1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description
This variable-content course provides a senior-level seminar experience in the conduct, presentation, and writing of research relevant to the interdisciplinary core of the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree program. (See the B.A.S. website for topics.)

Pre-Requisites: 12.00 credits including (ASCI*2000 or ASCI*2050)
Restrictions: Registration in the BAS degree program.

1.2 Course Description

This course introduces students to contemporary debates in the digital humanities and situates those debates within the context of an investigation of the humanities more generally. What are the humanities and how are they transformed by new digital technologies? How can we use new digital tools to reimagine what we do when we read texts, think about history, and enter into public debate? How do new digital formats such as e-books and podcasts transform the ways we tell stories? In what ways do video games reframe our understanding of the world? This course is interdisciplinary and will call on students to draw on their critical reading and thinking skills in coordination with engagement with new digital tools.

The course will balance critical readings that introduce the digital humanities with a team-based approach to experiments with digital technologies. Students will work with others as they use digital technologies in the form of podcasting, digital textual analysis, gaming, and a final project of their choosing.

This class runs asynchronously. Lectures will be posted online and students will be expected
to respond to lectures as part of discussion groups and in a team blog.

1.3 Timetable

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

**Week 1 – Course Introduction - Introduction to Digital Humanities**

Framing debates in the Digital Humanities

Introduction to DH projects

Matthew Kirschenbaum, “What is Digital Humanities and What’s it Doing in English Departments?”

Excerpt: Digital_Humanities: "Humanities to Digital Humanities"

**Week 2 – Framing the Digital Humanities**


Susan Hockey, "The History of Humanities Computing"

Northrop Frye, "The Role of the University," "The University and Personal Life"
**Week 3 – Distant Reading**

Kathleen Fitzpatrick, “The Humanities, Done Digitally”

Ted Underwood, “Seven Ways Humanists Are Using Computers to Understand Texts”

Scott Weingart, “Topic Modeling for Humanists: A Guided Tour”

**Tool: Voyant:** Experiments with Bronte corpus.

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**Week 4 - Distant Reading the Humanities**

Stanley Fish, “The Digital Humanities and Interpretation” & “The Digital Humanities and the Transcending of Morality”

Group Reading: Nan Z. Da “The Computational Case Against Computational Literary Studies”

**Tool: Hypothesis**

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**Week 5 - Digital Mapping**

McConchie, Alan, and Beth Schechter. “Anatomy of a Web Map.” http://maptime.io/anatomy-of-a-web-map/#0. (Please give this a moment to load and then click each slide to advance.)

**Tool:** NativeLand

**Week 6 – Embodied Data: Biopolitics**

Excerpts: Algorithms of Oppression

Excerpts: Encoding the pandemic

Foucault, *The Birth of Biopolitics* (excerpts)

**Week 7 – Race and Remix**

Josh Tyrangiel, “What is Code?”

Excerpts: Data Feminism

Poetry: Rupi Kaur
Album: Girl Talk: Feed the Animals

Jordan Abel, *Injun*

**Tool: Audacity**

**Week 8 – Paradigms of Data**

Amelia Acker and Tanya Clement, “Data Cultures, Culture as Data”

Niels Kerssen, “De-Agentializing Data Practices”

Élika Ortega, "Zonas de Contacto: A Digital Humanities Ecology of Knowledges"

**Week 9 - Gaming DH**

Ian Bogost, "The Rhetoric of Video Games”

Excerpt: Nick Dyer-Witheford and Greig de Peuter, *Games of Empire*

Game: “Papers, Please”
TOOL: Twine 2

**Week 10 - Neoliberal Games!**

Jason Read, “A Genealogy of Homo-Economicus: Neoliberalism and the Production of Subjectivity”


Game: Zombies, Run!

**Week 11 – Black and Indigenous DH**

ProPublica, “Machine Bias”

Tara McPherson, “Why Are the Digital Humanities So White?”

Kim Gallon, “Making a Case for the Black Digital Humanities”

**Week 12 – Neoliberal Tools?**
Allington, Brouillete and Columbia, “Neoliberal Tools and Archives: A Political History of the Digital Humanities”

Matthew Kirschenbaum, “Am I a Digital Humanist? Confessions of a Neoliberal Tool.”

Roopika Risam: “Beyond the Margins: Intersectionality and the Digital Humanities”

Week 13 – DH Futures

Brian Greenspan, “Are Digital Humanists Utopian?”


Bonnie Ruberg, Jason Boyd, and James Howe, “Towards a Queer Digital Humanities.”
1.4 Final Exam

There is a final project, no final exam.

2 Instructional Support

This course will be held asynchronously (lectures will be posted in advance and students can view them at a time of their choosing). During the scheduled lectures times, Professor Barrett will be present and available in a live meeting for students to attend and participate in discussion and ask questions about the material. Students will be expected to participate in weekly discussions, either "live" in small groups during the lecture session, or during the course of the week via Slack (a messaging system) and via the class blog.

Instructions for how to access class lectures, use Slack, and participate in online discussions will be forthcoming via email.

Additionally, Professor Barrett will be available for 2 virtual office hours per week (to be decided by class poll) or by appointment.

3 Learning Resources

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. • Assess digital methods of representation, analysis, narrative. [1]
   • Work as part of a team to critique digital cultural objects from a number of perspectives. [2]
   • Engage in the debates that have animated discussion of the digital humanities. [3]
   • Investigate how concepts such as race, gender, Indigeneity, and sexuality are imagined in new ways using digital modes of representation. [4]
   • Employ digital methods to engage in arts and social science forms of analysis. [5]
• Write for both a scholarly and public audience using digital tools. [6]
• Collaborate with a team to develop a substantial final project that both addresses the debates in the digital humanities and that employs digital methods as part of its composition. [7]

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

6 Assessments

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

(Learning Outcomes in brackets)

Team blog – 20% [ongoing] [1,2,3,4,6]

Team podcast – 20% [week 9] [2,3,4,5,6]

Podcast feedback – 10% [week 10] [3,5]

Discussion board participation – 10% [ongoing] [1,3,4]

Final project – 30% [final class] [7]

Final project reflection – 10% [final class] [1,3,4,7]
Students may submit assignments late with a penalty of 3% per day. After ten days, the assignment will be receive a zero. Given the collaborative nature of the assignments in the class, students are advised to let the instructor know, as soon as possible, if a team member is not participating or collaborating.

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

7.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml
7.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm

7.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-
7.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars
https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars

7.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/) and circulated by email.

7.10 Illness

The University will not require verification of illness (doctor’s notes) for the fall 2020 or winter 2021 semesters.