Melvin **Wevers**

POST DOC · DIGITAL HUMANITIES GROUP (KNAW)

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Education

Utrecht University   *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

PHD IN CULTURAL HISTORY / DIGITAL HISTORY   *2013 - 2017*

- Ph.D. Thesis: Consuming America. A Data-Driven Analysis of the United States as a Reference Culture in Dutch Public Discourse on Consumer goods, 1890 - 1990
- Part of the NWO-funded project Translantis

University of Amsterdam   *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

RMA IN CULTURAL ANALYSIS (CUM LAUDE)   *2009 - 2010*

- Thesis: Blogosphere of Connoisseurs

Utrecht University   *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

MA IN AMERICAN STUDIES (CUM LAUDE)   *2006 - 2009*

- Thesis: The Expression of Myth and Cultural Identity in American Indie Music

Utrecht University   *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

MSC IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY   *2001 - 2006*

- Thesis: The effect of group-based cognitive therapy on the positive symptoms of schizophrenia
- Internship at Mesos Medical Center in Utrecht

Academic Work Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher   *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

DIGITAL HUMANITIES GROUP, KNAW HUMANITIES CLUSTER   *Oct. 2017 - Present*

- As part of the newly-founded Digital Humanities Group I will work together with researchers in the Humanities Cluster as well as external researchers.

Invited Researcher   *Los Angeles, U.S.A*

INSTITUTE FOR PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS, UCLA   *March. 2016 - June. 2016*

- Participated in the long program 'Culture Analytics' that was organized by the Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics at UCLA. During this program I participated in workshops and conferences, and set up research project.

Visiting Researcher   *London, the United Kingdom*

BRITISH LIBRARY DIGITAL LABS   *Feb. 2015 - March. 2015*

- Explored the British Library's historical newspaper collection and integrated their data format into the text mining tool Texcavator.

Relevant Work Experience

Project Manager   *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

EDIA, EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY   *2008 - 2013*

- Edia is an Amsterdam-based software company that specializes in eLearning and language technology

Teaching

Workshop 'Data Visualization with Python'   *Aarhus, Denmark*

TEXT MINING THE GREAT UNREAD (TEXT MINING SUMMER SCHOOL), AARHUS UNIVERSITY   *July 28, 2017*

- Workshop on data visualization using Python and Jupyter Notebooks. During the work I showed basic graphing techniques using Matplotlib, Pandas, and Seaborn.

Workshop 'Mining Delpher Data' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

DH Benelux 2017, Utrecht University *2017*

- Workshop on harvesting, analysing, and visualizing Delpher Data using Python and Jupyter Notebooks. This workshop was organized by the National Library of the Netherlands.

Guest Lecture 'A workflow for studying the American cigarette in Dutch newspapers' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

DH Minor, Utrecht University *March 6, 2017*

Course 'Digital Humanities' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

RMA Cultural History, Utrecht University *2015*

- RMA course on digital humanities for cultural historians. I taught this course with Dr. Pim Huijnen. Topics included source criticism, tool criticism, and text mining.

Tutor Thesis Lab *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

RMA Cultural History, Utrecht University *2015*

- Assisting RMA students with their thesis' writing process.

Guest Lecture 'Studying Americanization using computational tools' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

American Studies MA, Utrecht University *November 30, 2015*

Workshop 'Academic Tools' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

BA History, Utrecht University *2014*

- I gave a workshop on the use of Evernote and Zotero for students.

Course 'Humanities: Past, Present, Future' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

Institute for Cultural Inquiry (ICON), Utrecht University *2014*

- RMA course on the genealogy of the humanities and contemporary debates concerning the current position and future of the humanities. Coordinator: Dr. Iris van der Tuin

Course 'Introduction to Historiography' *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

BA History, Utrecht University *2013*

- BA course on historiography. Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Leen Dorsman

Invited Talks

Beyond Criticism: A Pragmatic Approach to Computation in American Studies *Hannover, Germany*

German American Studies Association (DGfA) *June 9, 2017*

An Iterative Workflow for Working with Digitized Newspapers *Odense, Denmark*

Text Mining Winter School, University of Southern Denmark *April 17 - 18, 2017*

Identifying Strong and Weak Signals of Cultural Expression in Digitized Newspapers *Guangxi, China*

Calculus of Culture Workshop, Institute of Complexity Science and Big data Technology, Guangxi University *March 21, 2017*

Applying the Forth Paradigm of Data Science to Cultural History *Aarhus, Denmark*

Text Mining Summer School, Aarhus University *August 4, 2016*

Branding America in Cigarette Advertisements *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

New Trends in eHumanities, KNAW *February 25, 2016*

Tracing Concepts in Dutch Newspaper Discourse   *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

Descartes Center, Utrecht University   *September 22, 2015*

Digital History: studying Coca-Cola as symbol of the American Way of Life   *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

CREATE Salon, University of Amsterdam   *November 17, 2015*

Using Texcavator for Newspaper Analysis   *London, UK*

Working with News Data Across Different Media Workshop, British Library   *September 7, 2015*

Doing Digital History   *London, UK*

UCL DH Seminar, University College London   *February 25, 2015*

Topic Modeling in Practice   *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

DH Minor, Utrecht University   *2014*

Putting the Human Back into Digital Humanities   *Utrecht, UK*

Cultural History Seminar, Utrecht University   *November 19, 2013*

Publications ———————————————————————

Conference Proceedings

Design and implementation of ShiCo: Visualizing Shifting Concepts over Time   *Krakow, Poland*

Carlos Martinez-Ortiz, Tom Kenter, Melvin Wevers, Pim Huijnen, Jaap Verheul, & Joris van Eijnatten   *2016*

HistoInformatics 2016

Ad Hoc Monitoring of Vocabulary Shifts over Time   *Melbourne, Australia*

Tom Kenter, Melvin Wevers, Pim Huijnen, & Maarten de Rijke   *2015*

CIKM '15

Mapping America in Dutch Public Discourse: A Digital Approach to Researching the United States as Reference Culture   *Olomouc, Czech Republic*

Melvin Wevers & Pim Huijnen   *2013*

Conference Proceedings Olomouc 2013 American Studies Collooquium

Journal Articles

Doing Digital History Iteratively: Combining Traditional and Computational Methods to Research America as a Cultural Model in Dutch Newspapers   *In Print*

Melvin Wevers & Jesper Verhoef   *2017*

Digital Humanities Quarterly

Digital Deconstruction. The Digital Turn and the use of Media as Sources for Doing History

Melvin Wevers & Pim Huijnen   *2015*

Officina della Storia

Conference Papers

Tracking the Consumption Junction - Long Range Dependencies and Predictive Causality in 20th Century Dutch Newspapers

MELVIN WEVERS & KRISTOFFER NIELBO

DH Nordic '17

Gothenburg, Sweden

March 16, 2017

A DH Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?

MELVIN WEVERS & DEVIN VARTIJA

How to Do A Million Things with Words @ UBC

Vancouver, Canada

November 3, 2016

Concepts Through Time: Tracing Concepts in Dutch Newspaper Discourse using Word Embeddings

MELVIN WEVERS, TOM KENTER, & PIM HUIJNEN

DH 2015

Sydney, Australia

July 1, 2015

Reporting the Empire: The Pall Mall Gazette 1870-1900

MELVIN WEVERS & TESSA HAUSWEDELL

DH Benelux 2015

Antwerp, Belgium

June 8, 2015

The Digital History Cycle

MELVIN WEVERS & JESPER VERHOEF

DH Benelux 2015

Antwerp, Belgium

June 8, 2015

Blending in the American Taste

MELVIN WEVERS

AHA 2015

New York, USA

January 3, 2015

Between Flappers and 'Bakvissen'. The Emancipatory Potential of the American Female Smoker in Dutch Consumer Society.

MELVIN WEVERS

Reference Cultures and Imagined Empires 2015

Utrecht, the Netherlands

June 11, 2014

America Blends In

MELVIN WEVERS

EAAS 2014

The Hague, the Netherlands

April 6, 2014

Smoke Like an American

MELVIN WEVERS

American Studies Colloquium

Olomouc, Czech Republic

September 4, 2013

Grants & Fellowships

Infrastructure Grant

DANISH ESCIENCE CENTER

- "Semantic Disruptions using Topic Modeling on Danish and Dutch newspapers" with Dr. Kristoffer Nielbo and Dr. Mads Thomsen

Denmark

2017 - PRESENT

Research Grant

INSTITUTIONS FOR OPEN SOCIETIES, UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

- "Europe from Below: Popular Understandings of Europe in Digital Collections" with Prof. Dr. Joris van Eijnatten and Dr. Femke van Esch, €12,210

Utrecht, the Netherlands

Apr. 2017 - Oct. 2017

Researcher-in-Residence

KB LAB, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE NETHERLANDS

- "Combining Textual Content and Non-Textual Features of Digitized Newspaper Advertisements to Study Historical Developments in Dutch Consumer Society"

The Hague, the Netherlands

Apr. 2017 - Oct. 2017

Young Researcher Grant

HERRENHAUSEN CONFERENCE: SOCIETY THROUGH THE LENS OF THE DIGITAL

- Grant to pay for travel and housing

Hannover, Germany

May 31 - Jun. 2, 2017

Travel & Housing Grant *Los Angeles, USA*

INSTITUTE FOR PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS, UCLA *Mar. 2016 - Jun. 2016*

Short Stay Ph.D. Fellowship *Utrecht, the Netherlands*

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY *Mar. 2016 - Jun. 2016*

• Grant of €2000 to cover costs of research stay in Los Angeles

Path-Finding Project *Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

NETHERLANDS ESCIENCE CENTER *2015-2016*

• "Mining Shifting Concepts through Time (ShiCo): Word Vector Text Mining Change and Continuity in Conceptual History", with Prof. Dr. Joris van Eijnatten, Dr. Jaap Verheul, Dr. Pim Huijnen, and Tom Kenter, €50,000.

Skills

Programming	Python, R, CSS, LaTeX, UNIX
Libraries	Pandas, Seaborn, Gensim, NLTK, Stanford NLP, Mallet, STM
Tools	Gephi, AntConc, CasualConc, Jupyter, OpenRefine, Ableton Live
Languages	Dutch, English, German
Organizing	THATCamp, 2015
Reviewer	DH Benelux 2017 Conference, Junctions: Graduate Journal of the Humanities
Panel	Historicidagen 2017, DH Benelux 2017