



UNIVERSITÄT
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Research Centre Global Dynamics |
ReCentGlobe



Programme

Open(ing) Science? Digital Humanities in Area Studies

Franco-German Summer School

7–11 July 2025

Leipzig, Germany

Day 1: Monday, 7 July 2025

Venue: Bibliotheca Albertina, Vortragssaal (Beethovenstraße 6, 04107 Leipzig)

15:30 **Registration and coffee**

16:00–16:30 **Welcome**

16:30–18:00 Roundtable

The digital turn in area studies – Franco-German perspectives in the age of artificial intelligence

Discussants: Mercedes Volait (CNRS & DISTAM), Matthias Middell (Leipzig University & NFDI4Memory), Anne Lipp (University Library Leipzig), Sandra Aube (CNRS & DISTAM)

Moderation: Kathleen Schlütter (Leipzig University & NFDI4Memory)

18:30 **Reception**

Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Leipzig
(Karl-Tauchnitz-Str. 1, 04107 Leipzig)

Day 2: Tuesday, 8 July 2025

Venue: Bibliotheca Albertina, Vortragssaal (Beethovenstraße 6, 04107 Leipzig)

- 9:00–10:30 Presentation
Data-driven intellectual history? The challenges of building a research platform for Arabic manuscript cultures
Speaker: Daniel Kinitz (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities)
- 10:30–10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45–12:15 Presentation
Treating a genre as a database: a digital research methodology for studying Chinese local gazetteers
Speaker: Shih-Pei Chen (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)
- 12:30–13:45 Lunch break (Mensa Petersteinweg, Straße des 17. Juni 2, 04107 Leipzig)
- 13:45–14:45 Presentation
Reference systems and interoperability
Speaker: Benjamin Guichard (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations)
- 14:45–15:45 Presentation
Multilinguality and data access: an area studies librarian's perspective
Speaker: Cosima Wagner (Freie Universität Berlin & NFDI4Memory)
- 15:45–16:15 **Poster pitch**
- 16:15–17:00 **Poster session** and coffee break
- 17:00–18:30 Presentation (hybrid format)
Digital Benin: a digital platform connecting the displaced royal artefacts from Benin Kingdom
Speakers: Anne Luther & Eiloghosa Obobaifo (Institute for Digital Heritage)
- Evening Film screening
"Silk Road Memories in Global Politics" (2025) – film premiere
Followed by Q & A with director and researcher John Njenga Karugia (Humboldt University of Berlin)

Day 3: Wednesday, 9 July 2025

Venue: Nikolaistraße 6-10 (Strohsackpassage), 04109 Leipzig

9:00–10:30 Presentation

How to think of your research in terms of data management and FAIR

Speaker: Eva Ommert (Leipzig University & NFDI4Memory)

Room 716, 7th floor

10:30–10:45 Coffee break

10:45–12:15 **Parallel workshop session I**

Spatialization	Visualization	Working with text
Introduction to spatial humanities I	Introduction to reflective data visualization I	Introduction: How to structure a corpus of text
Thomas Efer (Leipzig University)	Jana Moser (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)	Marie Bizais-Lillig (University of Strasbourg & DISTAM)
Room 5.55, 5th floor	Room 3.25, 3rd floor	Room 3.49, 3rd floor

12:30–14:00 Lunch break, Mensa am Park (Universitätsstraße 5, 04109 Leipzig)

14:00–16:00 **Parallel workshop session II**

Introduction to spatial humanities II	Introduction to reflective data visualization II	Detecting and deciphering damaged medieval Armenian inscriptions using YOLO and vision transformers
Thomas Efer (Leipzig University)	Jana Moser (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)	Chahan Vidal-Gorène (Ecole des Chartes & Calfa)
Room 5.55, 5th floor	Room 3.25, 3rd floor	Room 3.49, 3rd floor

16:00–16:30 Coffee break

16:30–18:30 **Parallel workshop session III**

Investigating border areas	How to use Nodegoat as a research environment and for data visualization	Automated text recognition: OCR and HTR solutions for non-Latin languages
Vincent Thérouin (Sorbonne University & DISTAM)	Kathleen Schlütter (Leipzig University & NFDI4Memory)	Noémie Lucas (University of Edinburgh) & Chahan Vidal-Gorène (École nationale des chartes & Calfa)
Room 5.55, 5th floor	Room 3.25, 3rd floor	Room 3.49, 3rd floor

Day 4: Thursday, 10 July 2025

Venue: Nikolaistraße 6-10 (Strohsackpassage), 04109 Leipzig

9:00–10:30 Roundtable

Back to the future with area studies? Artificial intelligence, open access, and ethical dimensions

Discussants: Chahan Vidal-Gorène (École nationale des chartes & Calfa), representative of De Gruyter/Brill (tbc), Mareike König (German Historical Institute, Paris), Cosima Wagner (Freie Universität Berlin & NFDI4Memory)

Moderation: Mercedes Volait (CNRS & DISTAM)

Room 716, 7th floor

10:30–10:45 Coffee break

10:45–12:15 **Parallel workshop session IV**

Spatialization	Visualization	Working with text
Historical and archaeological reconstruction with GIS	How to work with Gephi for network analysis	Exploring digital methods for Arabic texts and manuscripts: handwritten text recognition (HTR) and text re-use analysis
Yanis Mokri (Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University & DISTAM)	Roman Kuhn (Berlin State Library)	Noémie Lucas (University of Edinburgh)
Room 5.55, 5th floor	Room 3.25, 3rd floor	Room 3.49, 3rd floor

12:30–13:30 Lunch break, Mensa am Park (Universitätsstraße 5, 04109 Leipzig)

14:00–17:00 **Cultural exploration tours in Leipzig**

Group 1: Visit of the Bibliotheca Albertina and its Manuscript Centre

Guided tour and discussion with Christoph Mackert (Head of the Manuscript Centre & Deputy Head of the Special Collections Department) and Katrin Sturm (Researcher at the Manuscript Centre)

Group 2: Visit of the Grassi Museum of Ethnology

Guided tour and discussion with Stefanie Bach (Curator for Global Art History with a focus on Africa at Dresden State Art Collections)

Evening

Closing night at Moritzbastei

(Kurt-Masur-Platz 1, 04109 Leipzig)

Day 5: Friday, 11 July 2025

Venue: Nikolaistraße 6-10 (Strohsackpassage), 04109 Leipzig

9:00–12:30 Parallel workshops on digital publishing

Digital publishing low tech: Markdown, Pandoc, and static websites	Sustainable digital publishing and research outreach: a practical workshop	Science communication for social scientists and humanists
Till Grallert (Humboldt University of Berlin & NFDI4Memory)	Mareike König (German Historical Institute, Paris)	Pia Siemer (Leipzig University & Else Frenkel Brunswik Institute for Democracy Research in Saxony)
Room 5.55, 5th floor	Room 3.25, 3rd floor	Room 3.49, 3rd floor

12:30–14:00 Farewell lunch, Room 5.59, 5th floor

Organized and funded by



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