SUMMER SCHOOL IN

ISLAMICATE DIGITAL HUMANITIES FOR SCHOLARS IN MANUSCRIPT STUDIES

Date: 14 – 18 August 2019

Venue: Hamburg Universität, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, 20146 Hamburg - Room: EG 136 (in the main building)

Convenor: Thomas Eich

Director of the Course: Alba Fedeli

IT Coordinator: Alicia González Martínez

Contact details: Alba Fedeli at alba.fedeli@uni-hamburg.de

Deadline for applications: 24 June 2019 (there is no registration fee, but advanced registration is compulsory for the selection process as the number of participants is limited to twenty)

Aims and content

This summer course is for graduate (MA and PhD) students and researchers who work with manuscript materials in Arabic script and want to learn how to apply digital technology in their research.

It includes both theoretical and practical sessions on digital encoding and editing of manuscript texts, data annotation, search and visualization.

During the course, the instructors will provide a theoretical framework for understanding how the Arabic script and Unicode work in the digital horizon, guiding the participants in a practical session for making their own digital edition of a few Qur'anic leaves using TEI standards customized for early Qur'anic manuscripts. Thus, participants will produce their own edition using online images of Cambridge University Library that will be uploaded to the Cambridge Digital Library at the end of the course (https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/islamic/1).

There will be practical sessions for learning how to annotate data at different levels with a special focus on CATMA software (https://catma.de/), to import and export data from and to different formats, and to perform search using regular expressions and other powerful queries.

At the end of the course, participants will be able to plan and build a digital edition of their manuscript texts and will have a basic knowledge of the powerful tools that they have at their disposal for making the most of their data to investigate manuscripts.

Dino Buzzetti will give a keynote lecture on vector semantics and ambivalence of diacritical markup.

Participants will have the chance to learn about the history of Oriental Studies in Hamburg with a special focus on its role in the restoration of early Qur'an manuscripts in Yemen as well as to see a few interesting

items from the Oriental manuscript collection held at the University and State Library (https://spezialkataloge.sub.uni-hamburg.de/hans-handschriftenkatalog.html).

Practical information

- The language of instruction will be **English** and participants are required to have knowledge of **Arabic script**.
- **There is no registration fee for the tuition**, but advanced application and registration for the course are required as the number of participants is limited to twenty people for the effectiveness of the practical sessions.
- Students who are unable to secure financial support from their institution may be eligible for **scholarship**. There will be up to ten grants to offer up to 600 € for covering travel and accommodation expenses. Please contact Julia Rössing at julia.roessing@uni-hamburg.de for more information about the possibility of a scholarship.
- Participants will have to bring their own laptop for the practical sessions. If you have any problem, please inform us writing at julia.roessing@uni-hamburg.de.

Application

Although there is no registration fee, advanced registration is compulsory for the selection process of the participants as their number is limited to twenty. Thus, students and researchers interested to participate in this summer course have to send to Julia Rössing at julia.roessing@uni-hamburg.de and Alba Fedeli at alba.fedeli@uni-hamburg.de :

- A one-page CV
- A motivation letter (maximum 200 words) explaining their interest in the course and their field of research
- A list of their technical skills in order to organize the practical sessions in the more effective way although they are not a requirement for participating in the course. Applicants have to indicate – for example - their knowledge of

  -any software for annotation, searching and/or any type of data handling,

  -data formats,

  -digital editing,

  -programming languages, etc.

The deadline for applications is Monday 24 June 2019 and participants will be informed about their application by Friday 5 July 2019.

Programme

Click here to find the provisional programme: https://www.cobhuni.uni-hamburg.de/en/news-and-events/summerschool19.html

Information about Hamburg

From the airport, you can reach the venue by S-Train. Just get on the S1 via Ohlsdorf and change at Ohlsdorf for the S11 via Blankenese and get off at Dammtor Station. The main building of the university can be reached with the trains S21, S11 and S31. Another option is the subway: U1 Stephansplatz station. There are also busses going to Dammtor (Line 4 & 5). If you want to check your train connections or buy online train tickets, go to www.hvv.de/en.

Around the university campus, there are many possibilities to have inexpensive lunch. At the Grindelallee, you can find different restaurants and Kumpir places.

You can stay close to the campus at Hotel & Hostel B8, but you can also find inexpensive accomodations at: www.hamburg.com. If you want to experience multicultural food and nice little shops, we can recommend a visit in the Schanzenviertel. It is only one train stop away from campus.

Invitation Letter

Participants requiring an official letter of invitation in order to obtain a visa will have to contact Julia Rössing at julia.roessing@uni-hamburg.de (Tel: +49 40 428 38 -7882).

Instructors

Dino Buzzetti is an historian of philosophy and taught medieval philosophy at the University of Bologna. He has published essays on medieval logic and metaphysics and the history of logic in general. He has also taught document representation and processing in the Faculty of Preservation of the Cultural Heritage in Ravenna and gave humanities computing courses to philosophy students. He has published articles on digital editions of manuscript texts and digital text representation and is among the contributors to the TEI/MLA volume on Electronic Textual Editing.

Thomas Eich is Professor for Islamic Studies at the University of Hamburg. He is currently directing the ERC-Research Project "Contemporary Bioethics and the History of the Unborn in Islam" (COBHUNI), which aims among other things at the development of computational functionality for its use in humanities working with Arabic script.

Alba Fedeli is a research associate at the Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg working on the transmission of early Qur'ānic manuscripts using digital philology and phylogenetic methods. She received her PhD from the University of Birmingham, UK, after studies in Italy with Sergio Noja Noseda and has first-hand knowledge of manuscript collections scattered all over the world, from Yemen to Ireland, from Russia to Qatar and Egypt. Her works include the edition of the Mingana-Lewis Qur'ānic palimpsest.

Alicia González Martínez is a research associate at the Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg. She has a multidisciplinary profile covering Arabic linguistics, Oriental studies and software development, with a special focus on Arabic Natural language processing.

Carolin Kinne-Wall works as IT-coordinator at the Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg. She studied Computer Science in Bonn, Cologne and Singapore and worked in different interdisciplinary projects as IT- and data manager.

Thomas Milo is an independent scholar whose company DecoType pioneered smart font technology and digital publishing, a contributor to Unicode since 1988 and member of the Unicode Consortium since 1992. At the behest of the Omani Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs, he and his team created the first fully

digital online Qur'ān, for which radical new solutions for encoding and rendering of historic Arabic text had to be researched and invented).

Monika Müller is curator of Manuscripts at the State and University Library Hamburg since 2017. She did her PhD at the University of Tübingen and her habilitation at the University of Göttingen in Art History. She is specialized in Medieval Art History, History of Book and Knowledge and Latin Paleography. Currently she is teaching at Göttingen and Hamburg.

Mareike Schuhmacher, **Christian Bruck** and **Marie Flüh** are researchers working at CATMA project.

Peter Verkinderen studied Classics and Middle Eastern studies at Ghent University, and is currently a post-doctoral researcher in the ERC project "The Early Islamic Empire at Work" at Universität Hamburg, and from October at the KITAB project at Aga Khan University. He built the Jedli search tool for Arabic texts (together with José Haro Peralta), and is preparing a digital edition of the Islam Atlas.