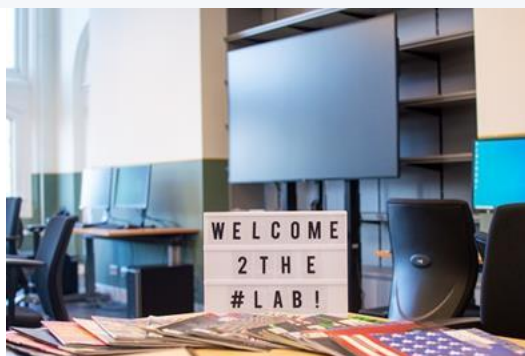




**Universiteit  
Leiden**  
Centre for  
Digital Humanities  
**LUCDH Newsletter**  
**7 December 2023**



The Leiden University Centre for Digital Humanities (LUCDH) is an inter-disciplinary centre that brings together students and faculty from across the Leiden community. [Read more at lucdh.nl](https://lucdh.nl). LUCDH also facilitates digital resources and offers advice on DH projects in the Digital Lab, P.J. Veth 1.07; more details at the end of this newsletter or at [lucdh.nl/lab](https://lucdh.nl/lab)

❁ We still have many exciting events and opportunities planned in this last Newsletter of 2023. The LUCDH team look forward to welcoming many of you at the GlühTwine workshop and Lunch Lecture with Gijs Wijnholds, and further workshops in the digital lab/studio. Remember we need your Small Grant applications by 15 Dec, and you can now sign up for our Pilot Project Symposium and Digital Skills workshops 29 Jan - 2 Feb.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season! ❁

## LUCDH Small Grants 2023-2024

Final Countdown!

Closing date for applications to [LUCDH Small Grants](#) is  
**Friday, 15 December 2023 (midnight).**

Apply by: 15 Dec. 2023



The Leiden University Centre for the Digital Humanities (LUCDH) funds the development of Digital Humanities research activities, knowledge, and skills through a Small Grants program. LUCDH invites Leiden University members of staff, affiliates, or PhD students within the Humanities Faculty (or those co-working with a member of staff or student within the Humanities Faculty) to apply.

» See full details on how to apply for a [Research or Personal development grant](#) on our website

## LUCDH EVENTS

LUCDH Lunchtime Speaker Series:

['Between Logic, Language and Information: adventures in understanding large language models in hybrid settings'](#)

with Dr. Gijs Wijnholds (LIACS)

**\*Rescheduled to Tuesday, 19 December 2023, 12:00-13:00**

*Location: The Digital Lab, P.J Veth 1.07 and  
[Online link via LUCDH Events channel](#)*

**Large Language Models - 'Revolutionary' or 'Stochastic Parrots'?**

In this talk Gijs asks from the viewpoint of computational linguistics: How do we make linguistic sense of models that on the surface appear only to be efficient word predictors, but that can easily and successfully adapt themselves to a multitude of interesting tasks? The main part of the talk will focus on a number of evaluation studies, targeting language models' capacity for recognizing textual entailment, verb-subject



dependencies, and sentence disambiguation in Dutch. Ending with a discussion of some current developments in multilingual models, vision-language models, and logic as a way of modelling neural network behaviour.

» [More info.](#)

» No need to register, just join us at 12:00.

### **GlühTwine Workshop**

13:00 - 17:00 on Friday, 15 December 2023.

Location: the Digital Lab, PJ Veth 1.07



Are you looking for a fun and creatively stimulating event to herald in the holiday break? First you'll learn how to use Twine, a digital storytelling tool, then we let you loose in groups to create a unique narrative or game in digital form.

» [Full details and sign up via the event webpage.](#)

*GlühTwine is a [LUCDH](#) & [Past-at-Play Lab](#) workshop-meets-game jam taking place.*

All welcome. Everyone leaves with a story!

### **Political Social Networks in Indonesia Workshop**

10:00 - 12:00 on Friday, 15 December 2023.

Location: Digital Lab, P.J. Veth 1.07

Political social networks in Indonesia is a multidisciplinary project aiming at creating a large-scale digital database of the profiles of aspiring politicians for the upcoming 2024 general elections in Indonesia. ...

In this workshop we will present the preliminary results of the project and discuss it with both experts in Indonesian general elections/politics and software developers.

» For further description [follow link](#), and for registration, please contact Jelena Prokic.

### **Series Workshop 2024:**

Begins 6 Feb: [Deep Learning for Beginners: How to Make a Computer Think like a Human](#)' with Aron van de Pol.

A series of 6 workshops: **6 & 20 Feb, 5 & 19 Mar, 2 & 16 Apr.**

### **Learn the basics of deep-learning!**

Deep-learning has been used in many recent applications. You've likely seen use cases such as Stable diffusion, DALL-E image generation, ChatGPT text generation, image classification and, object detection in self-driving cars. Deep-learning is also gaining popularity in the humanities beyond NLP uses.

Join this 6-part workshop series and go from zero to building a basic image classification model. With this knowledge, you can continue to teach yourself further in expanding beyond the focus of images onto other forms of data such as text (NLP tasks).

» For full details on this series and registration read [here](#).

### **Workshop 2024:**

**'Responsible XR: Ethical use of XR technologies in education and research' Workshop**

**Friday, 23 Feb 2024** in the morning (times to be confirmed, but approx. 10:00 – 13:00).

*Location:* Digital Lab PJ Veth 1.07

Organizers: Liselore Tissen (LUCAS/TU Delft), John Walker (SURF), Angus Mol (LUCDH/LUCAS)

This session, developed by SURF, aims to delve into XR's multifaceted ethical and technological aspects. Participants will have hands-on experiences with various types of experiences through VR, ensuring a comprehensive and immersive exploration of the topic.

- » Read workshop description [here](#).
- » Registration now closed. To be added to a waiting list, in case of cancellations you can e-mail [digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl)

### **Digital Humanities Pilot Project Symposium 2024**

**Monday 29 January, 14:00 - 17:00** in PJ Veth 1.01 Lecture Hall

Looking for inspiration on how to apply digital tools to your next research project? Join us for this afternoon of recent digital project results. Great opportunity for discussion on the latest digital humanities & AI topics with colleagues.

- » The following projects will be presented: [Small Grant Project 2023](#)
- » Registration form: [Workshop\(s\) & Symposium](#)

### **Digital Skills Workshops:**

#### **Winter Week 2024**

**29 January – 2 February**

**Every morning, 10:00 - 13:00**

*Location:* Digital Lab PJ Veth 1.07

Registration now open! Choose from five 3 hour morning workshops on best practices in digital humanities and AI. Sign up for an individual workshop, or the whole series, and boost your understanding of digital research tools & methods. We look forward to dedicating time and the digital lab space to teach you practical digital skills, answering your questions, and facilitating lively discussions between colleagues.

- » Read descriptions here of what you can expect from each [workshop](#).

### **Choice of Workshops:**

**Mon. 29 Jan:** 'Harnessing AI for Education' with A. van de Pol / Ecolé / Guest speaker

**Tues. 30 Jan:** '[Quarto](#) Publishing' with Dr. Y. Ryan

**Wed. 31 Jan:** 'Introduction to Podcasting' with Dr. A. Mol & T. Vorisek

**Thurs. 1 Feb:** 'Introduction to QGIS' with M. Sung & Dr. J. Prokic

**Fri. 2 Feb:** Counting Words Responsibly: Text Mining with R. Ros (wait list)

- » Registration form: [Workshop\(s\) & Symposium](#)

Note: In the afternoon of Monday 29 January, you can also register for the Pilot Project Symposium.

**Attention Teachers:**

Point your students in the direction of this exciting new Elective '[AI and the Humanities](#)'.

This course is designed to challenge students to think about AI and its impact on human perspectives of philosophy, creativity & arts, politics, history, language, and society.

**Attention Students:**

A panoply of lecturers and experts will give you a panoramic view of foundational concepts and techniques behind AI such as machine learning, neural networks, deep learning, and large language models, as well as the history of the field and through case studies.

Don't miss signing up for the '[AI and the Humanities](#)' Elective, **registration starts 12 Dec 2023**. **Links to all three spring 2024 semester electives below.**

**LUCDH Elective Courses 2023-2024 (spring)**

Acquire the Digital Skills you need now for exploring and analyzing data. Students can register for these three thought-provoking and practical Digital Humanities & AI Elective courses from **12 December 2023**

**Attention Students - sign up starts 12 Dec:**

1. [Digital Text and Data Analysis](#)
2. [AI and the Humanities](#)
3. [Digital Storytelling for the Humanities](#)

**The Digital Skills Hub****» Attention teachers:**

Students can choose from a wide range of Digital Skills once they are enrolled in the Brightspace DSH module. For details on how to enroll your students, contact Federica Notari: [f.n.notari@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:f.n.notari@hum.leidenuniv.nl). (Students please contact your teacher first.)

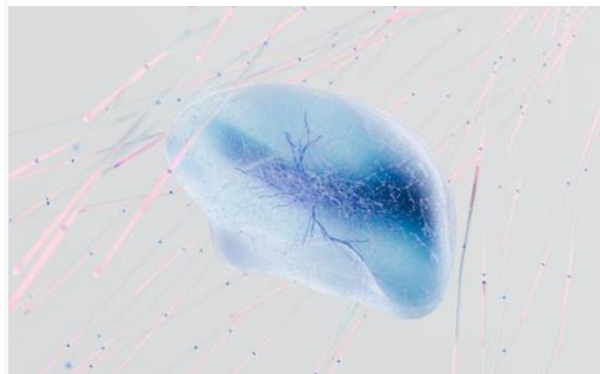
» For workshop descriptions ([download pdf](#)) see our homepage: [lucdh.nl](http://lucdh.nl).

*Spaces still available for: Podcasting, Social media data analysis, Command line, Python, Interactive maps, Documentary making, and Photography.*

## IN THE NEWS

**On the Creativity of Generative Artificial Intelligence**

**(News 30 Nov 2023)**



Can artificial intelligence be creative? The topic of artificial intelligence's creativity is recently a subject of intense debates and analyses. However, it is important to distinguish between creativity resulting from true innovation and creativity that is the result of processing and reconfiguring existing data. This raises the question: is AI truly creative, or does it merely imitate human creativity using advanced algorithms?

» Read the full text at the [Orpheus Institute website](#).  
Author: [Adam Łukawski](#) (ACPA, docARTES programme, LUCDH affiliate) for the Polish Ministry of Education & Sciences



A reconstruction of the Bab el-Mrisa in the popular video game Minecraft by young people in Morocco alongside visiting Leiden researchers.

News article published 5 Dec 2023 by Aris Politopoulos, Angus Mol and Sybille Lammes.

» Read the full text:

[Minecraft in Morocco: virtual building blocks bring the past to life - Leiden University \(universiteitleiden.nl\)](#)

## OPPORTUNITIES

Call for applications:

**[The Barcelona Past Networks Summer School](#)** in June 2024

- Annual 5-day summer school in Barcelona
- Teaching the theory and practice of network research
- For those studying the human past (historians, archaeologists, classicists, ...)
- Developed and delivered by leading communities and experts <https://www.pastnetworks.net/team/>
- 75 EUR registration fee, bursaries available
- [Register via the webpage before 21 January 2024](#)

## Workshops 2023-24

» See all our [Upcoming Workshops](#) 2023-2024 semesters 1&2.

Which Digital skill workshops you'd like to see LUCDH offer?

» Suggestions welcome: **['YourWorkshopSuggestions'](#)**



Image: Enrique Manjavacas Arevalo's workshop on 'LLMs in the Humanities'

## DIGITAL LAB & STUDIO



The Digital Lab & Studio will be closed 25 December 2023 - 7 January 2024!

### Recording Studio in PJ Veth 1.06

1) Email [digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl) to arrange a 20 min tour if you haven't used our recording studio and equipment before.

## Digital Lab PJ Veth 1.07

### Drop-in sessions for all staff & students

Every afternoon\*, 13:00 - 17:00 (Mon-Fri incl.)

During semester times you *do not* need to book beforehand, but email us if you have questions or would like specific assistance with a project. See [lucdh.nl/lab](http://lucdh.nl/lab) for a list of all research resources and the Digital Lab/Studio booking calendar.

\*Occasional afternoons are reserved for special events.

### Larger groups and workshops

Mornings, 9:00 - 13:00 (Mon-Fri incl.)

The Digital Lab is available for staff to reserve for teaching workshops related to digital skills.

Email: [digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl).

2) When you're ready to record your podcast

» Check Digital Lab/Studio calendar here for available time slots.

3) Reserve your preferred time slot(s) in an email to [digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl).

4) Read these studio use guidelines.



LUCDH



Forward E-mail: [lucdh@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:lucdh@hum.leidenuniv.nl)

Print copy available at [LUCDH newsletter pdf](#)

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