



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

4AE465 Teoretiska perspektiv på arkeologins och museernas digitalisering, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Theoretical Perspectives on the Digitalization of Archaeology and Museums, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Archaeology

Subject Group

Archaeology

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2020-12-14

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

Prerequisites

90 credits in archaeology including an independent project of 15 credits, or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- critically discuss the role of digitalisation in the development of archaeological theory, method and practice, from excavation via documentation and research to communication,
- account for how, and in what contexts, digitalisation affects the interpretation of archaeological material,
- describe and critically evaluate a conceived course of events in an entirely digitalised process, from archaeological excavation and documentation, via analysis and research, to communication of the results to the general public,
- compare and critically evaluate Sweden's strategy as regards digitalisation of archaeology, from an international perspective.

Content

The main focus of the course lies on the subject of archaeology and how the circumstances for excavation, documentation, research, interpretation and communication change and shift due to the rapid development of digital structures that is currently going on. The digitalisation of archaeology is studied in terms of theoretical perspectives on digitalisation; in terms of concrete examples of digital material generated in different steps, from excavation to communication; and in terms of how digital material is processed in databases in Sweden and internationally. The course also presents critical perspectives on the digitalisation of archaeology from excavation and documentation to administration, research and communication through museums and different digital platforms.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of seminars. The student is expected to participate actively in the seminar discussions.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The course is examined through oral presentations and a take-home examination.

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified in writing when the course starts. Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Cameron, Fiona & Kenderdine, Sarah (eds.) (the latest edition). *Theorizing digital cultural heritage: a critical discourse*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press. 465 p. Pages 1-15, 49-75, 165-191 and 389-407; 88 p. in total.

Ch'ng, Gaffney & Chapman (the latest edition). *Visual Heritage in the Digital Age*. London: Springer. 361 p. Pages 1-14, 311-361; 65 p. in total

Dallas, Costis (2015). Curating Archaeological Knowledge in the Digital Continuum: from Practice to Infrastructure. *Open Archaeology* Vol 1, Issue 1, p. 176-207, 32 p. (ISSN 2300-6560)

Ellis Nilsson, Sara (2020). Digital History: Digitizing and Communicating the Past: A Case Study. In Joacim Hansson & Jonas Svensson (eds.) *Doing Digital Humanities – Concepts, Approaches, Cases*. Växjö: Linnaeus University Press. p. 219–239, 21 p. (ISBN 9789189081659)

European Journal of Archaeology (EJA) (2019). Digital Archaeology theme. *European Journal of Archaeology* 22 (3) 2019. p. 319–414, 96 p. (ISSN 1461-9571)

Gattiglia, Gabriele (2015). Think big about data: Archaeology and the Big Data challenge. *Archäologische Informationen* 38. Published online July 2015. 12 p. (ISSN 0341-2873)

Gunnarsson, Fredrik (2018). *Archaeological Challenges, Digital Possibilities: Digital Knowledge Development and Communication in Contract Archaeology*. Licentiate thesis. Linnaeus University, 2018. 154 p. (ISBN 9789188898067)

Gunnarsson, Fredrik (2020). Digitalisation and Its Impact on Archaeological Knowledge Production. In Joacim Hansson & Jonas Svensson (eds.) *Doing Digital Humanities – Concepts, Approaches, Cases*. Växjö: Linnaeus University Press. p. 27–44, 18 p. (ISBN 9789189081659)

Haraway, Donna, A Cyborg Manifesto, in Hanks, Craig (ed.) (2010). *Technology and values: essential readings*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. 225–246, 22 p. (ISBN 9781405149013)

Huggett, Jeremy (2015). Challenging Digital Archaeology. *Open Archaeology* Volume 1, Issue 1, p. 79-85, 7 p. (ISSN 2300-6560)

Huvila, Isto (ed.) (2018). *Archaeology and archaeological information in the digital society*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. 167 p. (ISBN 0415788439)

Landeschi, Giacomo, Nicolò Dell'Unto, Karin Lundqvist, Daniele Ferdani, Danilo Marco Campanaro, Anne-Marie Leander Touati (2016). 3D-GIS as a platform for visual analysis: Investigating a Pompeian house. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 65 (2016). p. 103–113, 11 p. (ISSN 1095-9238)

Löwenborg, Daniel (2010). *Excavating the digital landscape: GIS analyses of social relations in central Sweden in the 1st millennium AD*. Thesis (summary) Uppsala: Uppsala universitet. 23 p. (ISBN 9789150621211)

Perry, Sara & Beale, Nicole (2015). The Social Web and Archaeology's Restructuring: Impact, Exploitation, Disciplinary Change. *Open Archaeology* Volume 1, Issue 1, p. 153-165, 13 p. (ISSN 2300-6560)

Petersson, Bodil (2014). Dances with petroglyphs – On digital agendas, digital tools and heritage communication. In Isto Huvila (ed.) *Perspectives to archaeological information in the digital society*. Uppsala University: Department of ALM. Meddelanden från Institutionen för ABM vid Uppsala universitet 5. p. 73-97, 25 p. (ISBN 9789150624144)

Stobiecka, Monica (2020a). Archaeological heritage in the age of digital colonialism. *Archaeological Dialogues* (2020), 27, p. 113–125, 13 p. (ISSN 1380-2038)

Stobiecka, Monica (2020b). Towards a Prosthetic Archaeology. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 2020, Vol. 20(3) p. 335–352, 18 p. (ISSN 1469-6053)