

particular. The relationship between bodies could only be understood once they were dissected into their constituent parts and racial differences recorded. At the same time, categorization also required the identification of commonality within racial groups and agreement as to definitions of beauty. I will argue that the processes of particularizing and universalizing, which are intrinsic to the categorizing impulse of Enlightenment scientists and artists, had two effects. First, they gave rise to essentialist interpretations of new anatomical knowledge, which elided individuality and uniqueness, and more significantly, occluded the effects of environmental factors on the development of bodies, intelligence, and character. Secondly, I will argue that this belief in innateness led to a project of medical mapping, which established geographical origins for disease.

S120(I) (14:00 - 15:30, Room: M1-19: Athene: Van Der Goot Building) Writing Rights 1789 (I)

Organizer / Chair: Keith Michael Baker, Robert Morrissey

Coleman, Nicole: Three Dimensional Texts: The Role of Design in Reading and Writing History

The digitization of texts opens up new possibilities for reading. Statistical methods have been adopted by scholars interested in quantity and measurement of the digitized and aggregated mass. But digitization and digital instruments also make it possible to construct new complex objects out of existing historical materials. The careful and critical combining, interlinking, and parsing of a collection of texts produces new multi-faceted objects for study. To unveil the complexities and idiosyncrasies of these digital objects, we need visual and spatial instruments. This paper will provide examples of how the academic discipline of design provides an intellectual complement to traditional humanistic methods in the building of text-objects, the techniques for spatial analysis of them, and the visual expression of historical arguments.

Sweetapple, Kate: Visualizing Text Creation: Problems and Choices

Visualization is increasingly prevalent in many fields of research yet if it is to play a significant role in the humanities it must be positioned as both a method of inquiry and a form of argumentation and dissemination. This paper will explain the methodological choices made in our effort to capture visually the complex, contingent and improvised nature of the Declaration's creation. More broadly, it will make the case for a partnership between design and the humanities that could offer means of arriving at a fuller understanding of the situated and constructed nature of philosophical, epistemological, and political claims and convictions.

Lorber-Kasunic, Jacquie: Visualizing Text Creation: Patterns and Presentation

This paper will present and explain the visualization that has resulted from our effort to capture the process by which the Declaration of the Rights of Man was written. The aim will be to reveal patterns, rhythms, repetitions, and silences that have emerged in our analysis of the series of draft declarations and assembly debates that produced the final text of this fundamental document.