

Interpretive Critique

Your first interpretive critique asks you to write a sustained, thesis-based argumentative interpretation of some significant, current digital humanities project of interest to you. **Your Interpretive Critique is due October 12 at 11:00 am.** Your interpretive critique should be an electronic document, using mixed media to conduct an interpretation, an evaluation, and an analysis of some significant work of digital humanities scholarship.

Your first step is to select an appropriate project to critique. Choose an area that you enjoy, and begin to surf. Google is your friend. Your selection must be academic, scholarly in nature, and currently maintained and developed. I urge you to bounce ideas off me. I can point you to some recently completed and currently developed projects in the digital humanities.

In conducting your interpretive analysis, you should consider the work of the first unit: how does this project meet the competing aims and requirements of the digital humanities? Your critique should use one of the major theories of the first unit—Bruno Latour, Franco Moretti, John Unsworth—in order to develop its interpretive focus.

In format, your critique should be between 700 and 1400 words, using mixed media to advance its perspective.

I invite you to meet with me to choose a project, develop a thesis, or refine a draft. Use tungle.me/randallcream to select a meeting time.

Submissions must be digital, by email or flash drive, to me.

You will be graded on three main standards. First of all, you should present an argument that attempts to prove its main point. Secondly, that main point must consist of an idea that generates insightful perspective onto at least one of the texts we've read. Thirdly, the argument must be written in such a way that it is clear, well-ordered, and smoothly constructed. With these in mind, your essay will be judged along three main standards: Strength of Argument, Insightfulness and Sophistication of Main Idea, and Skill of Construction. For more information on standards and guidelines, see the handouts on Argument, Thesis, and Introduction, as well as the grading guidelines handout on the website.

Late work will receive an F at best.