

Digital Humanities

Along with almost every aspect of life today, the humanities are being transformed by new technologies as big data, network analysis, and machine learning offer new ways to understand human culture, creativity, and history. The theme of transformation runs through most of the articles in this section. In the first article, Pamela Fletcher and Crystal Hall argue that bringing computational tools to the study of the humanities and adding humanities' focus on historical perspective and context, ethics, and value to the study of technology will benefit both areas. Pauleena MacDougal and Katrina Wynn offer a look at how as archivists at the Maine Folklife Center they are using new digital tools to both preserve historical resources and improve public access to them. Stephen Bromage reflects on the opportunities that the digital age has provided for reimagining many aspects of the work of the Maine Historical Society, describing the society's experience in developing the Maine Memory Network, a statewide digital museum. Jim Henderson and Karan Sheldon outline the role of Northeast Historic Film in preserving and documenting Maine's film history. And in the final article, Desirée Butterfield-Nagy argues that most individuals and organizations could do considerably more to better manage and preserve their digital resources and avoid a "Digital Dark Age." 🐉