

Syllabus: Новейшие подходы в изучении города Digital Urban Lab

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Wednesdays, 14:30-17:30

Ауд. 141

*prerequisite: качественные методы в соц.иссл.

This course is concerned primarily with the methods of Internet data gathering and analysis used in contemporary studies of urban forms and processes. It is project-oriented and highly collaborative, i.e., students will conduct research together as a group. In the process, they will learn to think critically about the steps of research question formulation, learn the tools for Internet data collection, its analysis, and visualization. As a testing ground for their research, the students will examine new housing construction in St. Petersburg - an object that lends itself to varied modes of Internet analysis while presenting ample opportunity for novel sociological research. By the end of the course, students are expected to produce enough data and analysis to write, collectively, a publishable research paper.

All materials for the course, including maps and visuals, will be available on a shared Google Drive folder. Students are expected to share data they acquire and open their materials for discussion.

ASSIGNMENTS

Data collection and in-class presentations: Students will be continually acquiring, discovering, and learning new tools, which they are expected to present in class. They will also be required to present the data they collect for their research projects, which will be subject to discussion and methodological scrutiny with the group. Ongoing, weekly participation, exploration, and collaboration will be fundamental to the course and will count heavily toward the final grade. **Course attendance is required, and points will be deducted for unauthorized absences.** (30%)

Online journal: All students will be required to keep an online journal as a Facebook group. A minimum of seven (7) substantive contributions will be expected of each student. A substantive contribution involves analysis, observation, photographs if appropriate, addition of relevant research materials, links to new research, and interpretative commentary for the material. (There is no specific word limit, but it cannot simply be a link with a descriptive sentence, so use your judgment.) (20%)

Technical specifications assignment: Students will write technical specifications for a research tool or platform, which they could offer to a computer science specialist to help them design the tool. The specifications will be reviewed and discussed with a guest programmer/s. (10%)

Final essay: The goal of the course is to produce an article-quality final essay of 4-5K words. The students will have the option of writing in Russian or English. (40%)

TOOLS

Issuecrawler: http://www.govcom.org/Issuecrawler_instructions.htm

(Rogers, R. (2009), "Mapping Public Web Space with the Issuecrawler," in: Claire Brossard and Bernard Reber (eds.), *Digital Cognitive Technologies: Epistemology and Knowledge Society*. (London: Wiley), pp 115-126.)

Google Scraper: <https://tools.digitalmethods.net/beta/scrapeGoogle/>

Twitter Scraper: <https://github.com/digitalmethodsinitiative/dmi-tcat/wiki>

(Erik Borra, Bernhard Rieder, (2014) "Programmed method: developing a toolset for capturing and analyzing tweets", *Aslib Journal of Information Management*, Vol. 66 Iss: 3, pp. 262 – 278)

<http://lab.softwarestudies.com/p/cultural-analytics.html>

ImagePlot: <http://lab.softwarestudies.com/p/imageplot.html>

LikeScraper: <https://tools.digitalmethods.net/beta/likescraper/>

Digital Methods Initiative tool database:

<https://wiki.digitalmethods.net/Dmi/ToolDatabase>

Venturini, T. et al *Sciences Po Media Lab Tools*, <http://tools.medialab.sciences-po.fr/>

ONLINE RESOURCES

Diminescu D. and M. Jiacomy (Eds) *The E-diasporas project*. Mapping Diasporic Networks Digital Social Research Methods: Navicrawler and Gephi, <http://www.e-diasporas.fr/>

ESRC Methods Festival, *Online Methods Tutorials: What is X?* (Ethnography, Discourse Analysis, ..), <http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/video/RMF2012/whatis.php>

Hine, C. et al *Digital Methods as Mainstream Methodology*
<http://digitalmethodsni.com/>

Rogers, R. et al, *Digital Methods Initiative*,
<https://wiki.digitalmethods.net/Dmi/ToolDatabase>

Vis F. and M. Thelwall, *Researching Social Media Blog*,
<http://researchingsocialmedia.org/>

Noortje Marres and Carolin Gerlitz, Issue mapping <http://www.issuemapping.net>

Contropedia (wikipedia controversies, EMAPS project) <http://www.contropedia.net>

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS

Part 1. Researching Social Life

Week 1. Feb. 3 Introduction

Introduction to the goals of the course, discussion of new methods, what they are and why they are needed.

Week 2. Feb. 10 Tricks of the Trade: Society and 'The Social'

Readings

Becker, Howard, *Tricks of the Trade: How to Think about Your Research While You're Doing It* (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing, 1998).

Chp. 2 (Imagery) pp. 10-66.

Mariam Fraser, "Once upon a problem," Back, Les, and Puwar, Nirmal, eds. *Live Methods* (Sociological Review Monographs, 2012).

Bruno Latour, *Paris the Invisible City*, "First Sequence", Plan 1-8. And familiarize yourselves with the website of the project <http://www.bruno-latour.fr/virtual/EN/index.html>

Alberto Toscano, "Seeing it whole: staging totality in social theory and art," in Back and Puwar, eds., *Live Methods*, pp. 65 - 80.

Week 3. Feb 17 Digital Methods / Fieldwork Orientation

Readings:

Fielding, N., Lee, R. & Blank, G. (2008) The Internet as Research Medium: An Editorial Introduction to The Sage Handbook of Online Research Methods, *The Sage Handbook of Online Research Methods*, pp. 3-20

Noortje Marres, "The redistribution of methods: on intervention in digital social research, broadly conceived, in *Live Methods*, pp. 139-165.

Ruppert, E., Law, J. and Savage, M. (2013) Reassembling Social Science Methods: the challenge of digital devices. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 30(4)

*Discussion with invited experts on new housing in St. Petersburg

Week 4. Feb 24 Data & Ethics

Readings:

Cornish, Gillespie, Zittoun, “Collaborative Analysis of Qualitative Data”, in Handbook of Qualitative Data Analysis, pp. 79-93, 2013.

Sweeney et al “Hearing the voices of service user researchers in collaborative qualitative data analysis: the case for multiple coding,” *Health Expectations*, e89-e99.

Christine Hine, *Ethnography for the Internet*, Introduction and Chp. 1, 2.

Part 2. Digital Ethnographies and Beyond

Week 5. March 2 Ethnography and the Internet

Readings:

Christine Hine, *Ethnography for the Internet*, Chps. 3-5

Keith Macdonald, “Using Documents,” in Gilbert, ed. *Researching Social Life*, SAGE Publications, 2001. Chps. 12, 13, pp. 194-223.

Week 6. March 9 - Digital Ethnography

Readings:

Murthy, D. 2008 “Digital Ethnography: An Examination of the Use of New Technologies for Social Research”. *Sociology* 42 (5): pp. 837-855.

Christine Hine, *Ethnography for the Internet*, pp. 6,7

Hallet and Barber, “Ethnographic Research in a Cyber Era”, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 2014, pp. 306-330.

Kozinets, “The Field behind the Screen: Using Netnography for Marketing Research in Online Communities,” *Journal of Marketing Research*, Vol. 39, No. 1 (Feb., 2002), pp. 61-72

* Guest lecture

Week 7. March 16 Social Media Analysis I (Instagram and Visual Media)

Readings:

Victoria D. Alexander, “Analyzing Visual Materials,” in Gilbert, ed., *Researching Social Life*,

Nadav Hochman and Lev Manovich, "Zooming Into An Instagram City: Reading the local through social media,"

<http://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/4711/3698>

Lev Manovich, Alise Tifentale, Mehrdad Yazdani, Jay Chow "The Exceptional and the Everyday: 144 Hours in Kiev" http://manovich.net/content/04-projects/082-kiev-article/sk219_1225.pdf Also look at <http://www.the-everyday.net/p/introduction.html>

Elizabeth Currid and Williams Sarah, 2010. "The geography of buzz: Art, culture and the social milieu in Los Angeles and New York," *Journal of Economic Geography*, volume 10, number 3, pp. 423–451. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbp032>

* Guest presentations of current Instagram projects and discussion of tools and methods

Week 8. March 23 Social Media Analysis II (Facebook, VK, Twitter)

Readings:

Boyd, D. (2007) Social Network Sites: Definition, History, and Scholarship. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication* 13 (1) 210–230.

Rieder, B. (2013). Studying Facebook via data extraction: the Netvizz application. In Proceedings of the 5th Annual ACM Web Science Conference. New York: ACM, 346-355, http://rieder.polsys.net/files/rieder_websci.pdf
Riles, A. (2001) *The Network Inside Out*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press

Murthy, D., "Toward a Sociological Understanding of Social Media: Theorizing Twitter," *Sociology*, Vol. 46, No. 6 (DECEMBER 2012), pp. 1059-1073 (JSTOR)

C. Gerlitz and A. Helmond, " The Like Economy: Social buttons and the data-intensive web," *New Media & Society*. Online First, 4 February 2013.

Week 9. March 30 Research Design Workshop

*Students present and discuss project ideas and first attempts at data collection

Part 3. Issue Mapping/Controversy Mapping

<http://www.mappingcontroversies.dk/about-controversies.html>

<http://www.msa.ac.uk/mac/Main/MappingArchitecturalControversies>

Books to consult:

R. Rogers, N. Sanchez and A. Kil. *Issue Mapping for an Ageing Europe*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2015.

Albena Yaneva, *Mapping Controversies in Architecture*, Ashgate Publishing, 2012.

Noorjte Marres and Richard Rogers, 2000 *Landscaping climate change: a mapping technique for understanding science and technology debates on the World Wide Web*

Week 10. April 6 Controversy Mapping

Readings:

Albena Yaneva, "From Reflecting-in-Action to Mapping of the Real", in Isabelle Doucet and Nel Janssens, eds. *Transdisciplinary Knowledge Production in Architecture and Urbanism*, Springer, 2011, pp. 117-129

Albena Yaneva, *Mapping Controversies in Architecture*, pp. TBD

Noorjte Marres and David Moates, "Mapping Controversies with Social Media: The Case for Symmetry," *Social Media + Society*, 2015, pp. 1-17.

S. Niederer and R. Taudin Chabot. [Deconstructing the Cloud: Responses to Big Data phenomena from social sciences, humanities and the arts](http://bds.sagepub.com/content/spbds/2/2/2053951715594635.full.pdf), *Big Data & Society*, 2(2), 2015. <http://bds.sagepub.com/content/spbds/2/2/2053951715594635.full.pdf>

Week 11. April 13 Issue Mapping

Readings:

Marres, N. (2015) "Why Map Issues? On Controversy Analysis as a Digital Method", *Science, Technology & Human Values*, 0162243915574602. <http://sth.sagepub.com/content/40/5/655.full.pdf+html>

Marres, N. and R. Rogers (2005) "Recipe for Tracing the Fate of Issues and their Publics on the Web," In: *Making Things Public: Atmospheres of Democracy*. B. Latour and P. Weibel (Eds). (Cambridge: MIT Press): 922-93

T. Venturini, "Building on Faults: How to Represent Controversies with Digital Methods," 2011, http://www.medialab.sciences-po.fr/publications/Venturini-Building_on_Faults.pdf

E. Borra, E. Weltevrede, P. Ciuccarelli, A. Kaltenbrunner, D. Laniado, G. Magni, M. Mauri, R. Rogers & T. Venturini. " [Contropedia □ the analysis and visualization of controversies in Wikipedia articles](#)." In *Proceedings of the 10th International Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym 2014)*. New York: ACM, 2014, 2014:34.

Week 12. Practicum and individual project discussions / presentation of data

Week 13 April 25-29 – Intensive workshop with guest instructor

May 4-18: Developing research projects. Student teams work on their collaborative research projects under supervision of course teachers. Guidelines will be provided closer to the date.

Week 17 May 25 Final Remarks: Thinking about Big Urban Data

Readings:

Townsend, A.M., 2013. Smart Cities: Big Data, Civic Hackers, and the Quest for a New Utopia, W.W.Norton, pp. TBD

Sheppard, M. ed, 2011. Sentient City. Ubiquitous Computing, Architecture and the Future of Urban Space., The MIT Press, pp. TBD

**Final project due 05.06.2016 5PM (submission online)*