# Students as historians: Teaching students how to be researchers and creators in digital humanities

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# Objectives of the Research Project

Historical and ethnographic: to examine the history of Kyrgyzstan and history of its people through personal testimonies, experiences, recollections, opinions, and memories of very ordinary people who lived during the Stalinist regime in Soviet Kyrgyzstan.

# Objectives of the Research Project



### 2. Pedagogical:

- To teach students how to become researchers and think like historians in rapidly transforming age of globalization and digitization.
- To empower students to become knowledge collectors and creators by generating the content.
- To encourage students go beyond the

frameworks of history textbooks



Traditional methods of learning, teaching, and researching have to be transformed to meet the today's needs and requirements.

Digital tools can effectively enhance learning and teaching, and facilitate research process.

# Research summary

Nine months of work

Two teams of faculty members and students

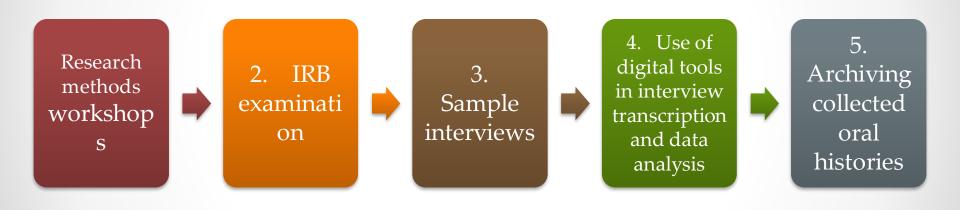
Travelled to two cities and fifteen villages

95 potential respondents at the age of 75-96 were contacted.

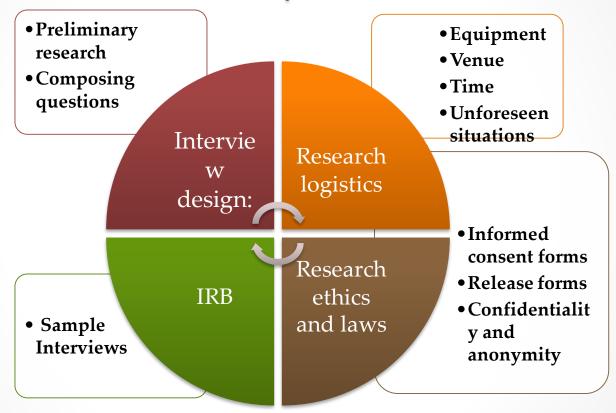
18 people refused to participate in the research

59 good quality interviews were collected

# **Student Training Process**



## Research methods workshops



# Research methods workshops

#### IRB

- Preliminary research
- Training
- Examination

#### Test Interviews

- Field notes
- Analysis
- Discussion

# Digital tool workshops

ELAN

AntConc

Voyant

• Google tools
• WavePad
• Transcribe
• Listen'N'Write

# ELAN, Listen N Write & Transcribe for transcription

Manual & semi-automatic transcription

Transcription and translation of speech

Tier based

Transcription mode

Controls: Playback volume, playback rate

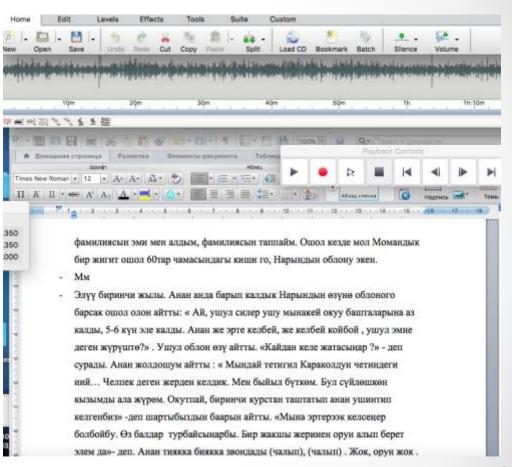
# WavePad for audio editing and transcribing

Multiple audio editing tools

Speed controls

Merging and splitting audio files

## Work in progress:



# AntConc for text analysis

Concordance tool Concordance Plot tool File view tool

Clusters/N-Grams

Collocates

Word List

Keyword List

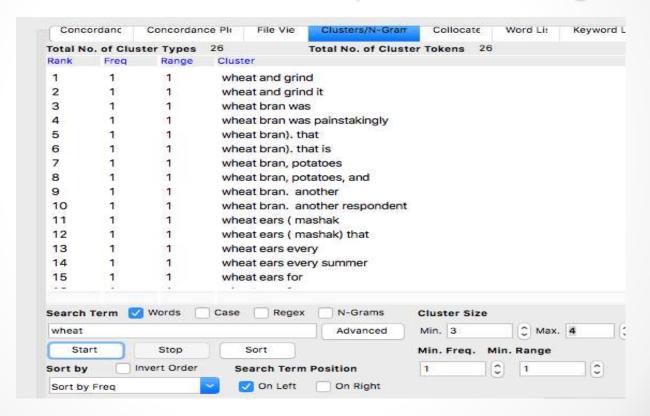
#### Concordance tool to indicate the context in which the word is used:





#### Clusters/N-Grams to scan the entire corpus for the N-length

#### clusters:



#### Word List to search for a word "wheat":

Word T	ypes:	401	Word Tokens:	1033	Search Hits:	1
Rank	Freq	Word			Lemma Word Form(s)	
4	34	ιο				
3	33	the				
4	27	was				
5	26	а				
6	25	of				
7	23	would				
8	20	it				
9	13	we				
10	13	wheat				
11	12	in				
12	12	one				
13	11	when				
14	10	that				
15	10	with				
16	9	for				
17	9	i				
		201				
Search	Term	✓ Words	Case Regex		Hit Locati	on
wheat				Ad	vanced Search	Only 1
e+-	rt	Stop	Sort		Lemma Li	st Loaded
Start Stop Sort					Word List	Loaded



# Voyant for text analysis

Translated parts of interviews The cirrus Trends Summary Contexts

# The example of interview text analysis:

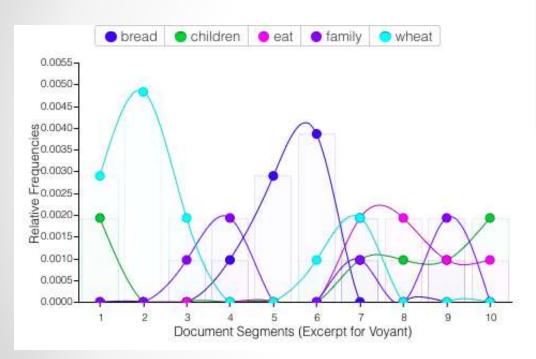
Cirrus:

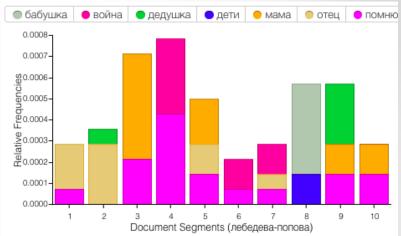


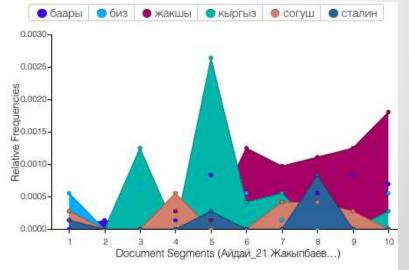




#### Trends:







#### Summary:

This corpus has 1 document with 1,036 total words and 405 unique word forms. Created now.

Vocabulary Density: 0.391

Average Words Per Sentence: 19.9

Most frequent words in the corpus: wheat (13); bread (8); children (7); eat (6); family (6)

This corpus has 1 document with 14,050 total words and 3,598 unique word forms. Created now.

Vocabulary Density: 0.256

Average Words Per Sentence: 11.6

Most frequent words in the corpus: ну (132); там (114); здесь (50); мхм (42); сейчас (42)

This corpus has 1 document with 7,206 total words and 2,703 unique word forms. Created now.

Vocabulary Density: 0.375

Average Words Per Sentence: 12.2

Most frequent words in the corpus: анан (139); ошол (98); делен (95); дел (95); болуп (90)

#### Context:

Document	Left	Term ↑	Right
1) Exce	a lot of stress because	wheat	was strictly rationed by kolkhoz
1) Exce	used to go to the	wheat	field and collect one by
1) Exce	collect one by one the	wheat	ears ( mashak) that laborers accidentally
1) Exce	our horse to stamp the	wheat	ears for a while. After
1) Exce	a while. After cleaning the	wheat	from its ears and spikes
1) Exce	take zhargylchak and crash the	wheat	and grind it into a

ı	⊞ Contexts	Bubblelines			?
	Document	Left	Term 1	Right	
1	1) лебе	в первый же призыв только	война	началась в сорок первом сразу	
1	1) лебе	отсюда с нашей Азии, там	война	в первую очередь наших бросили	
1	1) лебе	Вот так вот мы жили.	война	закончилась слава Богу, мы всё	
]	1) лебе	будем работать, мы будем стараться,	война	закончится будем жить хорошо. Как	
3	1) лебе везем, всё отдаём. Даст Бог,		война	закончится, наши отцы придут. Питали	1СЬ

# Archiving collected oral histories

Online electronic collection of oral histories

Open access, open data, and open scholarship

OMEKA??

# The next stages of the project

Archiving oral testimonie s

Creating a digital collections available online

Translating into English and making available the translated transcription online

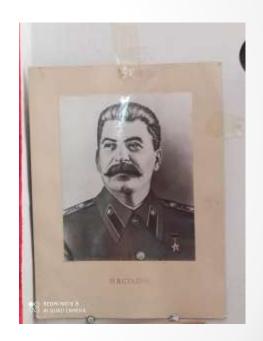
Working in the archives to find supporting documents

Working in the libraries to examine periodicals

Writing an article

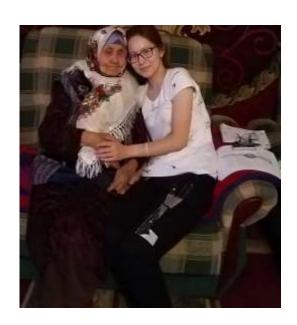
## Portraits of Stalin in respondents houses:





# Respondents:







# **Respondents**:



