Course title: Digital Methods for Qualitative Research

Coordinator(s): Prof. dr. Mahmood Shafeie Zargar

Lecturer(s): Prof. dr. Mahmood Shafeie Zargar, Prof. dr. Joey van Angeren, Prof. dr. Philipp Hukal, Prof. dr. Brian Pentland

Study period: October 2018 - December 2018

ECTS: 6 ECTS

Tuition: € 600

Course goals: During the course the students will:

- Immerse into new ways of building on digital traces of social interactions, structures and processes for explorative and inductive analysis
- Obtain an overview of available digital trace data sources and the tools to harvest them
- Learn about various methodologies for analysing the digital trace data, the type of research question that leverages those methods, and the research design and strategies that match the research questions with the corresponding data
- Initiate and develop their own data-driven research project under the supervision of the instructors
- Understand the data sources and methods for making sense of an increasingly digitised world
- Gain operational knowledge of a handful of important analytics and digital research methods
- Focus on use of computational analytic methods for exploratory and qualitative research
- Understand how digital methods affect research design and theory building in organisation studies
**Course Content**

The recent advances in the availability of digital trace data as well as the corresponding data analysis methods have opened up new venues for social science research. These trends allow new types of analysis and make new ways of theorising possible. This course intends to initiate the participants with a catalogue of contemporary tools and techniques necessary to navigate and analyse the emerging data landscape. In particular, it aims to provide research students from diverse backgrounds with the basic skills and methodological insights to take advantage of digital trace data and computational tools. This course is agnostic to research paradigms and leaves the door open to participants from qualitative and quantitative backgrounds. The course is aimed towards research students from fields related to business administration and organisation studies who are either interested in discovering different methods or aiming to enrich their methods toolbox by engaging hands-on with digital trace data. Some basic familiarity with R and a knack for hack are mandatory.

**Form of tuition**

Most sessions are organized as follows:

- 09:00–10:00 Lecture (Method & theory building using the method)
- 10:00–11:30 Paper discussion (Approximately three papers per session)
- 11:30–11:45 Short break
- 11:45–13:15 Hands-on tutorial

Format for the other sessions:

- 09:00–12:00 Lecture or workshop with a short break

**Assessment**

- 10% Active participation in the class
- 20% Paper presentation and facilitation of class discussion
- 70% Final paper and final paper presentation
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<th>Course structure</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>October 30, 2018</td>
<td>12:00 – 16:15</td>
<td>OZW 6A-12</td>
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<td>November 06, 2018</td>
<td>09:00 – 13:15</td>
<td>HG 0G-08</td>
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<td>November 13, 2018</td>
<td>09:00 – 13:15</td>
<td>HG 8A-97</td>
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<td>November 22, 2018</td>
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<td>November 29, 2018</td>
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<td>December 13, 2018</td>
<td>09:00 – 12:00</td>
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<td>December 20, 2018</td>
<td>Paper submission</td>
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**Literature**

**1st Session**

*Background Readings*


**2nd Session**

*Background Readings*


3rd Session

Background Readings


Session Papers


Software

tm (R package) — Intro Vignette

lda (R package) — Reference Manual

Dataset

TBA

4th Session

Background Readings

Session Papers


Software

TBA

Dataset

TBA

5th Session

Background Readings


Session Papers


Software

TraMineR (R Package) — Intro Vignette

ThreadNet
Dataset

TBA