

History of the Book and Digital Humanities (A005244)

Course size	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>			
Credits 6.0	Study time 150 h	Contact hrs	20.0 h	
Course offerings in academic year 2023-2024				
A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent		

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

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Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in Literary Studies	6	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

book history, Digital Humanities, periodical studies

Position of the course

This course offers in-depth insight into literary research at the intersection with Digital Humanities, history, and periodical studies, with a focus on the role of poetry in the development of the first feminist movements in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Taught in close collaboration with GhentCDH (Ghent Centre for Digital Humanities), the course familiarises students with the most important theoretical developments in periodical studies. Through practical training, students are also introduced to some of the most recent and innovative methods in Digital Humanities. Finally, they apply these methods to a literary case study which they conduct individually as well as in group, with a common focus on the role of periodical poetry in the development of the first feminist movements of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Contents

Feminist periodicals are a key historical source for the study of the emergence and development of feminist movements. This course sets out from the observation that the literary texts (and more specifically, poetry) in these periodicals are often overlooked. The course will teach students how to map and analyse these poems using both traditional and digital research methods. We will examine the poems in their original material and textual contexts and explore how we can study poetry as a publication strategy in light of the periodicals' political agendas. We will do so by drawing on insights and concepts from periodical studies and history of feminism and combining them with poetry analysis and Digital Humanities methods. Students will be introduced to a number of specific tools and methods currently under development by (among others) GhentCDH. One example is Madoc, a platform for collecting and enriching (transcribing, metading, and annotating) digital objects such as digitised periodicals (<https://www.ghentcdh.ugent.be/projects/madoc-iiif-annotation-and-crowdsourc-platform>). Students will apply these tools and methods to a case study of their own. They will also participate in discussions with their fellow students and teachers about the use of digital tools in literary research and formulate feedback and ideas on, for instance, user-friendliness and potential improvements and additional features. Finally, this ongoing discussion will be contextualised more broadly through reflection on the relationship between literature and history, both as

objects of study and as scholarly disciplines.

Initial competences

Participants hold a Master's degree in Language and Literature or have successfully completed a comparable Master's programme with a sufficiently strong literary component.

Final competences

- 1 Interpreting and applying key concepts from periodical studies.
- 2 Applying digital methods to literary research.
- 3 Combining traditional and digital literary research methods and integrating them into a small-scale case study.
- 4 Acquiring insight into the relationship between literature and history.
- 5 Giving constructive feedback on the work of fellow students and on the digital methods taught in class.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Project, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminar: The interactive seminars focus on discussion among students and teachers and practical training in a number of digital tools.

Project: individual and joint project activities with peer feedback and coaching from the lecturer

Learning materials and price

All learning materials will be made available online at no cost.

References

Course content-related study coaching

There will be ample opportunity for discussion and questions during class. Students can talk to the teacher after class. They can also ask questions via the digital learning platform Ufora or make an appointment via email.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Oral examination, participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Participation: students actively participate in the seminars.

Oral exam: students give an in-class presentation on their work in progress.

Assignment: students complete their assignment in written, digital form.

Calculation of the examination mark

20% participation; 30% oral exam; 50% assignment

Facilities for Working Students

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance for some classes.
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year.
- 3 Feedback can be given via appointment during or after office hours. For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy.