

Everyday Life in a Digital Age (Fall 2012)

Tools, Techniques, and Culture of the Digital Humanities

HUMA 150 @ UVic

Mondays & Thursdays

10 – 11:30 AM

Dr. Jentery Sayers



We are now quite familiar with the “impact narratives” surrounding digital technologies: they dramatically shape our attention spans, how we communicate, and how we access information. But how do we critically engage them? What are their histories, how might we integrate them into scholarly inquiry, under what assumptions, and to what effects on reading, writing, and interpretation?

Intended for undergraduates unfamiliar with the “digital humanities,” this course surveys an array of tools, techniques, and cultures related to the field. Throughout the semester, students will translate their everyday interactions with things digital—the Internet, new media, mobile devices, and electronic text—into research practices anchored in the humanities. They will also unpack how popular depictions of digital culture influence the everyday uses and perceptions of technologies.

By the semester’s end, students will learn how to:

- Use their UVic web space for scholarly communications,
- Write in markup languages (e.g., HTML and XML),
- Find and evaluate electronic resources,
- Conduct collaborative research in the humanities,
- Produce graphical expressions (e.g., geographical maps),
- Persuasively blend a variety of media (e.g., video, audio, images, and text) in academic arguments,
- Articulate how technologies are culturally embedded, and
- Approach computation and the Internet from historical perspectives.

Technical competencies required: know how to send an email.

Questions about the course? Email Jentery Sayers at jentery@uvic.ca.