About the Project

Four librarians from across divisions at the Claremont Colleges Library were challenged to learn about new tools in the digital humanities and to think of how we might apply digital humanities concepts to library services. After participating in a DH crash course taught by or own digital scholarship coordinator, Ashley Sanders, our group experimented with DH tools such as Voyant Tools, TimelineJS, and Tableau to answer questions about how our historic collecting patterns aligned to changes in the national political landscape. Our first test case focuses on identifying collecting patterns in the field of terrorism studies.

Our Team

Lydia Bello, STEM Team Librarian
Nina Clements, Social Sciences Team Librarian
Madelynn Dickerson, Information Resources Coordinator
Margaret Hogarth, Information Resources Acquisitions Team Leader

Research Questions

What trends can we identify in Claremont Colleges Library collecting practices of print materials related to terrorism?

- Has print material collecting in terror studies changed over time?
- Do collecting patterns correlate to transnationally significant terror events?
- What is the nature of the research we are collecting?
- What DH tools best support this type of analysis?
- How best can we visualize our data and results?
Critical Collection Analysis

Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Critical Collection Analysis: A Timeline

WORLD EVENTS
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT
NEW PRINT TITLES
DISTINCTIVE TERMS

World Trade C...
Oi, HAMAS bomb, Osama Bin La...

Approval Plan Running
17 of 21,434
10 of 20,135
15 of 18,956
16 of 18,83

massive, “ce, "uzi,” "undeclara," "encyclopedia," "liberation"
Critical Collection Analysis
Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library
Critical Collection Analysis
Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Critical Collection Analysis at the Claremont Colleges Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terror titles in context of world events</th>
<th>Collection Development with terrorism titles in catalog</th>
<th>Comparing Term Frequency: Domestic and World</th>
<th>Comparing Term Frequency: Islam and Religion</th>
<th>Comparing Term Frequency: September 11 and Terror</th>
<th>Average Imprint Age by Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[Graph showing trends over fiscal years]
Critical Collection Analysis
Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Critical Collection Analysis at the Claremont Colleges Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure Name</th>
<th># Of Titles</th>
<th>#Titles IV</th>
<th>#Titles V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terror titles in context of world events</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Development with terrorism titles in subject</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing Term, Frequency, Domestic and World</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing Term, Frequency, Islam and Religion</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing Term, Frequency, September and Terror</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Imprint by Fiscal Year</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal Year
Critical Collection Analysis
Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Critical Collection Analysis at the Claremont Colleges Library

- Terror titles in context of world events
- Collection Development with terrorism titles in database
- Comparing Term Frequency: Domestic and World
- Comparing Term Frequency: Islam and Religion
- Comparing Term Frequency: September and Terror
- Average Imprint Age by Fiscal Year

Measure: norms
- # OF Titles
- # of Articles
Critical Collection Analysis at the Claremont Colleges Library

Graph showing trends in collection development with respect to terrorism over time.
Critical Collection Analysis

Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Critical Collection Analysis at the Claremont Colleges Library

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<th>Average Imprint Age by Fiscal Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Average Age:

- 2
- 4

Fiscal Year:

- 1994
- 1995
- 1996
- 1997
- 1998
- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005

Average Age of Book Published:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
Post-Analysis Musings

Data management is essential and was the foundation of the entire project. Without proper documentation of data collection and processing methods, we could not be confident in our results, as preliminary as these results may be at this point. We had to constantly keep our eye on the data to avoid errors that might skew our findings.

This project is an experiment, and it came with many false starts. We created dashboards and timelines that were ultimately scrapped, and what remains on this website may also end up transformed as we continue to refine our methods and build understanding of DH tools.

Ideas for the Future

We are sincerely intrigued by using DH tools for collection assessment in libraries. Text analysis provides an opportunity for qualitative analysis of collections that help us understand the nature and nuance of the materials we own, not just the numbers of titles, the usage, or the costs. Used together with traditional analysis, DH tools could be used effectively especially for analysis of interdisciplinary topics that cross many disciplines and call number ranges.

In addition, we see potential in using these methods as an alternative to browsing. An interactive dashboard is a window into a collection that can be shared and explored by new faculty, new liaison libraries, and researchers who want to understand the scope of research in a particular area. While we focused on print books, there is great potential to expand.
Critical Collection Analysis
Using DH Tools to Contextualize Historic Collecting Patterns at the Claremont Colleges Library

Digital Humanities

A Short Guide to the Digital Humanities
by Jeffrey Schnapp

Text Analysis 101
an overview by John Laudun

Process as Product: Scholarly Communications Experiments in the Digital Humanities
from the Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication

Voyant Tools

Voyant Tools
A web-based reading and analysis environment for digital texts

Getting Started with Voyant
Introductory explanations with slides

Voyant Tools Documentation
A practical guide to text analysis with Voyant Tools

TimelineJS

TimelineJS
An open-source tool that enables anyone to build visually rich, interactive timelines. Beginners can create a timeline using nothing more than a Google spreadsheet

Timeline Spreadsheet Template
via Google Sheets

TimelineJS Documentation
Tips & tricks and more info on using the tool
**Tableau**

Tableau
Data visualization and analysis tools with free and paid versions

**Tableau Tutorials**
Video overview of building and publishing dashboards

**Python and Related Tools**

**Anaconda**
The open source version of Anaconda is a high performance distribution of Python and R and includes over 100 of the most popular Python, R and Scala packages for data science.

**Python.org**
Learn more about Python, download source codes and installers, and read documentation

**Notepad++**
A free source code editor which supports several programming languages running under the MS Windows environment

**Data Files from our Project via GitHub**
These are our data files we used to run the Python analysis.
List of Links from DH Links Page

A Short Guide to the Digital Humanities
http://jeffreyschnapp.com/2013/01/17/short-guide-to-the-digital_humanities/

Text Analysis 101
http://johnlaudun.org/20130221-text-analytics-101/

Process as Product: Scholarly Communications Experiments in the Digital Humanities
http://jlsc-pub.org/articles/abstract/10.7710/2162-3309.1137/

Voyant Tools
http://voyant-tools.org/

Getting Started with Voyant
http://docs.voyant-tools.org/start/

Voyant Tools Documentation
http://docs.voyant-tools.org/

TimelineJS
https://timeline.knightlab.com/

Timeline Spreadsheet Template
https://drive.google.com/previewtemplate?id=1pHBvXN7nmGkiG8uQSUB82eNInL8xHu6kydzH_ -eguHQ&mode=public

Timeline JS Documentation
https://timeline.knightlab.com/docs/index.html
List of Links from DH Links Page (continued)

Tableau
http://www.tableau.com/

Tableau Tutorials
http://www.tableau.com/learn/tutorials/on-demand/getting-started

Anaconda
https://www.continuum.io/downloads

Python.org
https://www.python.org/

Notepad ++
https://notepad-plus-plus.org/

Data Files from Our Project via GitHub
https://github.com/AshleySanders/CCL-DH