Universiteit Leiden
Centre for Digital Humanities

LUCDH Newsletter
2 June 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.

Visit the Digital Lab in P.J. Veth 1.07 - advice on DH research tools and digital resources available - more info at the end of this newsletter or at lucdh.nl/lab
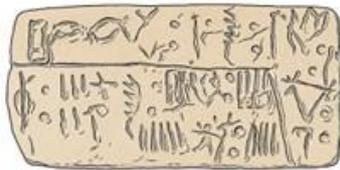
Lecture: LUCDH Lunchtime Speaker Series
'Meaning or what? The semantics of ChatGPT '
with Dr. Crit Cremers (LU Guest Researcher)
Tuesday, 6 June 2023, 12:00-13:00
Location: The Digital Lab in P.J Veth 1.07 or Online via LUCDH Events channel
Register with an email to lucdh@hum.leidenuniv.nl

By all standards, ChatGPT is a linguistic miracle. The bot responds to queries with astonishing accuracy, flexibility, and fluency. Its potential raises the question what the bot knows about languages. In this talk, I will try and show that the answer to this question is paradoxical: the language machine is so convincingly good because its language model does not exhaust meaning…

» 'Meaning or what? The semantics of ChatGPT '

The LUCDH Lunchtime Speaker Series is an opportunity for researchers to share their recent research in digital humanities. If you would like to be one of our speakers please contact us: lucdh@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Lecture: SAILS Lunchtime Seminar
'The Role of AI in the Humanities'
with Jelena Prokic (Assistant Professor LUCDH)
Monday, 12 June 2023, 12:00-13:00
Location: Online in real-time for LU staff/students only
In this talk Dr. Prokic will address the recently established research group Leiden Humanities AI and NLP group, Leiden HumAN, which works at the intersection of AI and the Humanities. The group focuses on development and application of NLP and deep learning methods in diverse areas of the Humanities, including Linguistics, History, East-Asian studies and Anthropology. The goal is to bring together traditional and state-of-the-art computational methods and foster innovative research in the Humanities…

Dr. Jelena Prokic

» Read more here, and register for this online seminar:
https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/events/2023/06/ltsjelena-prokic

LU Information Market:

Summary

The Digital Humanities (DH) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) minor:
- Teaches new ways to analyse and study cultures and languages and provides insight into how digital methods and AI are changing our personal lives and societies.
- Provides an introduction to the critical application of computational methods and thinking in a wide range of humanities and social science
- Offers a diverse DH toolset, including advanced information visualization skills, corpus linguistics, introduction to programming, and digital world building.
- Offers a deep dive into the theories and advanced methods, including statistics and machine learning, needed to work with and understand the AI revolution and how it impacts our cultures and societies at large.
- The PJ Veth Digital Lab/Studio provides access to Digital Humanities students and research staff to state-of-the art digital tools in a welcoming work space.

[Teaching Fair 2023](#) (ENG) / [Onderwijsparade 2023](#) (NL)
Friday, 30 June (12:30 - 18:00)
Location: Academy Building, Rapenburg 73, 2311 GJ Leiden, Faculty Club

Inspiring workshops, lectures and presentations on the poster market for and by teachers. Register via links above.

LUCDH will be present at the poster market to introduce you to the digital tools and educational/research resources that teachers, researchers and students can use in the PJ Veth Digital Lab/Studio.

One of the main initiatives by LUCDH is the inclusion of AI teaching into the BA minor 'Digital Humanities & Artificial Intelligence'. This minor is tailored to appeal to students from all fields of humanities research. It aims to complement BA studies with a skill set that includes a foundation in programming, text & image analysis, while offering a space for thinking about and debating digitization and the influence of AI in our daily lives. The Artificial Intelligence track, starting from the 2023/24 academic year, will offer a deep dive into the theories and advanced methods, including NLP and deep learning, needed to work with and understand the AI revolution.

*DIGITAL LAB/STUDIO - SUMMER HOURS
'Appointment Only' - July 10 to August 18. If you would like to use the lab or studio during this period, please email: digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl

LOCAL DH EVENTS
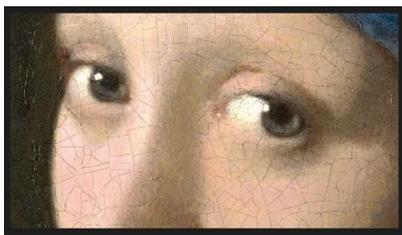
Image: Detail of Vermeer's 'Girl with a Pearl Earring'

Exhibition:
Who's that Girl with a Pearl Earring?
Thursday, 8 June 2023 - 7 January 2024
Location: Mauritshuis, Plein 29, 2511 CS Den Haag

What did the Girl with a Pearl Earring look like when Vermeer finished it in 1665? Paintings change over time, but with the latest techniques the Mauritshuis has been able to reconstruct what the Girl must have looked like. Liselore Tissen conducted research into the changing perception of the work and which technology can best and most authentically represent the findings. » See the [publication of the research here](#).
Opening on June 8, the results of this research are shared during an exhibition in the foyer where a 4 x 5 meter, 3D printed reproduction of the Girl will be displayed and can be touched. A visit to the 3D print is free of charge.
 » Read more about the [research here](#).

Half-day conference:
[The Future of AI is Here (and Guess What ... it's Human)](#)
Monday, 23 June 2023, 13:00-17:00
Location: Great Auditorium, Wijnhaven Building, Den Haag

The Future of AI is Here (and Guess What ... it's Human) half-day conference *brings together policy makers, researchers from Leiden university and international scholars to discuss the sense and nonsense of the current AI craze. We invite you to come and reflect with us on which past events brought us here, what AI is already able to do and how it might very well unfold soon, with ample attention for possible prospective scenarios that have so far received less attention.*
» [AI & SOCIETY CONFERENCE – THE FUTURE OF AI IS HERE (AND GUESS WHAT... IT'S HUMAN) (aiandsociety.nl)](#)

Event: [CLARIAH Tech & Data Day](#):
Thursday, 29 June 2023
Location: Scheltema Leiden, Marktsteeg 1, 2312 CS Leiden

The combination of Tech & Data is essential in digitally informed humanities research. CLARIAH wishes to emphasize the cross-over between the two. ...With this Tech & Data Day we hope to forge new contacts resulting in fruitful collaborations. This will enable participants to explore what they can do for each other and how one side of the research spectrum can enrich the other. Everyone is welcome to join!
» *Register at:* [Welcome to the first Tech & Data Day! - Clariah](#)

OPPORTUNITIES
[LUCDH Grants and Resources/Opportunities](#)
» Read more on various DH vacancies: [DH Opportunities](#)

New Acquisition in the Digital Lab - Tobii Eyetracker - contact us if you have interest in doing research with this and/or would be interested in attending an eyetracker workshop next semester.

Workshops 2023-24
We'd very much like to hear from you. Let us know which Digital skill workshops you'd like to see LUCDH offer in the 2023-2024 semesters. Please take a couple of minutes to fill in our feedback form:

» **['YourWorkshopSuggestions](#)'**

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

DIGITAL LAB & STUDIO

Digital Lab PJ Veth 1.07

Drop-in sessions for all staff & students
Every afternoon during semesters
13:00 - 17:00. *But during the summer open by appointment July 10-Aug 18.
Seating for 25 people. 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 digital for a list of all research resources.

Larger groups and workshops
Mornings (09:00 - 13:00) in the Digital Lab are available for teachers to reserve and for workshops.
Email: digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl.

Looking for a Recording Studio for your next Podcast?

If you haven't used our Studio before, join Dr. Angus Mol for one of his monthly mini-tours of the Studio (P.J. Veth 1.06), and a briefing on the recording equipment. The gear is very user friendly so we hope to see all you new or experienced podcasters soon!
E-mail: digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl to confirm date and your place in a next tour.

Where can I find the Digital Lab & Studio?

The P.J. Veth building is located in the garden area opposite the Hortus Botanicus. Enter P.J. Veth via the main entrance staircase at the front & middle of the building. Once through the wooden and glass doors, turn immediately right, and through the Student Study Lounge. Exit the lounge and take the stairs up to the first floor. You'll have found the Digital Lab in P.J. Veth 1.07! The Podcast Recording Studio is next door in 1.06. Please contact us if you need assistance with access.
(Washrooms are opposite the lab; One floor up is a small kitchen area with drink water.)

When you're ready to record your podcast, time slot(s) can be reserved via
digital-lab@hum.leidenuniv.nl

» Check calendar here for available time slots
*and summer opening hours by appointment