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Bridging the Gap: Digital Humanities to Digital Monographs
Digital Publishing in the Humanities (DPH)

Four (five)-year, $1.2 million grant (2016–2021) awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Based on findings of working group of Emory faculty (2014–2015)

Key Objectives and Values

To encourage conversations about open access and digital publishing across Emory’s humanities and HSS community.

To support the development and formal publication of digital monographs by Emory faculty.
  • Publications must undergo rigorous peer review.
  • Publications must be open access.
The Mellon Monograph Initiative

Digital Publishing in the Humanities is part of a cohort of Mellon projects that “develop digital publication capacity for faculty.”


Digital Publications Initiative at Brown University
Greenhouse Studios at the University of Connecticut
Publishing Without Walls at the University of Illinois
Emory’s Approach to Author Support

“Our paramount concern became the academic quality of the scholarly work. . . . Our priority is supporting the most significant work for the scholarly communities that it addresses, and ensuring that these works reach the widest possible audience.”


• Assumes ongoing value of both the monograph and the role of university presses
• Champions open access publication
• Encourages changes to both the form and funding of monographs
• Retains focus on authorial vision within collaborative context
• Supports author’s projects in real tenure-and-promotion time
• Responds to all faculty, all ranks, anytime
Three Pathways to a Digital Monograph

1. Open access e-book (w/print counterpart)

2. Enhanced open access e-book (w/print counterpart)

3. Interactive/multimodal monograph
The Emory Context

Digital Publishing in the Humanities is based at the Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.
The Emory Context

Essential Partners

- Center for Faculty Development and Excellence
- Emory Center for Digital Scholarship
- Scholarly Communications Office of Emory Libraries
The TOME Context

TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem) aims to advance the wide dissemination of scholarship by humanities and humanistic social sciences faculty members through open access editions of peer-reviewed and professionally edited monographs.
What Is a (Digital) Monograph?

“A peer-reviewed, detailed written work on a single specialized subject, whose presentation of evidence, argument, and conclusions do not fit within the constraints of an academic journal publication” (Elliott 2015).

The Triple Role of the Monograph (Maxwell et al. 2017)

• Scholarly communications
• Scholarly status and career advancement
• Core object of a publishing paradigm
Genre

- Substance
  - Ideas
  - Argument
  - Claims
  - Evidence
  - Themes

- Situation
  - Rhetorical Action
    - Audience
    - Author
    - Timing/Events
    - Roles/Relationships
    - Related Genres
    - Related Activities
    - Processes & Tools
    - Sociotechnical Systems
    - Epistemology
    - Values
    - Shared knowledge

- Style
  - Form
  - Structure
  - Rhetorical Moves
  - Language
  - Media
  - Modes

Slide by Dr. Gwendolynne Reid, Director of the Writing Program, Oxford College of Emory University
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Path 3: Interactive/Multimodal Monographs
Questions?

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