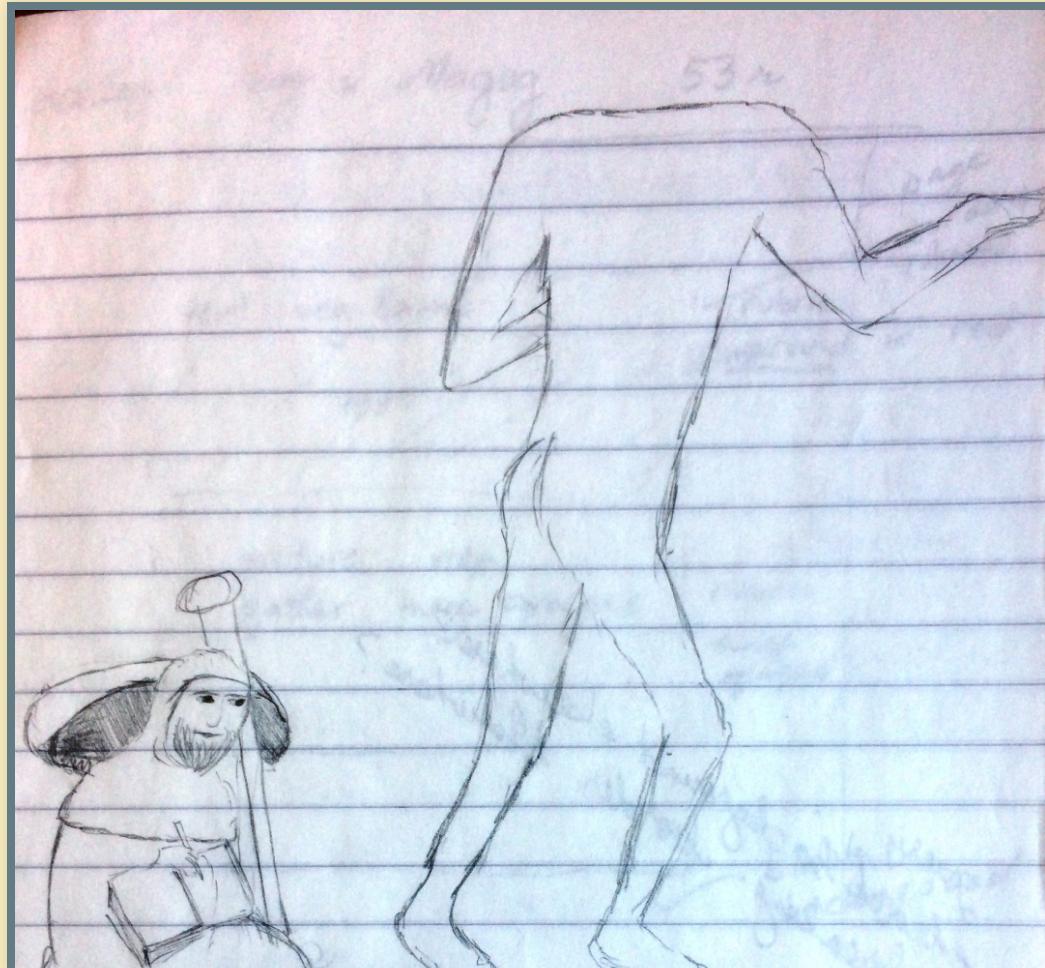
You Let's discuss

DH: at the fluctuating intersections of the humanities with computing



EX: The Book of John Mandeville.

2007 Hand-drawn Sketch



2019 full-colour online image



Humanities' Data

Humanities' Data

Humanities data has depth in small universes. Our material has the capacity to unfold inwards, as it were, to disclose layer upon layer of insights and connections, within a comparatively tiny



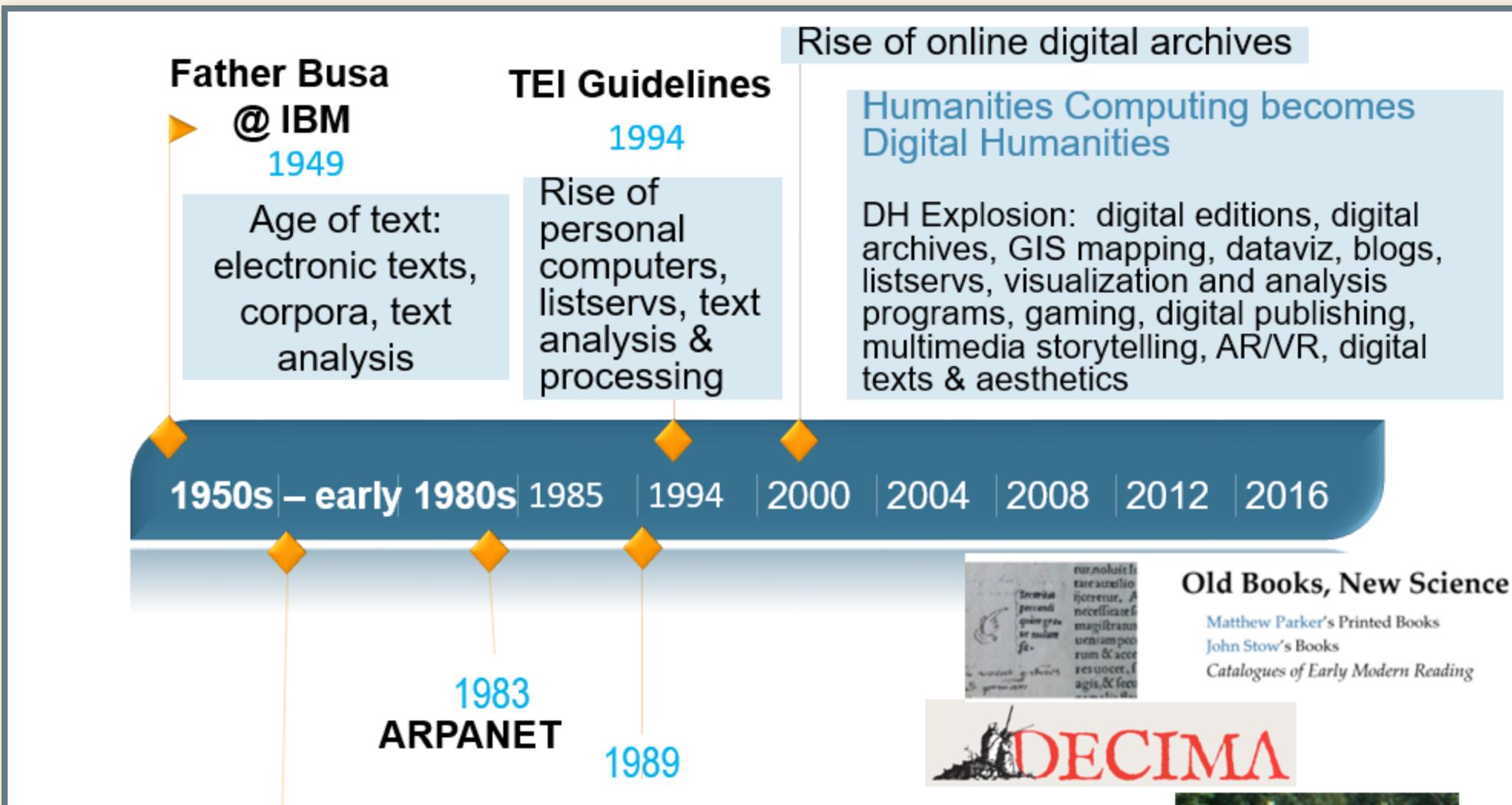
Data and “Capta”

*Data given

*Capta acquired/captured/constructed through interpretation

Johanna Drucker

History



Father Roberto Busa, S. J. (1913-2011)

Index Thomisticus (1950s – 1980s;
2005 online)

- 11 million words of medieval Latin
- 30+ years of editing and analysis
- 8000+ hours of computer processing stacks of punch cards
- 1500 + km of magnetic tape



Father Busa's Female Punch Card Operators

From Father Busa's archive.
CIRCSE Research Centre,
Università Cattolica del Sacro
Cuore, Milan, Italy.in
[\[TerrasAdaLovelaceDay2013\]](#)
Top left: Livia Canestraro.

Father Busa and the *Index Thomisticus*

CORPUS THOMISTICUM
INDEX THOMISTICUS
by Roberto Busa SJ and associates
web edition by Eduardo Bernot and Enrique Alarcón
English version

Search:

[concordances](#) [terms](#) [works](#) [options](#) [new search](#)

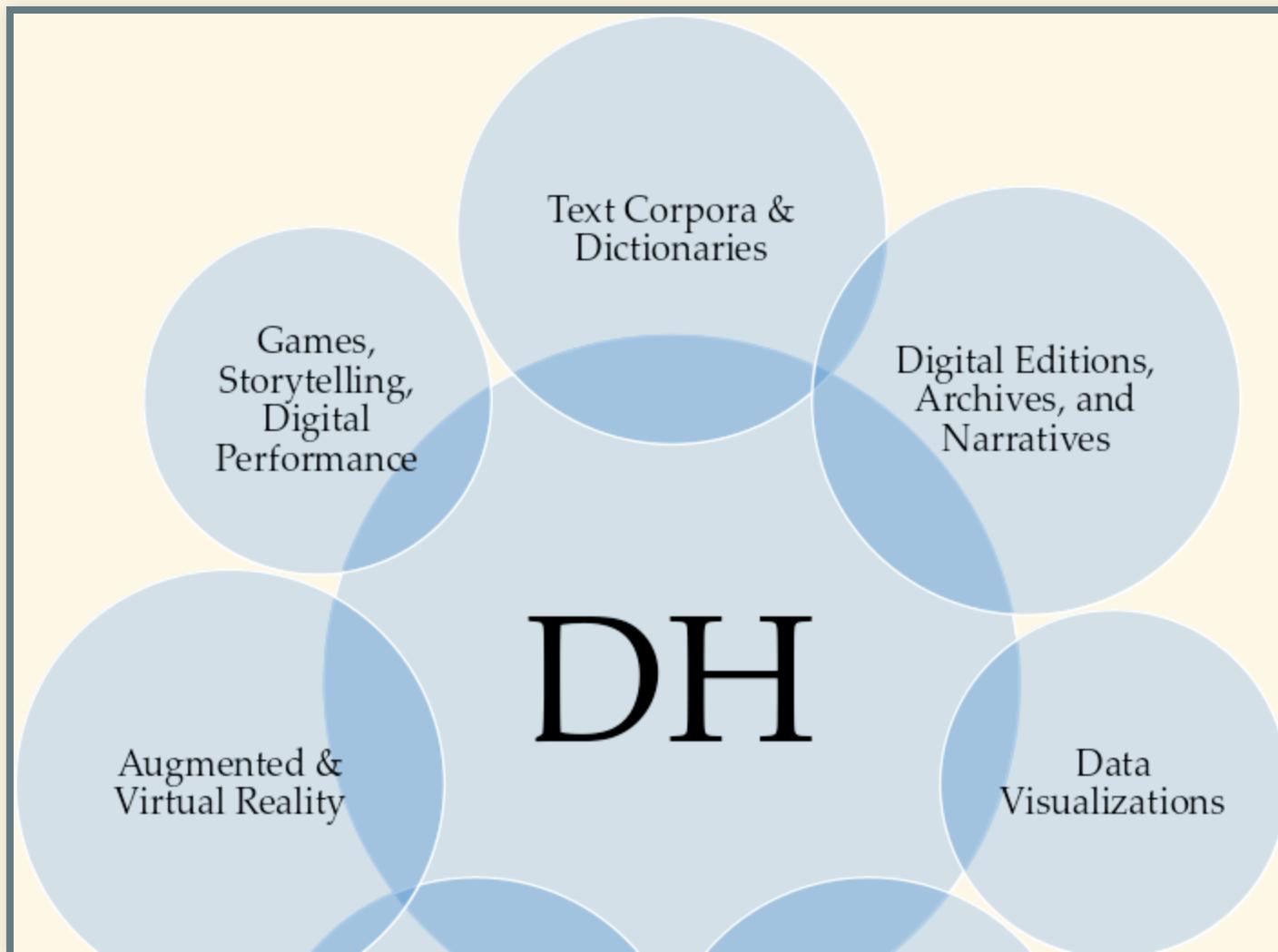
STATISTICS SHOWN ARE FOR ALL 220 WORKS
FREQUENCY BASE IS FOR A TOTAL OF 10631974 WORDS IN 87151 PLACES

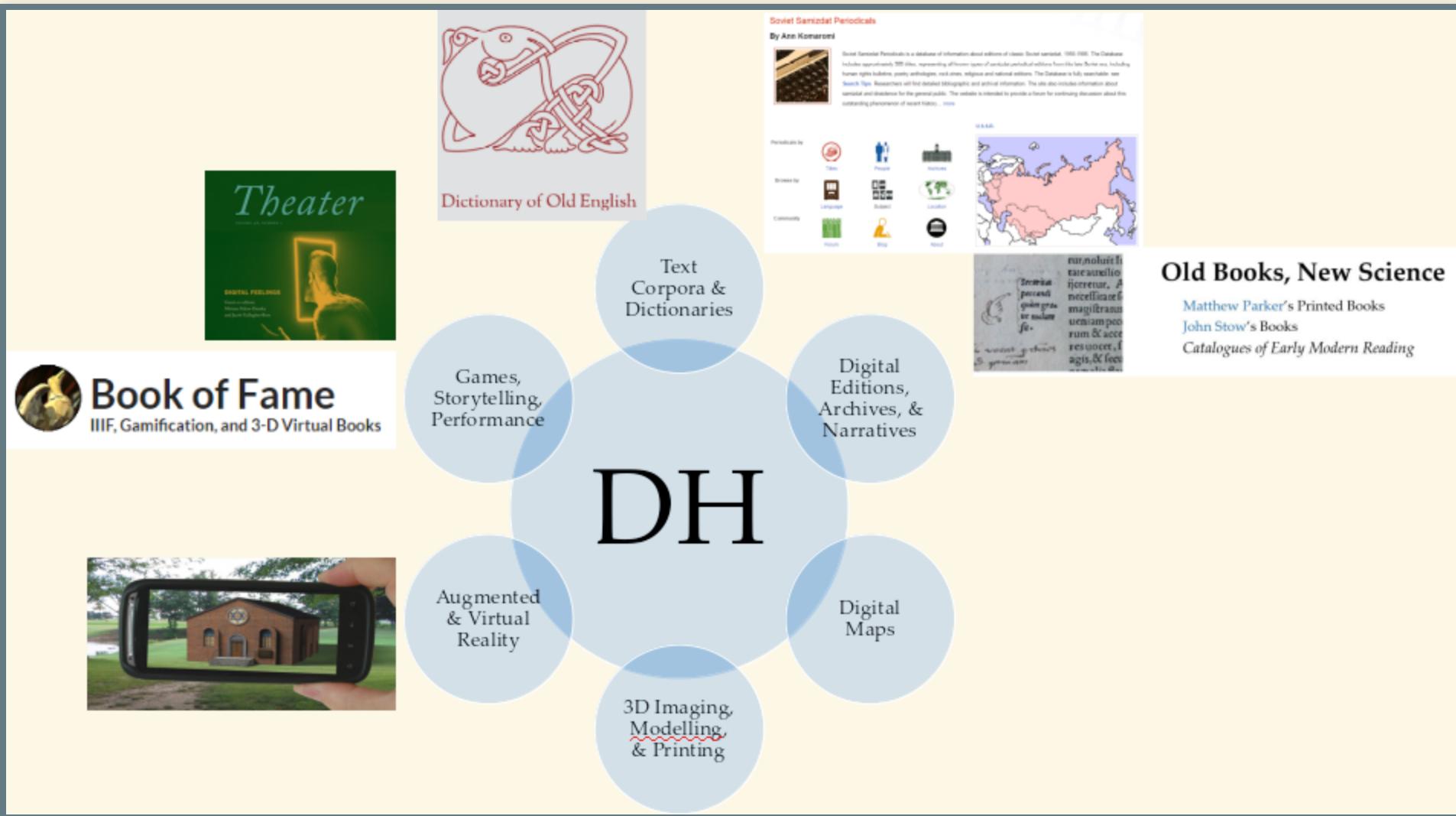
Lemma 65014

praesentia: *praesentia praesenti-ae*
presentia: *presentia presenti-ae*
presencia: *presencia presenci-ae*

Type of lemma: (A) common word
Type of meaning: (AN) common-aspect noun

DH Today





DH: Projects

Digital Editions, Archives, Narratives

Folger: Shakespeare Library

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Folger Shakespeare Library website. The background features a close-up photograph of a white rose. On the left, a vertical banner reads "Folger DIGITAL TEXTS". At the top, there's a navigation bar with links to "HOME", "TEXTS", "DOWNLOAD", "HOW TO CITE", and "API (BETA)". The main content area contains several promotional blocks:

- Timeless Texts, Cutting-Edge Code:** Shakespeare's Plays from *Folger Digital Texts*
Meticulously accurate texts from the Folger Shakespeare Library editions — the #1 Shakespeare texts in U.S. classrooms
- Pick a text, find a phrase, learn more, or just start reading
- Get free downloads, including XML and PDF

On the right side, there are three circular icons with text and arrows pointing to them:

- A black circle with "Read" and a book icon.
- A red circle with "Download" and "<shx>".
- A white circle with "About US" and a large letter "F".

At the bottom, there are links for "TERMS OF USE", "CREDITS", and "FEEDBACK" on the left, and "Folger SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY" on the right. The number "19" is located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Shelley-Godwin Archive



[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [EXPLORE THE ARCHIVE](#) [SEARCH](#) [USING THE ARCHIVE](#)

MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT SHELLEY

continued
remained a long time traversing my
bed chamber unable to compose my
mind to sleep. At length fatigued
succumbed to the tumult I had before
endured, and I threw myself on my
bed in my clothes endeavouring to seek



General Editors: Neil Fraistat, Elizabeth Denlinger, and Raffaele Viglianti

The Archimedes Palimpsest: Multispectral Imaging



Infinite Ulysses: interactive reader's edition by Amanda Visconti

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Infinite Ulysses website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a logo icon, the text "Infinite Ulysses", and links for "Read Now", "About", "Credits", "Contact", "Sign Up!", and a blue "Log In" button. The main content area has a dark background with white text. It features a large call to action: "Come read *Ulysses* with us!" followed by "We welcome readers of every background." Below this, there are three sections with icons and descriptions:

- 

Highlight parts of the book and add your comments & questions.
- 

Read interpretations & help left by other readers.
- 

Customize the annotations you see to just the ones you need!

Maps, Visualizations, Interpretations

Mapping Medieval Chester

- Goal: making a digital map of medieval Chester by combining post-medieval maps with archaeological and historical evidence
- Digital advantage: interactive, layered, & transparent

Mapping Homer's Catalogue of Ships

Courtney Evans and Ben Jasnow, with Jenny Strauss Clay and the UVA Scholars' Lab (2013)

Mapping the towns in Homer's Catalogue of Ships to analyze underlying organizing principles for the narration

Mapping the Catalogue of Ships

Home Credits Creative Commons

The Iliad, Book 2 ([View Fullscreen](#))

Hyria [x](#)
[Pleiades entry](#)

ηρχον
Αρκεσιλαός τε Προθοήνωρ τε Κλονίος
τε, (495)
οῖ θ' Υρινὴ ἐνέμοντο καὶ Αὐλίδα

25

Project DECIMA

University of Toronto, History Dept.

Onto a 16th century map of Florence, DECIMA maps census data about Florence's inhabitants, their occupations, wealth, and daily life.

ToposText: Ancient Texts + Maps

Mapping Ararat

MAPPING ARARAT

AN IMAGINARY JEWISH HOMELANDS PROJECT

[Home](#)

[News](#)

[The Project](#)

[Historical Research](#)

[About the Team](#)

[Contact](#)



Welcome to Mapping Ararat: An Imaginary Jewish Homelands Project. Using augmented reality, this project animates Major Mordecai Noah's 1825 unrealized plan to transform Grand Island, New York into Ararat, "the fairest spot on earth."

About that Land Acknowledgment

- History of Life on this shore
- Dish with One Spoon
- Continuity and Disjuncture

Communication

- Scholarly Writings
- Public Engagement
- Social Media
- Teaching & Collaboration

Scholarly Books: The Networked Monograph

In addition to printed books, can scholarly monographs expand their forms to “take advantage [...] of the interactive, annotative, and computational affordances of the web”? Donald J. Waters, “Monograph Publishing in the Digital Age” (2016)

Digitally augmented scholarly monographs (e.g. Mellon-funded

VR/3D Printing for Cultural Heritage Collections: Small Wonders (AGO)

- Miniature boxwood carvings from the early 1500s
- Studied and exhibited through digital imaging (micro CAT scanning), VR, and 3D printing



Research Materials: Medieval Manuscripts and Social Media



Teaching

This Class

Heather Eason: five artists' representations of threshold crossings
in Dante's *Inferno*. Omeka/Neatline undergraduate student project.

Liminal Representation in the Inferno

[View Fullscreen](#)



Others

Website for [Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee](#), written and developed by students from HIS455, *Hacking History*, 2018.

Collaboration & Infrastructures

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the project `edgi-govdata-archiving / web-monitoring`. The repository has 108 commits, 5 branches, 0 releases, and 11 contributors. It contains 25 issues and no pull requests. The page includes sections for Code, Issues, Pull requests, Projects, Wiki, Insights, and Settings. Topics listed include `web-monitoring`, `documentation`, `project-management`, and `gsoc-2017`.

Search or jump to... / Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

Unwatch 20

Code Issues 25 Pull requests 0 Projects 0 Wiki Insights Settings

Documentation and project-wide issues for the Website Monitoring project (a.k.a. "Scanner") <https://enviromon...>

web-monitoring documentation project-management gsoc-2017 Manage topics

108 commits 5 branches 0 releases 11 contributors

Branch: master ▾ New pull request Create new file Upload files

Course Syllabus

4 main blocks!

Intro (~2 sessions)

- Aims:
 - understand *scope and nature* of Digital humanities

Digital Texts (2 sessions)

- Aims:
 - understand *what happens to text when it goes digital*

Plague Literature (4 sessions, the heart of the course)

- Aims:
 - explore DH in the context of plague

Data in the Humanities (~3 sessions)

- Aims:
 - arrive at a humanities-centric conception of

Assignments!

3 Short Assignments

- ~700 words
- engagement with texts and tools we've learned about.
- first 2 handed out together

Plague Lit Project

- major scaffolded assignment
- consultation, proposal, and exhibit all marked

And don't forget participation

- come to all the classes!
- Pay attention
- Do the work!
- Be respectful to

Let's Play a Game!

[Navigate here](#)

[Let's Look at the code](#)

[Now Build Your Own Stories](#)