An Introduction to Digital Humanities IDPT 19916-01

Dr. Jacob Heil Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:50

Can a machine tell me what books are about? What happens when we can visualize literary movements? Can we teach computers to read? When we apply digital research methods or digital modes of thought to our humanistic questions, we're engaged in a burgeoning field broadly conceived as Digital Humanities (DH). In this introductory course we will explore the discourses of DH, we will experiment with digital tools and research methods, and we will become practicing digital humanists through a critical engagement with those tools, methods, and discourses.

All students interested in an introduction to Digital Humanities methods and meanings are welcomed. The more humanistically-inclined student should be interested in experimenting with technologies, while the computational expert should be prepared to think critically about digitally-inflected humanistic inquiry. One-half of the course will feature hands-on practice, while the other half will offer contextualizing theories and discussions. (NB: Because of the professor's disciplinary biases, our questions and datasets will trend toward literary applications. You've been warned!)