Advancing Your Research Skills for the Digital Age

2013

Digital Scholarship

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Graduate Student Workshops 2013
Digital Scholarship

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What is digital scholarship?

- Still being defined: early stages which means inconsistent terminology and adoption
- Acceptance varies by discipline and institution
  - Your department may not be doing it, but the place you want to get hired may expect it and expect you to be prepared to do it for tenure
  - Review journals and conference proceedings in your discipline to see what's accepted and where things are going
- Encompasses means of analysis (new methodology) through dissemination
- Constantly changing

A couple of working definitions: narrow and broad

- "Digital scholarship is the use of digital evidence and method, digital authoring, digital publishing, digital curation and preservation, and digital use and reuse of scholarship." - Abby Smith Rumsey's *New-Model Scholarly Communication: Roadmap for Change*

- "Research and teaching that is made possible by digital technologies, or that takes advantage of them to ask and answer questions in new ways." – Melanie Schlosser, OSU Digital Publishing Librarian

How the Libraries can help you:
Primarily focused on research and job hunting

1. Digital research tools
   digitized print materials and artifacts
2. Digital publishing
   online journals and books
3. Shameless self-promotion
   digital archiving
4. Research enhanced with computer analysis and visualization (early stages)
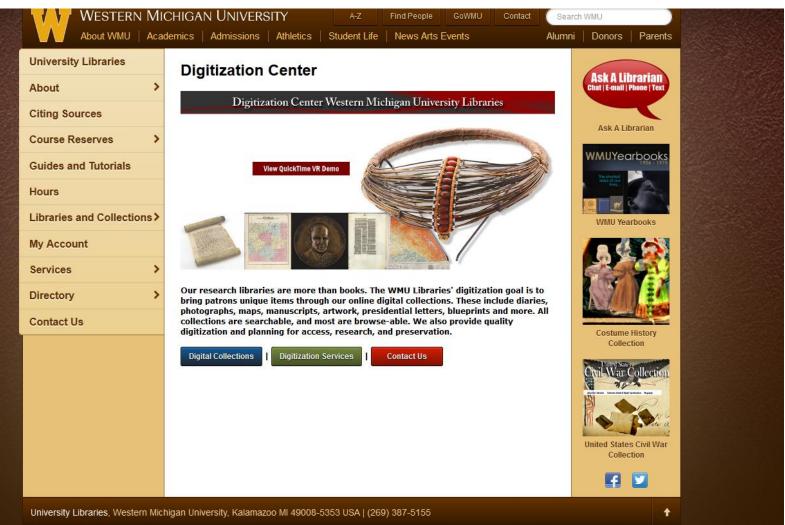
Digitization: Make your work easy to discover!

What we have done in the past

[WMU Digital Collections](#)

- Presents digitized scholarship
- Can digitize projects for you
  - Capture digital versions of artifacts
    - High resolution [photos](#) and recording of [objects](#)
  - [Help you make those artifacts as discoverable as possible with good metadata](#) and search tools
    - TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) [markup in XML](#): transcription and enhancement of texts

Requires time and specialized equipment = $$

Digitization Services

Digital Publishing: going in with your eyes open

- Many of the same rules apply as for print: How do I identify a good journal for my work?
  - Good fit to purpose of the publication and other material in the journal
  - Prestige
  - Impact factor
- Many print journals using digital submission or available in dual formats
- Visit the liaison for your department if you want help researching potential places to publish

Subject Librarian Directory

Shameless self promotion
Online Scholarly Repositories at WMU that help you market yourself

WMU has two permanent digital archiving services

- Selected works
  - provides a place to enter an online curriculum vita with publications, presentations, awards, areas of specialty, etc.

- Scholarworks
  - Published scholarship
  - Scholarship that is difficult to publish elsewhere
  - Conference organization: organize submissions and streamline some parts of the process

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Wooded

Thesis consists of diary entries written by the author, Lucas Blanco during a trip to Poland. Accompanied by drawings of the author's experience.

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ScholarWorks at WMU

• Browse repository by department or unit

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A digital showcase of the research, scholarly and creative output of members of the Western Michigan University community. The ScholarWorks repository is administered by WMU Libraries and serves as a permanent digital archive for these materials. For more information on ScholarWorks and SelectedWorks, see our ScholarWorks Guide. To find out how your work can be included, contact wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu.

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Dorothy J. McGinnis

Enhance research: envision new ways to analyze and disseminate work

Some current examples:

- Using existing tools to work with texts and ideas you are engaged with

- Create new technologies for scholarly collaboration

- Visualizing research through creating new ways to link ideas, mapping, interactive graphic data manipulation, virtual reality and things no one may have thought of yet

The best digital projects are not the work of one person, but rather team oriented. Some favorites of Sue's

- Multimedia collections: Digital Nepal
- Mapping: Manuscripts
- Rectifying maps: NYPL
- Mapping over time: California railroads

And some favorites of Kate's

- Quijote Interactivo http://quijote.bne.es/libro.html an interactive digitization of the original edition of Miguel de Cervantes' cult 1605-1615 novel, Don Quixote.
- University of Virginia Spatial Humanities http://spatial.scholarslab.org/ GIS for humanities inquiry and in place-based digital scholarship.
- Standford Literary Lab: http://litlab.stanford.edu/ The Stanford Literary Lab discusses, designs, and pursues literary research of a digital and quantitative nature.

What happens next

Look at the literature in your discipline and see what is going on. If you have a project in mind, feel free to contact us or your liaison to have a conversation.

Questions and Discussion: What do you need to know? What do we need to know?

List of links

- http://www.wmich.edu/library/collections/digital/collections
- http://libguides.wmich.edu/subjectlibrarians
- http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/about.html
- http://libguides.wmich.edu/digitalhumanities