Mapping in the Digital Liberal Arts: Models, Methods, Futures

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Overview of today’s webinar
Abstract

This webinar takes a look at some of the ways that making digital maps can enrich research and pedagogy in the liberal arts context. We will look at examples of digital projects organized largely around spatial dimensions of society and culture, as well as others that use maps as one of the many ways that their subjects can be better understood. We will look at what makes a strong mapping project from a dual perspective: the data that underlies them as well as their visual expression. Finally, we will discuss some of the basic skills for collecting and organizing spatial data and the challenges we face as mapping projects grow. No technical expertise is required for this webinar.
Models
Why mapping?

- By mapping, I mean digital mapping.
- **Subject agnostic**: can be applied to many fields.
- Stresses the **real-world situatedness and local complexity** of any topic, “finding” the place on the map.
- **Longitudinal**: mapping is “not a one-time thing” (Presner et al).
- **Intentional, critical mapping**: mapping as opposed to being mapped.
- **Data-centered**: excellent for learning data literacy/manipulation skills.
Why mapping for the (international) liberal arts model?

- Close relationship to locality, place - makes for *experiential learning, research*
- Ability to work with archivists - *brings primary sources into the classroom*
- Strong visual element - complements other scholarship/pedagogy, *different learning styles*
- AMICAL consortium spread around Europe, Africa, MENASA - effective in *cultural ambassadorship*
- Critical pedagogy - opens a window for *critical discussion of privacy, device-centered student life*
Going to the Show

http://gtts.oasis.unc.edu/
Placing Segregation

dsp.lib.uiowa.edu/placingsegregation
Street Art

Giovanni Vitali

https://goo.gl/36bLyk

THE BASILICA OF SAINT PETER

The basilica di San Pietro is the symbol of their criticism against the Church: it says that it is tired of being objectified by tourists, and it would like to remain closed, so that it would stay away from mass culture.
Multilingualism in the Streets

Llbeirut.org

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Mapping Colonial Knowledge

https://github.com/MappingLorimer

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Live, social geodata (mapd.com)
Mapping Wikipedia edits, across languages

Real-time wikipedia edits by location of user or IP address, here shown:

- Arabic
- English
- French
- Japanese
- Spanish
- Russian
- Hindi
Edits in Wikipedia

https://www.flickr.com/photos/22402885@N00/3821069672/in/photostream/
Methods
How do we make maps? Build maps?

- text
How do we make maps? Build maps?

- Text
- Other (historical) maps
How do we make maps? Build maps?

- Text
- Other (historical) maps
- From other’s data (e-government, etc)
How do we make maps? Build maps?

- Text
- Other (historical) maps
- From other’s data (e-government, etc)
- devices
Mapping in a few skills

- Collaboration
- Data modeling
- Data manipulation
- Layering
- Visual semantics
- Image manipulation
- Georeferencing
- Basic data structuring
Futures

(including the challenges)
Geospatial work given limited internet/data

http://2018.foss4g.org/

Open Source Geospatial

Dar es Salaam

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Maps (and different ways of visualizing map data)

Medieval.place

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Future issues

- Changing mapping platforms (will Carto / MapBox / Boundless / Voyant / Omeka exist?)

- Sharing our Data: spatial data repositories, formats

- Open data portals

- Geolocation isn't just for maps anymore (drones, 3d)

http://beetroot.hosting.nyu.edu/
Want to know more?

- Association of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO) has a GeoHumanities SIG
- *Open Street Maps* (OSM) has mapping activities all around the world
- Mapping courses at digital humanities training events
  - DHIB / DHSI / ESUDH
- check out the teaching tab of my own website djwrisley.com
- reach out to colleagues in your own institution: media, geography, data science
"designed for the total beginner who would like to explore how a spatial dimension can enrich humanities and interdisciplinary research projects and who would like to learn some basic skills for collecting and organizing data in order to be able to integrate such methods into their research workflows."

http://www.culingtec.uni-leipzig.de/ESU_C_T/node/930