



ACT | a division of
Anatolia College



Creation and Development of a Digital Humanities LibGuide

The creation and development of a Digital Humanities LibGuide was initiated by the Bissell library staff but it is the result of collaboration with the Humanities and Social Sciences Department.

Aim: To engage with the community of faculty, students and librarians to introduce digital humanities at ACT



The Philosophy

Currently, there are only few faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences of ACT, and part of the Anatolia Archives that use DH. The library took the initiative to develop and incorporate the DH LibGuide into the library's website.

<https://anatolia.libguides.com/dh/about?preview=57d72097cc509f927fe42e2602a1426c>

This has given the opportunity to engage with those faculty members who already integrate DH tools in their courses, in order to expand their use, and inspire more faculty members become involved. Also, we hope it will provide an opportunity to identify DH initiatives on campus and maximize their visibility.



Steps taken

- First Launch of the DH LibGuide at the Academic Council meeting.
- Met with the Chair of the Humanities and Social Sciences department to introduce it.
- Arranged to present and explain the DH LibGuide at their Spring departmental meeting.
- Four faculty members of the HSS department were interviewed and received feedback about the barriers, opportunities and further planning.



Questions Asked to HSS faculty

DH Tools and LibGuide

1. What do you think is the aim of this platform?
2. How can you imagine using materials from here for your class?
3. Are there any specific tools you would like to use in class? (identify the need)
4. How would you integrate this into assessment?
5. Do you know of anybody else who would be interested in this content?
6. Are there any other resources or tools you are using currently and would like us to add to this platform?



Challenges

1

- Faculty members feel overwhelmed due to the work load
- Lack of time to invest in learning new tools and resources to embed into their course syllabus.
- Majority of ACT faculty are adjunct who don't have enough time to include DH tools in their courses.
- It's not certain that their course will be offered on the next term.
- Most of faculty not tech savvy – fear of technology use.
- OU courses restrictions:
 - The course material need to be submitted well in advance with no space for course assignment changes.
 - Grading by second examiner: Each assignment needs to be stored at a secured area and accessed as a (pdf) file.
 - Links and online tools are not always secure (may get down) and could jeopardize access to an assignment made using DH tools and the ability to see and grade it.



Challenges

2

- 101 courses are not focused enough on the subject for students to engage in depth with DH.
- Some faculty members already use digital resources/teaching tool in their courses and don't see a need to use more either due to:
 - Unfamiliarity with DH resources and DH tools.
 - Feel that using e-books, e-resources, online videos, online articles etc. is adequately digital.



Opportunities

3

- Some faculty already teach/use some of the tools and are open to learn more and embed in their course.
- Use Faculty Development events to show what is happening
 - eg: a faculty to show a tool that he/she uses to another faculty and how it worked.
- Use the Humanities and Social Sciences Spring meeting to share and present this LibGuide and further explain.
- Promote the easier and most relevant to ACT courses tools (eg: Blog, Omeka etc.).
- Creation of a faculty community to use DH in their teaching.
- Evaluate collaboration among AMICAL member institutions:



Future Plan

Steps to take:


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- Humanities Departmental meeting in Spring
- Participate at the Faculty Development training
 - Faculty can present the digital tools they use and library show the guide and further support.
 - Make this guide more specific to ACT courses.
 - Show what support is available via the library and others.
 - What partnerships already exist.
- Add a tab with examples of sample student work.
- Add a tab to include older projects (eg: Digitales conducted in the past by an ACT faculty).
- Survey students about their experience using DH tools in class.
- Invite other suggested resources.

Thank you!

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