Emily Dickinson: Fascicle 16 compares the changes made to the versions of Dickinson’s poems within Fascicle 16. The project evolved from two defunct sites that presented digital renditions of the poems’ manuscripts and transcriptions. Our purpose was to unite the nineteenth and twentieth century editions, as well as the manuscripts, into a single website.

In the fall of 2015 Digital Humanities: Coding and Digital Archives course at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg we worked with photofacimiles of Dickinson’s manuscripts to fix any transcription errors and mark-up the poems’ original variations using TEI XML coding. We added the variations found in the published versions. Next, we used XSLT to transform our XML into HTML. Using CSS and JavaScript we were able to display the variations between the manuscript transcriptions and the published versions. We also used Photoshop and image-mapping over all of the poems’ images to show where the variations were located and compare Dickinson’s original poems to the published versions. Finally, we used SVG to graph the percentage of dash reduction in the published versions compared to the manuscripts.

Our studies found that the published versions changed the original poems considerably. We particularly focused on the dashes that were removed by later editors. These changes are significant because the dashes sometimes create a caesura, and the lack of or addition of them in the published versions alter how the poems are read and understood. This knowledge will help facilitate other scholars’ literary research about Emily Dickinson’s Fascicle 16. Future development of this project will include analyzing different changes between the original and published versions of the poems, such as capitalization, punctuation, and word choice.

STUFF TAKEN OUT:

is a repurposed version of two previous websites that explore the poems in Dickinson’s Fascicle 16. The original websites look at variants within the poems that Dickinson herself had made. Our group compared the changes that were made to the poems in a selected list of published versions from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We worked together

The skills we acquired in this course allowed us to document, analyze, and display these poems digitally. First,