Digital Humanities Education at LNU

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Workshop on Higher Education Programs in Digital Humanities
Second DHN Conference, Gothenburg, 14-16 March 2017
Digital Humanities Initiative at LNU

- Why: address societal challenges
- How: Research + Education + Network
  - Cross-sectoral
  - Cross-disciplinary
  - International
- Research
  - 10 pilots in 2016
  - Funding received for 2017 “Creating attractive information landscapes for cultural events”
- DISA [https://lnu.se/disal](https://lnu.se/disal)

- Network
  - 110 members in the network as of today
  - 42 from LNU, 12 departments
  - IEC with over 200 IT companies
  - GLAM in the region and abroad
  - Academic members from 16 countries on 4 continents
  - DARIAH-EU

[https://lnu.se/en/digihum/](https://lnu.se/en/digihum/)
DH education at LNU: overall idea…

• Vision
  • Addressing future societal challenges would be eventually possible by highly skilled professionals whose education has been markedly enhanced by practice-informed education and joint, cross-sector innovation

  • A (re)-affirmation of the value of humanities in particular, and academic practices in general

• An attractive mixture of compulsory and facultative courses
  • Common core
  • Disciplinary-specific electives
…DH education at LNU: overall idea…

• To formalize LNU’s vision about cross-disciplinary collaboration
  • 8 departments currently represented
    • Archeology, Library and Information Science, Linguistics, Film and Literature, Media and Journalism
    • Computer Science, Media Technology
    • Business and Economics

• Address needs in the regional public and private sector
  • Focus-group interview with representatives held in June 2016
  • Email interview with 13 experts from LNU network

• Cross-sectoral collaboration
  • Project / thesis work
  • Guest lectures
DH education at LNU: overall idea

• Increase number of (inter)national Master/Magister students at LNU
  • Hybrid or distance
  • English
  • Free-of-charge for EU citizens
  • Both for professionally- and scientifically-oriented students
  • Both independent courses and full programme

• Collaborate with Swedish, Nordic, DARIAH-EU partners and other international universities
  • Joint courses / student projects
  • Student exchange
  • Guest lectures…
Timeline

• Concept drafted in the autumn of 2016

• Pilot testing of core courses starting in the autumn semester of 2017
  • Programming for Digital Humanities opens for applications on 15 March 2017
    • 15 ECTS, 50%

• Full programme to start in the autumn of 2018
# Current concept of the Master in DH

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>Humanities for Technologists (15 credits) or Programming for Humanities (15 credits)</th>
<th>Introduction to Digital Humanities (7.5 credits)</th>
<th>Digital Humanities Research Methods (7.5 credits)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 2 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 3 (7.5 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SECOND YEAR</td>
<td>Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)</td>
<td>Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)</td>
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<td>Practicum (15 credits)</td>
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Linnaeus University
Core courses

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<td>or Programming for Humanists (15 credits)</td>
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+ Practicum
+ Master thesis
Electives

- A 45p elective module
  - 3 suites: the Humanities, the Technologies, and the Business suite
    - At least 15p need to be in the Technologies suite for students with the previous Humanities (or other ‘soft’) education
    - Equivalent in the Humanities for students with previous Computer Science (or related) education
      - Some courses may belong to more than one suite, like the ones in computational linguistics
Electives in Humanities

- Digitization of cultural heritage
- Data and information organization and management
- Metadata
- The transmission of old texts
- Digital heritage management and communication
- Serious gaming as a resource in the fields of Humanities
- Digital translation
- Digital lexicography
- Data driven approaches to language and text
- Business models in value-based organisations and companies
- Participative policy development
- Digitalisation of working practices
- Technoscience studies
- Gender issues
- Digital media and methods for sampling and analysis
- User-generated photography and events
- Media – intermedial – multimodal theory
Electives in Technology

- Network Society and Internet Cultures
- Cross-Media Design and Production
- Interactive visualization methods and techniques
- Social Media Ecosystems
- Information Visualisation
- Data literacy
- General Digital Humanities application programmes

- Discipline-specific applications
- Data sets technologies
- Human Computer Interaction for DH
- Database design for DH
- Web design for DH
- Web programming for DH
- Data mining for DH

Linnæus University
Electives in Business

• Digital Marketing

• Social Media and Consumerism

• Business strategy for GLAM

• …
Practicum and Thesis

- Practicum
  - Compulsory, 15p
  - In collaboration with an external partner
  - A pilot project based on actual needs in the public or private sector
  - Project management, team working skills
    - Ideally in pairs with each from different disciplinary background
  - The basis for thesis writing
Main challenges to address…

- Different disciplines *and* sectors
  - Epistemological, conceptual and terminological differences
  - May require additional resources to reach an understanding

- Administrative issues with cross-faculty and cross-university collaboration
  - Current working structures are based on individual units
    - LNU working example: Innovation through economics, technology and design by 3 faculties ([link to FTK’s version](https://lnu.se))

- In particularly challenging in terms of cross-university education
  - Nordic working example: MA for language teachers, [https://lnu.se](https://lnu.se/program/nordiskt-masterprogram-for-spraklarare/inriktning-engelska-distans-deltid-engelska-h/)
Main challenges to address

- The question of the job market for DH
  - Low number of students at Master level in Sweden

- Sustainability
  - When DH becomes ‘standard’ H

- LNU is a young university
  - Can attract that many students for a return on investment?
On-going efforts

- Establishment of an iSchool at LNU

- Collaboration with the new established LNUC Data Intensive Sciences and Applications (DISA)

- Cross-sectoral project with Nya Småländ “Creating Attractive Information Landscapes for Cultural Events”

- Sweden as a full partner in DARIAH-EU
  - Exploring possibilities
Summary

• Overall idea: fulfilling the vision of addressing future societal challenges → cross*

  • A common core + a large pool of electives
    • Humanities
    • Technologies

• Challenges

• On-going efforts
Thank you!

- We would highly appreciate any feedback

- Collaboration opportunities?

- Contact us at dh@lnu.se