

KECK

DIGITAL CULTURAL MAPPING PROGRAM



The **PRIMARY OBJECTIVE** is to develop an interdisciplinary undergraduate curriculum in the emergent field of Digital Cultural Mapping. By bringing traditional methods of humanistic inquiry together with geo-temporal argumentation and the analytic tools of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Digital Cultural Mapping teaches students to use new technologies to investigate and map a wide-range of cultural, historical, and social dynamics. The undergraduate curriculum in digital cultural mapping represents the next phase of development for Digital Humanities at UCLA, a field that has pioneered creative ways of weaving together the tradition of a critical, broad-based liberal arts education with the challenges and possibilities presented by new technologies.

DIGITAL CULTURAL MAPPING is:

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY FIELD

Faculty, staff, and students come from history, archaeology, geography, urban planning, language and literature departments, architecture and urban design, statistics, and many others.

AT THE CUTTING-EDGE

It uses innovative mapping and geo-technologies to transform humanities pedagogy and prepare students to enter the world of the twenty-first century.

COLLABORATIVE

Bridging the expertise and resources of several major technological centers at UCLA, project based learning lies at the core of the program.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Year One (Fall 2008- Spring 2009)

Dedicated to the development of the courses, adaptation of courses and the selection of courses which together are defined as the Keck Digital Cultural Mapping Program.

Year Two (Fall 2009- Spring 2010)

The program runs for the first time. This program is tentative, and will be finalized during the program development phase of AY 2009-2009. Evaluation will take place throughout the year, and will be finalized during the summer.

Year Three (Fall 2010- Spring 2011)

At the end of the second year the program will be evaluated, adaptations will be made and based on these experiences the program will be taught again.

We aim to design **A NEW SERIES OF COURSES** in which students learn to assemble and dissect complex datasets, to create new ways of visualizing and analyzing data, to develop reasoned arguments that resonate across disciplines, and to produce compelling arguments that have impact beyond the academy. A new "core course" in Digital Cultural Mapping will be developed, alongside Fiat Lux courses, cluster courses, summer workshops, and a capstone experience. Currently, the "LA Cluster Course" and a series of "city courses" on Berlin, Rome, and Jerusalem are part of the Keck initiative.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE? Faculty interested in developing new courses in digital cultural mapping or retooling existing courses are encouraged to participate in the "Training Year Workshops." We will analyze the argumentative and heuristic potential of mapping cultural phenomena in time and space as well as provide faculty with the practical knowledge and technical tools to design their courses.

PROJECT DIRECTORS

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Architecture and Urban Design;
Director of the UCLA Experiential
Technologies Center

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Germanic Languages and
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Near Eastern Languages and Cultures:
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To learn more, please visit us on-line at: <http://www.idre.ucla.edu/hasis/keck/>