Research Computing Services and Resources for Humanists & Social Scientists

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Introduction: research computing facilitation

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When your research won’t fit under your desk.

- History at Rice
- **Core Services/Resources**
  - HPC Clusters - The Big Iron
  - Virtual Machines - Coming in 2018
  - Research Data Facility (RDF)
  - [Large Scale Data Transfer](#)
  - [Visualization Lab](#)
- Web Resources
  - [Help!](#)
  - [Documentation with Bunsen and Beaker](#)
Humanities & social sciences research computing

1. Archival question, idea, notion, or problem
2. “Remediation” into data-based test project
3. Revision and critique
4. Planning and grant application
5. Scaling and building -- from project to platform
Outreach: consulting on existing and future projects

Visualizing Abolition maps the suppression of the African slave trade by tracing nearly 31,000 records of correspondence exchanged between the British Foreign Office and British commissioners, ministers, naval officers, and representatives of foreign governments around the world over the course of the nineteenth century. It provides users with three resources. First, a database that lists the names of the senders, recipients, places of origin and destination, dates, as well as the subject of the letters when available. Second, essays exploring different topics related to the suppression of the traffic. Finally, a gallery of images that provides visual context for the information available on the website. These resources allow students and researchers to further understand the history of the suppression of the African slave trade and expand our knowledge of the largest coerced migration in history.

Examine the correspondence on the suppression of the African slave trade.

Read essays on British abolitionism and the suppression of the traffic.

View images contemporary to the suppression campaign.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 26, 2017</td>
<td>Research Computing/Digital Humanities Workshop Series: Using the JSTOR API</td>
<td>3:00pm Fondren Library Digital Media Commons Multipurpose Room (B42F) with John Mulligan and Clinton Heider. Learn to make automated queries to the JSTOR database. See an example of what can be done with this data, in an intertextual mapping of Shakespeare passages. The Engine The sketch of The Engine from Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8, 2017</td>
<td>Research Computing/Digital Humanities Workshop Series: Mapping and 3D Modeling: A Lightning Workshop</td>
<td>3:00pm Fondren Library Digital Media Commons Multipurpose Room (B42F) With Marie Soldal and Elizabeth Narkin, HRC Spatial Humanities Postdoctoral Fellows We will briefly introduce projects that use digital cartography and 3D modeling as tools for humanities research, then provide a quick, hands-on workshop demonstrating software to get you started on your own project. For those interested in developing the Maps &amp; Models Maps and Models provided by Marie Soldal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 29, 2017</td>
<td>Research Computing/Digital Humanities Workshop Series: Virtual Machines</td>
<td>3:00pm Fondren Library Digital Media Commons Multipurpose Room (B42F) With John Mulligan and Clinton Heider. “Virtual machines” are simulations of operating systems run on large servers; they allow users to run any number of processes, like web apps or computational jobs. The CRC is building capacity to provide this service to Rice.</td>
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Outreach: Fall workshops: working examples

October 26, 2017

Research Computing/Digital Humanities Workshop Series: Using the JSTOR API

3:00pm
Fondren Library
Digital Media Commons Multipurpose Room (B42F)

with John Mulligan and Clinton Heldner.

Learn to make automated queries to the JSTOR database. See an example of what can be done with this data, in an intertextual mapping of Shakespeare passages.

The Engine
The sketch of The Engine from Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels

Matchmaker
This API provides access to a dataset containing matches between text passages in documents to quoting JSTOR articles. This is a generalization of the matching performed in the Understanding Shakespeare application applied to literature, historical documents, and other canonical texts.

Implementation Notes
The JSTOR Labs Matchmaker API provides programmatic access to a database matching quoted text passages from articles in JSTOR to individual lines in a source text (referred to as a “work”). The candidate matches are generated using a fuzzy-text matching algorithm.

The API provides for the retrieval of match items and/or aggregation statistics. Given the nature of the source documents and the fuzzy text matching process used to identify candidate matches, some filtering of selections by similarity score and match size is needed to minimize the number of false hits in a results set. We've found that a similarity score of 0.8 and above and a minimum match size of 15 characters provides reasonably accurate and complete results. Refining the fuzzy matching and and similarity scoring is a subject for further research and development.
Outreach: Spring workshops: skills

(probably Data Carpentry)