Miscibility and Digital Humanities: What kinds of solutions are we talking about?

Professor Caroline Bassett (University of Cambridge)

Abstract

Miscibility is a term used in chemistry. It's defined as the property of two substances 'to mix in all proportions (… to fully dissolve in each other… forming a homogeneous mixture (a solution)'. It's invoked here because it points to some questions I want to raise about what DH does, how it works, what its limits might be, how it's meant to happen: How can we understand the kind of mixing that Digital Humanities seems to encourage - the mixing of data science with literary studies, algorithms with interpretation, digital methods with close reading, for instance. More, should terms and concepts that used to have discrete meanings in particular spheres (for instance in the arts and sciences) now be entirely dissolved into one other. For instance does creativity as a human concept reduce to creativity applied as a measure of machinic activity, is machine agency the same as human agency, how about authorship - or writing itself? Working through these questions I suggest that DH needs to develop forms of more partial and ad hoc mixing – of methods, theoretical orientations, and practices – both for now and as a future goal.

Featuring presentations by CityU cluster members:

"Digitally assisted curational writing of wall labels for art accessibility" by Dr. Xiaoyu Xu

"From advertising billboards to social media galleries: The multimodal journey of fashion photography" by Dr. Esterina Nervino

Speakers

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Details

📅 **8 February 2023 (Wed.)**

🕐 **16:30 - 18:30 HKT**

📍 **To be conducted via Zoom**

To register, please visit:
https://qr.page/g/5ivFnwAA9IE

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