

Reflections on Future Work

All the modules I undertook made me gain more confidence in my decision to work in the digital humanities. I have therefore decided to take a sabbatical leave of a few months before continuing on the Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science. I would like to improve on a few of my shortcomings, especially in coding with Python. I have, therefore, decided to engage myself fully into one Digital Humanities Project, where I will use the skills, I have acquired in the PGCert.

I am thinking of creating a repository of travel writing on Mauritius (from 1715 to 1968). The figure below is a brief visual representation of how the CS concepts will be used in this humanities project:

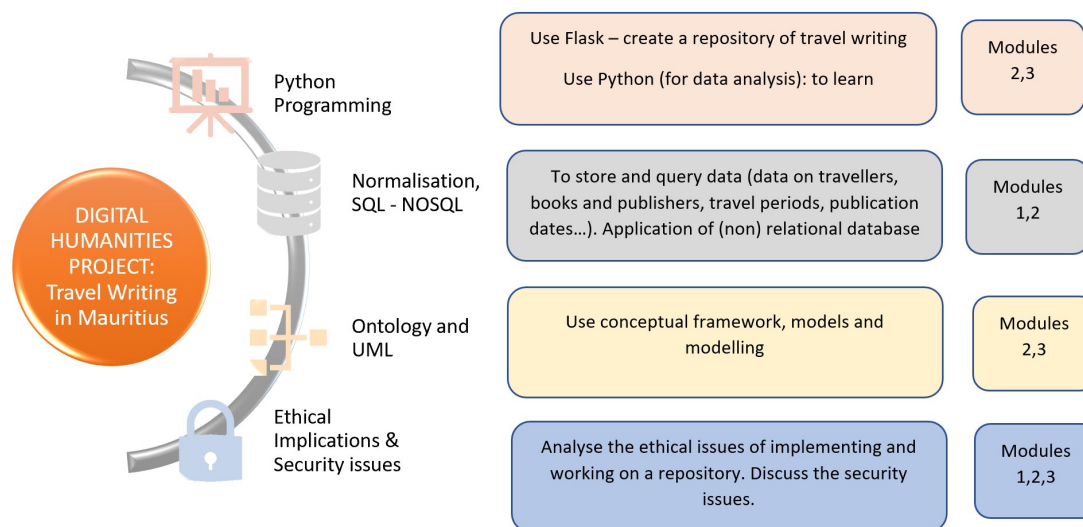


Figure 1: Applying concepts learnt in a digital humanities project

I'll try to briefly explain what I would like to do:

- I will use Python-Flask to create a repository of travel writing on Mauritius.

- Who will be the users? Anyone who wishes to share and work on travel writing. To be able to control who gets access to the repository, I'm thinking of having the admin to personally register the users. An online request form to register will have to be filled by the users.
- I will have to look into the security questions too: data protection, GDPR, OWASP etc.
- The idea is to set up a community of serious researchers in the field (digital humanities and travel writing), where different analysis techniques could be discussed. I will have to look into text analysis/sentiment analysis in Python. I'm also thinking of querying data with SQL (creating tables of travellers, dates of departure (country of origin), date of arrival in Mauritius, the stopovers, the titles of their travel texts, publishing date of the texts. I will have to look into NoSQL too. I'll have to think further on the UML and ontology part. I came across an online article: "THE PLACE OF MODELS AND MODELLING IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES: INTERSECTIONS WITH A RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEERING PERSPECTIVE" [https://dh2020.adho.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/172_TheplaceofmodelsandmodellinginDigitalHumanitiesIntersectionswithaResearchSoftwareEngineeringperspective.html]. XML is often mentioned – will have to check.
- Copyright of texts deposited in the repository will have to be checked. Users will have to sign a claim concerning this. Texts in the 18th and 19th century are normally accessible without rights. Must check 20th century texts.
- I will also have to look deeply into the ethical implications of analysing archived data.