Data Science in the Humanities

In response to increasing graduate involvement in the Humanities Digital Workshop (HDW) and its associated faculty-led projects, we offer a Graduate Certificate in Data Science in the Humanities (DASH), combining traditional humanities inquiry with computational methods and analysis. All graduate students in the humanities, regardless of home PhD program, are welcome to pursue this certificate. A data-driven approach can complement and enrich any humanities field, and the certificate features appreciable cross-disciplinary engagement. Recent HDW projects have been supervised by faculty in fields as diverse as history; music; German; Asian and Near Eastern languages and literature; American studies; philosophy-neuroscience-psychology; women, gender, and sexuality studies; and English. Our goal is to enrich the analytic skills that students can bring to bear on research in their home disciplines, and to enable them to contribute thoughtfully and resourcefully in other disciplines of the humanities.

The curriculum addresses data management, statistics, text analysis, geospatial analysis, digital prosopography, data visualization and information design. This curriculum will acquaint any PhD student with new methodologies and techniques, and will foster an awareness of the theoretical implications of using them.

This certificate program is distinguished by its emphasis on collaborative research and pedagogical development. Students will participate on a faculty project in the HDW, and most fulfill this requirement through the HDW summer workshop, an eight-week program that pairs faculty with a small group of graduate and undergraduate fellows. The collaborative environment, combined with weekly project meetings and skills workshops, makes these immersive summer programs an unusual counterpoint to traditional graduate education. The DASH certificate also requires 3 units of mentored teaching experience in a digital humanities course, ensuring that pedagogical development accompanies more traditional courses.

Application

Students interested in pursuing the DASH graduate certificate should contact the program director (jfloewen@wustl.edu?subject=DASH Grad Certificate). PhD students in good standing should apply before the end of their second year. Master’s students are not eligible. Applicants should write a letter detailing their interest in data science or digital humanities as well as any relevant background; their letter should be supplemented by a letter of support from the director of graduate studies (DGS) of the home doctoral program. Upon review, the DASH program director will make recommendations for admission to the dean of the Graduate School for final approval. In order to receive the DASH graduate certificate, students must fulfill all the PhD requirements of their home department. The certificate is granted to the student upon completion of the PhD.

Contact: Joseph F. Loewenstein
Email: jfloewen@wustl.edu
Website: https://dash.wustl.edu/

Faculty

Participating Faculty

Jami Ake (https://artsci.wustl.edu/faculty-staff/jami-ake)
Assistant Dean
PhD, Indiana University

Anupam Basu (https://english.artsci.wustl.edu/people/anupam-basu)
Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Kurt Beals (https://german.wustl.edu/people/kurt-beals)
Assistant Professor
PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Matt Erlin (https://german.wustl.edu/people/erlin_matt)
Professor; Chair, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Peter Kastor (https://history.artsci.wustl.edu/peter_kastor)
Professor; Chair, Department of History
PhD, University of Virginia

Doug Knox (https://computing.artsci.wustl.edu/staff/knox)
Assistant Director, Humanities Digital Workshop
MA, University of Chicago

Long Le-Khac (https://english.artsci.wustl.edu/people/long-le-khac)
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PhD, Stanford University

Joe Loewenstein (https://artsci.wustl.edu/Joe_Loewenstein)
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Melanie Micir (https://english.artsci.wustl.edu/people/melanie-micir)
Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Steven B. Miles (https://history.artsci.wustl.edu/steve_miles)
Associate Professor
PhD, University of Washington

Stephen Pentecost (https://computing.artsci.wustl.edu/staff/pentecost)
Senior Digital Humanities Specialist
MA, Washington University
Lynne Tatlock (https://german.wustl.edu/people/tatlock_lynne)
Hortense and Tobias Lewin Distinguished Professor in the Humanities
PhD, Indiana University

Cindy Traub (http://libguides.wustl.edu/prf.php?account_id=70928)
Data Specialist
PhD, Washington University

Abram Van Engen (https://english.artsci.wustl.edu/Abram_Van_Engen)
Associate Professor
PhD, Northwestern University

Degree Requirements

Graduate Certificate in Data Science in the Humanities

15 units are required to complete the Data Science in the Humanities (DASH) Graduate Certificate. Six of those units may also count toward the PhD requirements, but the remaining 9 cannot.

For 15 units total, students must take:

• 6 units from the Core Curriculum (https://dash.wustl.edu/graduate-certificate/core-curriculum)
• 3 units from participating on a faculty project in the Humanities Digital Workshop (HDW), which most students will undertake during the HDW summer program (https://hdw.artsci.wustl.edu/fellows/summer-fellows)
• 3 units Teaching Practicum in either DASH 1, DASH 2, DAMS + PROTA, or IPH 312 (Intro to Digital Humanities)
• 3 units from the list of electives (https://dash.wustl.edu/graduate-certificate/electives)