



POLS 4701 Political Science Senior Capstone
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Overview of DITI Tools and Student Examples

DITI Tools and Methods

This handout provides an overview of some of the digital tools and methods offered by the Digital Integration Teaching Initiative. The examples below are of student work from a former DITI partnership, unless otherwise noted.

Theory and Methods

Exploring how digital technologies can be used to support scholarly inquiries

Survey Creation and Analysis: Use [Google Forms](#) to collaboratively create a survey and view/analyze the results. Understand how to formulate different types of research questions, from open-ended to Likert scale.

- [DITI Survey Analysis](#) (DITI-created example)

Digital Storytelling

Digital tools that allow data to be presented in narrative and visual formats

Category: Visualization Tools

Knight Lab Timeline: A tool for creating interactive timelines. Requires data organized into a spreadsheet.

- [The Emergence of Facebook](#) (DITI-created example)

Category: Mapping Tools

Knight Lab StoryMap: An effective and user-friendly tool for creating narratives using spatial data.

- [Mapping Shared Spaces: A Visual History of Boston's Black and Jewish Communities](#)
- [Boston Parks and Playgrounds: Community Scan](#)
- [Tapioca Balls](#)

Google My Maps: A simple mapping tool for interactive maps without strong narrative components.

- [Boston's Black Heritage Trail](#) (DITI-created example)

Handout available:

Developed by: Colleen Nugent, DITI Fellow

Questions? Contact us: nulab@northeastern.edu

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Category: Audio Tools

Audacity: A well-supported tool for creating podcasts, and editing audio files

Text Analysis Tools

Open source, web-based tools for text analysis

Word Counter: A free online tool focused on the quantity of words in selected texts. Primarily used in research to isolate certain words, determine word frequency, and reveal language patterns and combinations.

Word Tree: A tool used to investigate specific words and phrases, or determine patterns from a corpus of data. Isolates keywords and creates “branches” to illustrate a hierarchy of terms or organize information around a target word. Best used to investigate patterns in writing

Voyant: A web-based tool used to read and analyze digital texts. Voyant is open source and available through GitHub, and its use is encouraged as a means to illustrate data or provide more interactive evidence on scholarly projects. Contains both text-analysis and data visualization tools.

Lexos: A web-based tool used to explore text corpora and prepare textual data for analysis.

Student work using one or more of these text analysis tools:

- [Abidjan: Floods, Displacements, and Corrupt Institutions](#)
 - [Who Responds First? The Resilience of Women-Focused Organizations to COVID-19 in Metro Manila](#)
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Digital Publication

Tools and best practices for managing content and publishing information online..

Category: Website Building

WordPress: A content management system (CMS) that allows you to host and build websites. Contains a template system, and allows for ample customization.

- [The Merchant of Venice Digital Edition](#)
- [Personal Website: Madison Waldron](#)

Wix: A simplified website designer tool. Allows for a variety of themes. Less design control than WordPress.

- [Personal Website: Marybeth Johnson](#)

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- [Personal Website: Alex Storrer](#)

Category: Digital Archiving

Omeka: A web platform often used by scholars to construct and manage digital archives. Supports digital files, and builds appropriate citations/credit to creators of archival artifacts.

- [Texts of Taste Digital Archive](#)
- [The Secondhand Archive](#)

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