



## Sharing Digitally. Seminar on Digital Tools and Infrastructures

September, 29th, 2021  
11:00-17:00 (UTC +3, Kyiv time)

What standards and infrastructures are needed in order to maintain, exchange, and discuss projects built around historical data in a productive and sustainable way? What expertise shapes a project in the field of digital history? How does it affect knowledge production and academic discussion?

A Digital History Seminar "**Sharing Digitally: Digital Tools and Infrastructures**" will focus on the tools and digital standards, networks of institutions, and discussion platforms in the field of digital humanities and social sciences that help search for answers to these questions.

Digital History Seminars explore methodological, ethical, and theoretical aspects of generating, collecting, and analyzing digital or digitalized sources as testimony on the past and the worlds in which people used to live or are still living. The idea of the seminars is built around the notion that digital technologies and digital methods in historical studies are the broader domain than of programming scholars and technicians. Within this discussion platform, we aim at addressing the issue of how it applies to the historical community in its entirety.

The use of digital technologies is deeply integrated into humanities. Digital skills and tools have long been present in our daily professional and private practices regardless of a field. Various initiatives keep developing theoretical, methodological and technological access for a critical reflection on digital technologies and its implications. Infrastructures, educational resources, open access standards and tools make this exchange of knowledge and experiences open for a wide community of academic and cultural institutions. An overview of several examples in this context will be the aim of this event.

The event will run on Zoom, with the stream on Youtube.  
Language of presentations — English, with the simultaneous translation into Ukrainian.

The event is organised as part of "Digital History Seminars" of the [Center for Urban History of East and Central Europe](#) and supported by the [Center for Governance and Culture in Europe](#) at the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland).



---

# Programme

(UTC +3, Kyiv time)

---

11:00 - 11:10 Welcome remarks

## RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES AND COMMUNICATION

Moderator - Bohdan Shumylovych, Ph. D. (Center for Urban History)

11:10 - 11:30 [An Open Science voice for the Humanities - a Humanities voice for Open Science](#)

Erzsébet Tóth-Czifra, Ph.D.

(DARIAH Coordination Office Berlin, Centre Marc Bloch)

11:30 - 11:50 [Open scholarly communication for the humanities in Europe: offering digital services, bringing a community together](#)

Pierre Mounier

(École des hautes études en sciences sociales)

11:50 - 12:10 [Narration, hermeneutics and data: the multi-layered article and the Journal of Digital History](#)

Frédéric Clavert, Ph.D.

(Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History)

12:10 - 12:40 Discussion

12:40 - 13:00 Brake

## TOOLS AND FRAMEWORKS

Moderator - Oleksii Chebotarov, Ph.D. (University of St. Gallen; Center for Urban History)

13:00 - 13:20 [Sharing digital tools in context: the SSH Open Marketplace](#)

Laure Barbot (DARIAH, Centre Marc Bloch),

Edward J. Gray, Ph.D. (TGIR Huma-Num (CNRS), DARIAH ERIC)

13:20 - 13:40 [Semantic Annotation of Texts and Images with Recogito](#)

Reiner Simon, Ph. D. (Austrian Institute of Technology)

13:40 - 14:00 [Open Encyclopedia System \(OES\) - A framework for building and maintaining online reference works](#)

Maren Strobl (Freie Universität Berlin)

14:00 - 14:30 Discussion

14:30 - 15:00 Brake

## LEARNING AND MAPPING

Moderator - Taras Nazaruk (Center for Urban History)

15:00 - 15:20

### [The Programming Historian as Pedagogical Tool](#)

Nabeel Siddiqui, Ph. D. (Susquehanna University),  
Jessica Parr (Simmons University)

---

15:20 - 15:40

### [A Digital Resource for Teaching Holocaust History in Ukraine](#)

Lynne Venart (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

---

15:40 - 16:00

### [Mapping platform “Shadows of Empires”](#)

Olena Palko, Ph.D.  
(Birkbeck, University of London; University of St. Gallen),  
Oleksii Chebotarov, Ph.D.  
(University of St. Gallen; Center for Urban History)

---

16:00 - 16:30

Discussion

16:30 - 16:40

Closing remarks

---

## Presentations

### An Open Science voice for the Humanities - a Humanities voice for Open Science

The presentation aims to outline discipline-specific, yet widely interoperable models of Open Science emerging from community practices of arts and humanities. It will be shown how [DARIAH](#), a pan-European infrastructure for Arts and Humanities builds an open agenda for Arts and Humanities research that is firmly grounded in disciplinary realities. This includes: a suite of Open Science services within DARIAH (Open Science helpdesk, the OpenMethods and the DARIAH Open platforms); training and advocacy activities and also building and strengthening communities of practice, such as the DARIAH Research data management Working Group to critically assess and shape current options for opening up research workflows and to ease compliance with national, European and global research policy mandates such as Open Access or FAIR data.

**Erzsébet Tóth-Czifra**, Ph.D. works as the Open Science Officer of DARIAH-EU where she is responsible for fostering and implementing policies and practices related to the open dissemination of research results in the humanities. Her advocacy activities include providing workshops, webinars, and other training activities on a regular basis. She is also involved in European infrastructure-building projects such as OpenAire Advance, OPERAS-P and TRIPLE. She received her PhD in Cultural Linguistics in 2017 and also has a background in scholarly communication.

---

### Open scholarly communication for the humanities in Europe: offering digital services, bringing a community together

This presentation will introduce OPERAS - open scholarly communication in the European research area for social sciences and humanities, a new-born distributed infrastructure that aims at providing open access publishing services to the SSH researchers in Europe and support their transition towards open science as the default *modus operandi* of research.

**Pierre Mounier** (EHESS), is coordinator of OPERAS, co-director of the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) and associate director of OpenEdition, the French national infrastructure for open scholarly communication in the SSH.

---

---

Narration, hermeneutics and data:

the multi-layered article and the Journal of Digital History

The [Journal of Digital History](#) (JDH) is a new journal, designed for data-driven research in history. It is intended to serve as a forum for critical debate and discussion in the field of digital history by offering an innovative publication platform and promoting a new form of data-driven scholarship and of transmedia storytelling in the historical sciences. As an international peer-reviewed open access journal, the JDH will set new standards in history publishing based on a novel multi-layered approach. Each article will include:

- a narration layer involving transmedia storytelling;
- a hermeneutic layer exploring the methodological implications of using digital tools and data;
- a data layer.

The presentation will detail the three layers, as well as the journal's infrastructure.

**Frédéric Clavert**, holder of a PhD in Contemporary History, completed studies in political science and contemporary history in Strasbourg and Leeds. Before joining the [C2DH](#), he worked as a researcher in Strasbourg, at the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE) in Luxembourg and at the University of Lausanne. He was also a research engineer at Paris-Sorbonne University for the "Writing a new history of Europe" Laboratory of Excellence (LabEx-EHNE).

His research focuses on three main areas: the history of economic and monetary organisation across the European continent in the 20th and 21st centuries, collective memory of the past in the age of big data, and the relationship between historians and their digital primary sources.

---

Sharing digital tools in context: the SSH Open Marketplace

Tools registries have a long history in Digital Humanities, contributing both to the cataloguing efforts of the resources used by DHers and thus to their discoverability. Developed under DARIAH coordination within the Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud (SSHOC) project, the [SSH Open Marketplace](#) supports SSH researchers at every step of the research data lifecycle, pooling and harmonising their key tools and services, datasets, training materials, workflows and publications. Resources are contextualised to maximise serendipity and possibility of reuse for the assets showcased. During this presentation, we will address not only what you as historians can take from this collective service, but how you can contribute and help it grow.

**Edward J. Gray**, Ph.D., is the Research Infrastructure Coordinator at the [IGIR Huma-Num](#) (CNRS) and the Officer for National Coordination at DARIAH ERIC, the European Research Infrastructure for the Digital Arts and Humanities. He leads the Curation Task Force in the SSHOC Project, which is developing the SSH Open Marketplace, a discovery platform for digital humanities tools and services. He earned

---

his doctorate in history from Purdue University, where his dissertation, “The Marillac: Family Strategy, Religion, and Diplomacy in the Making of the French State during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries,” examined the ways in which familial politics impacted the formation of the early modern French state. While a doctorant invité at the École nationale des chartes in Paris, he was introduced to digital humanities and earned a master’s degree in Technologies numériques appliquées à l’histoire (TNAH), where he is now chargé de cours.

**Laure Barbot** is European project officer at DARIAH and coordinates the work on the SSH Open Marketplace developed in the SSHOC project. Prior to joining DARIAH, she was general secretary of a French research infrastructure for Social Sciences and Humanities - the Social Sciences and Humanities Centres Network – and worked as European Project Manager for the University of Toulouse and for the CNRS. Laure has a background in French and German philosophies and Political Science.

---

## Semantic Annotation of Texts and Images with Recogito

[Recogito](#) is a Web-based environment for collaborative semantic annotation of text and image documents. Originally, the tool has been designed with a focus on scholarly geographic annotation, i.e. the transcription, marking up and geo-resolving of maps and geographical texts such as itineraries and travel reports, in the context of historical scholarship, e.g. to map or extract data from a specific document. More recently, however, the feature set has been expanded significantly, to provide more general annotation and tagging functionality, and to support the preparation of digital editions. This talk will provide a quick overview of Recogito's most important features, and highlight some example projects that researchers have created with it.

**Rainer Simon**, Ph.D., is a Senior Scientist and Research Software Engineer at the Data Science and Artificial Intelligence research group at the Austrian Institute of Technology. His projects revolve predominantly around the use of computational approaches, AI and semantic technologies in the Digital Humanities and Digital Library fields.

---

## Open Encyclopedia System (OES) -

A framework for building and maintaining online reference works

The [Open Source Software OES](#) is a highly configurable online platform for building and maintaining encyclopedias that can meet the challenges and requirements of the key aspects in academic online publishing of reference works in the Humanities and the Social Sciences. Using current OES applications such as online encyclopaedias and dictionaries, we give an insight into the possibilities of the OES for creating and managing content, and for publishing and exploring it online. We then take a closer look at the OES framework, i.e. discuss the modular structure and

---

---

the features and functionalities of the software. The presentation concludes with an outlook on future developments.

**Maren Strobl** is working as software engineer and part of the OES team at [Freie Universität Berlin](#) since 2020.

---

## The Programming Historian as Pedagogical Tool

The [Programming Historian](#) is a prize-winning digital humanities journal that publishes open-source, peer-reviewed digital humanities tutorials for historians. Founded in 2008, the journal currently publishes in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese, and has also offered grant-funded workshops around the globe.

**Dr. Nabeel Siddiqui** is an Assistant Professor of Digital Media at [Susquehanna University](#). His research focuses on the digital humanities, the history of computing, and information studies. Currently, he is completing a book manuscript entitled *Byting Out the Public: Personal Computers and the Private Sphere*.

**Jessica Parr** is on the History and Africana Studies faculty at [Simmons University](#) in Boston, Massachusetts, United States. Her research focuses on Black intellectual history in the early modern Atlantic world.

---

## A Digital Resource for Teaching Holocaust History in Ukraine

Learn about the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's upcoming online Ukrainian-language resource for students and professors about the Jewish and Holocaust history of Ukraine. Lynne will share a preview of the site along with the Museum's research methods, how they helped the team prioritize content for Ukrainian audiences, and how they will ensure the digital resource meets long term needs.

As Senior User Experience Designer and Researcher at [the US Holocaust Memorial Museum](#), **Lynne Venart** conducts research with teachers, students, policymakers, and amateur historians to learn how they interpret, learn from, and use the Museum's digital history platforms. She uses these insights to ensure that the Museum's online resources are easy to understand and meet audience needs.

---

## Mapping Platform “Shadows of Empires”

[Shadows of Empires](#) is a historical mapping platform covering the transient nature of modern Europe's political borders since the late 18th century. The platform was created in collaboration between the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe (University of St. Gallen) and dekoeder platform. The project map set is a digital representation of territorial definitions, imaginations, and wartime arrangements of

---

various European states and their borders. The current stage of the project focuses on Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

**Olena Palko** is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London, and Research Associate at the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe (University of St. Gallen). She was awarded her Ph.D. from the University of East Anglia in 2017. She has recently published a book *Making Ukraine Soviet: Literature and Cultural Politics under Lenin and Stalin* (Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2020). Her current research examines the interwar minority policies in Eastern Europe.

**Oleksii Chebotarov** is a Research Associate at the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe (University of St. Gallen). He is also involved in the projects of the Digital Forum of the European Association of Jewish Studies and the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe. His research interests include migration and Jewish history, borderland studies, and environmental history of East-Central Europe. Recently, he began a research project on Zbruch as a border river.