BA Digital Humanties Minor Exploratory search task description

This week, we will interrogate the tool-orientedness of Digital Humanities scholarship. To do so, you will not only read literature but also work on analysing how a digital tool frames research questions and knowledge-production.

For the Tuesday class, please prepare by creating a **research diary**. You will be reflecting on a tool called the CLARIAH Media Suite. The Media Suite "facilitates access to key Dutch audio-visual and contextual collections with advanced mixed media search and analysis tools".

The Media Suite contains different tools to explore large audio-visual archives. One of these tools is DIVE+. This is a linked-data digital cultural heritage collection browser. It was developed to provide access to heritage objects from different collections, using **historical events and narratives** as the context for searching, browsing and presenting objects. The DIVE+ tool makes connections between media objects, and the events, people, locations and concepts (also called 'entities') that are depicted or associated with those objects. Instead of more traditional types of search, DIVE+ encourages exploratory search.

The preparation assignment entails the following:

1. First, read about the CLARIAH Media Suite via here and here.

2. Look at the Data and the Tools (Inspect, Search, Explore).

3. Choose one of the tools to start your own research project, and create you research diary.

To give you an example: if you want to investigate the tool "DIVE+" (under "Explore" tools)

- Browse DIVE+ and use exploratory search to come up with a research question around a media event, person (Beatrix), locations (etc. "Jakarta"), concept (e.g. "liberation" translated into Dutch as "bevrijding") or object (e.g."train" translated into Dutch as "trein").
- Explore the repository with a pre-set research topic or research question of your own interest.

NB: Be critical of the search terms you formulate, and what type of content you can expect find in DIVE+. Make sure you have achieved at least 5 good research results before writing the research diary.

Then, create a research diary (use the format of a table or a document) logging the following categories:

1) search process: which specific steps did you take - NB: this needs to include formulating (a) research question(s), your focus on specific topics, and an overview of keywords used

2) your explorations: study the found sources and reflect on what type of results you found

3) **expectations:** how were your expectations met? How does an exploratory search tool like DIVE+ compare to Google for instance?

Deadline: make sure to have your research diary at the ready during our class on Tuesday and include it as an appendix with your blog post that is due on Friday the 1st of October, 5 pm.