RACE + SPACE + PLACE

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY, CULTURE AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES

The African American History, Culture and Digital Humanities (AADHum) Initiative's first sequence, Race, Space, and Place, explores our themes of African American labor, migration, and artistic expression, through a series of complementary Reading Groups (RG), Digital Humanities Incubators (DHI) and Digital Dialogues. The reading group provides a space for critical dialogue and exploration for African Americanists engaged in thinking about their work in terms of the digital. Our DHI workshops, small tutorials and individual consultations offer participants hands-on experience in envisioning and engaging new digital projects—whether they participate in individual sessions or the entire sequence.

REGISTER aadhum.umd.edu + **#AADHum** + **@UMD_AADHum**

FEBRUARY

1

READING GROUP

Holding Space

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 2:00 – 3:30 PM + TAWES HALL 0330

Holding Space provides participants with a critical foundation for understanding the language, concepts, and frameworks that guide some of the most pressing questions and dilemmas in black digital scholarship.

6 OR 9

DIGITAL HUMANITIES INCUBATOR 1

Surveying the Terrain

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6 AT 1:30 – 3:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM OR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 AT 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM + HOWARD UNIVERSITY, INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM

Surveying the Terrain probes the analytical, conceptual, and ethical considerations of envisioning African American experience through the digital. Collaborating on shared interests, participants explore methods of translating the multiplicity of meaning-making, positionality, and uncertainty around time and space inherent in African American research within computational constraints.

7

DIGITAL DIALOGUE

Buffoons, Goons, and Pixelated Minstrels: The Digital Story That Games Tell

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 AT 12:30 – 1:45 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM

SPEAKER Kishonna L. Gray, MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SCHOLAR AND VISITING PROFESSOR, COMPARATIVE MEDIA STUDIES AND WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES, MIT

8

READING GROUP

Where and When We Enter

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 2:00 – 3:30 PM + TAWES HALL 0330

Where and When We Enter examines the empirical and ethical considerations that inform the strengths, pitfalls and potential of varied theoretical approaches for exploring the African American experience.

28

DIGITAL DIALOGUE

The Price of the Ticket: Racism, Black Digital Practice, and Racism Battle Fatigue

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AT 12:30 – 1:45 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM

SPEAKER André Brock, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The AADHum Initiative seeks to prepare the next generation of digital humanists and African Americanists by broadening the conversation around new theories, methods, and tools to explore African American art, labor, and migration. The initiative has been made possible in part by a major grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION

MARCH

1

READING GROUP

Geographies and Genealogies of Knowledge

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 AT 2:00 – 3:30 PM + TAWES HALL 0330

Geographies and Genealogies of Knowledge surveys the historical and contemporary landscape of black digital research, tracing its development and evolution.

6 OR 9

DIGITAL HUMANITIES INCUBATOR 2

Meaning and Mapping

MONDAY, MARCH 6 AT 1:30 – 3:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM OR THURSDAY, MARCH 9 AT 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM

Meaning and Mapping introduces the practical components of map-making by examining mapping as a means of investigation imbued with issues of representation and power. Using a suite of spatial tools, participants gain repertoires of techniques and technologies in geospatial information systems (GIS), spatial humanities, and deep mapping.

WEEK OF 27

READING GROUP

Theorizing "The Archive"

SPECIFIC DATE AND TIME TBD + SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

NATIONAL MUSEUM of AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE

Smithsonian

Theorizing "The Archive" explores one of the fundamental tools of black digital scholarship—the archive. We examine how the authority, reliability and completeness of the archive can be challenged when scholars engage with sources in traditional, unorthodox and unanticipated ways.

APRIL

3 OR 6

DIGITAL HUMANITIES INCUBATOR 3

Time and Narrative

MONDAY, APRIL 3 AT 1:30 – 3:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM OR THURSDAY, APRIL 6 AT 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM

Time and Narrative examines how integrating narrative with mapping can help reveal particularities of how blackness shapes the experience of space and place across time. Introducing techniques to weave narrative features through digital platforms, the session provides tools for representing interconnections between communities, narratives and archival materials in accessible ways.

26

READING GROUP

Intersectionality and Critical Race Theory

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 AT 12:15 – 1:45 PM + ADELE H. STAMP STUDENT UNION, COLONY BALLROOM

Intersectionality and Critical Race Theory situates black digital scholarship within two of the most prominent frameworks for understanding African American history and culture, in conversation with pioneers in these fields, **Dean Bonnie Thornton Dill** and **Dr. Patricia Hill Collins**. Part of The Critical Race Initiative's Parren Mitchell Symposium.

MAY

1 OR 4

DIGITAL HUMANITIES INCUBATOR 4

Representing Movement

MONDAY, MAY 1 AT 1:30 – 3:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM OR THURSDAY, MAY 4 AT 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM + 0301 HORNBAKE LIBRARY, MITH CONFERENCE ROOM

Representing Movement introduces GIS that support simulations of travel, movement, and migration. Participants work on coupling maps and network models to represent conceptualizations of proximity and distance, imagined and real boundaries, and shared experiences across multiple places.

3

READING GROUP

A Room of Our Own: Trials and Triumphs of Generating Theory

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 AT 2:00 – 3:30 PM + TAWES HALL 0330

Trials and Triumphs of Generating Theory reflects on how scholars can use their newly acquired conceptual and empirical approaches to cultivate and refine their theoretical sensibilities and empirical orientation to digital blackness.