Digital Humanities Master at Linnaeus University

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Digital Humanities: Empowering Visibility of Croatian Cultural Heritage
2nd International Symposium
Zadar, 6-8 November 2017
Digital Humanities Initiative at LNU

- [https://lnu.se/en/digihum/](https://lnu.se/en/digihum/)
- Why: address societal challenges
- How: Research + Education + Network
  - Cross-sectoral
  - Cross-disciplinary
  - International
- Research
  - 10 pilots in 2016
  - Funding received for 2017 “Creating attractive information landscapes for cultural events”
- DISA [https://lnu.se/disa](https://lnu.se/disa)

- Network
  - 117 members in the network as of today
  - 42 from LNU, 12 departments
  - IEC with over 200 IT companies
  - GLAM in the region and abroad
  - Academic members from 17 countries on 5 continents
  - DARIAH-EU
DH education at LNU: overall idea…

- Vision
  - Addressing future societal challenges would be eventually possible by highly skilled professionals whose education has been markedly enhanced by practice-informed education and joint, cross-sector innovation
  - A (re)-affirmation of the value of humanities in particular, and academic practices in general

- An attractive mixture of compulsory and facultative courses
  - Common core
  - Disciplinary-specific electives
…DH education at LNU: overall idea…

• To formalize LNU’s vision about cross-disciplinary collaboration
  • 8 departments currently represented from 3 faculties (out of 5)
    • Arts and Humanities: Archeology, Library and Information Science, Linguistics, Film and Literature, Media and Journalism
    • Technology: Computer Science, Media Technology
    • Business and Economics

• Address needs in the regional public and private sector
  • Focus-group interview with representatives held in June 2016
  • Email interview with 13 experts from LNU network

• Cross-sectoral collaboration
  • Project / thesis work
  • Guest lectures
…DH education at LNU: overall idea

- Increase number of (inter)national Master students at LNU
  - Hybrid or distance
  - English
  - Free-of-charge for EU citizens
  - Both for professionally- and scientifically-oriented students
  - Both independent courses and full programme

- Collaborate with Swedish, Nordic, UK, DARIAH-EU partners and other international universities
  - Joint courses / student projects
  - Student exchange
  - Guest lectures…
Timeline

• Concept drafted in the autumn of 2016

• Pilot testing of core courses starting in the autumn semester of 2017
  • Programming for Digital Humanities
    • 15 ECTS, 50%

• Full programme to start 2019
Current concept of the Master in DH

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>Humanities for Technologists (15 credits) or Programming for Humanities (15 credits)</th>
<th>Introduction to Digital Humanities (7.5 credits)</th>
<th>Digital Humanities Research Methods (7.5 credits)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 2 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 3 (7.5 credits)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Elective course 2 (7.5 credits)</td>
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<td>Elective course 4 (7.5 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SECOND YEAR</td>
<td>Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 2 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Master thesis (30 credits)</td>
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<td>Practicum (15 credits)</td>
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## Core courses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Humanities for Technologists</td>
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+ Practicum
+ Master thesis
Electives

• A 45p elective module

• 3 suites: the Humanities, the Technologies, and the Business suite

  • At least 15p need to be in the Technologies suite for students with the previous Humanities (or other ‘soft’) education
  • Equivalent in the Humanities for students with previous Computer Science (or related) education

– Some courses may belong to more than one suite, like the ones in computational linguistics
Electives in Humanities

- Digitization of cultural heritage
- Data and information organization and management
- Metadata
- The transmission of old texts
- Digital heritage management and communication
- Serious gaming as a resource in the fields of Humanities
- Digital translation
- Digital lexicography
- Data driven approaches to language and text
- Business models in value-based organisations and companies
- Participative policy development
- Digitalisation of working practices
- Technoscience studies
- Gender issues
- Digital media and methods for sampling and analysis
- User-generated photography and events
- Media – intermedial – multimodal theory
Electives in Technology

- Network society and internet cultures
- Cross-media design and production
- Interactive visualization methods and techniques
- Social media ecosystems
- Information visualisation
- Data literacy
- General DH application programmes
- Discipline-specific applications
- Data sets technologies
- Human computer interaction for DH
- Database design for DH
- Web design for DH
- Web programming for DH
- Data mining for DH
Electives in Business

• Digital Marketing

• Social Media and Consumerism

• Business strategy for GLAM

• …
Practicum and Thesis

• Practicum
  • Compulsory, 15p
  • In collaboration with an external partner
  • A pilot project based on actual needs in the public or private sector
  • Project management, team working skills
    • Ideally in pairs with each from different disciplinary background
  • The basis for thesis writing
Programming for Digital Humanities (4ME501)

• The first pilot course
• 15 ECTS, 50% pace, English
• Distance mode with 6 obligatory meetings
  – Presence either on campus or online
• 3 major blocks
  • 1: Foundations of programming
  • 2: Text manipulation and visualisation
  • 3: Image, audio, animation
• Focus on programming using actual examples from humanities
• Popular: over 60 qualified applicants, University of Pisa sent all their students
Related efforts
Workshop at 2nd DHN conference


- Proposed and then co-organized by LNU, as the first of regular workshops on DH education in Nordic countries at DHN annual conferences

- As a direct result, a working group on education established with the DHN


- Now proposal submitted for 2nd workshop on DH education in Nordic countries at 3rd DHN conference 2018, Helsinki
DARIAH-EU

- A registry of courses related to DH in Europe
  - [https://registries.clarin-dariah.eu/](https://registries.clarin-dariah.eu/) (universities need to register, so not complete)

- DARIAH teach
  - [http://dariah.eu/teach/](http://dariah.eu/teach/)
  - Open educational resources, quality controlled

- From DHN workshop
  - Marianne Ping Huang: Digital Humanities education in DARIAH-EU
Nordic collaboration

• NORDFORSK – submitted 3 May 2017
  • By DARIAH Nordic members
  • Aim: establish Nordic Hub of DARIAH-EU
  • Collaborate on DH education
    • Joint electives, summer schools

• NEIC
  • By all Nordic countries and UK
    • Sweden in DARIAH represented by LNU
  • Aim: analyze course material in the area of data analytics within large word corpora in Nordic countries, build missing parts, merge etc.
  • To be submitted under next call
Other on-going efforts

- DH seminar series at Linnaeus University
- Collaboration with the new established LNUC Data Intensive Sciences and Applications (DISA)
- Cross-sectoral project with Nya Småland “Creating Attractive Information Landscapes for Cultural Events”
- Establishment of an iSchool at LNU
- Sweden as a full partner in DARIAH-EU?
  - Exploring possibilities
Challenges
Main challenges to address…

• Different disciplines *and* sectors
  • Epistemological, conceptual and terminological differences
  • May require additional resources to reach an understanding

• Administrative issues with cross-faculty and cross-university collaboration
  • Current working structures are based on individual units
    • LNU working example: Innovation through economics, technology and design by 3 faculties ([link to FTK’s version](https://lnu.se/program/nordiskt-masterprogram-for-spraklarare/inriktning-engelska-distans-deltid-engelska-HT/))

• In particularly challenging in terms of cross-university education
  • Nordic working example: MA for language teachers, [https://lnu.se/program/nordiskt-masterprogram-for-spraklarare/inriktning-engelska-distans-deltid-engelska-HT/](https://lnu.se/program/nordiskt-masterprogram-for-spraklarare/inriktning-engelska-distans-deltid-engelska-HT/)
…Main challenges to address

• The question of the job market for DH
  • Low number of students at Master level at LNU / Sweden?

• Sustainability
  • When DH becomes ‘standard’ H

• LNU is a young university
  • Can it attract that many students for a return on investment?
Summary

• Overall idea: fulfilling the vision of addressing future societal challenges → cross*

• A common core + a large pool of electives
  • Humanities
  • Technologies

• Related efforts

• Challenges
Thank you!

- Feedback? Ideas?
- Interest in collaboration?
- Helsinki and Växjö in March?
- Email: koraljka.golub@lnu.se