



DHd 2025: Call for papers (English)

DHd 2025, "Under Construction. Humanities and Data Humanities", annual conference of the Association of *Digital Humanities in German-speaking countries*, organised by Bielefeld University in cooperation with Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences.

03 March 2025–07 March 2025.

Anyone looking at our world at the moment is looking at a world in visible upheaval. The experience of war in Europe, the pandemic and the urgent need to adapt to real global warming are clearly crises, but stand alongside fundamentally productive global transformations such as datafication, the disruption of gender roles and the questioning of general centre-periphery models. The feeling of "being under construction" is widespread: Society and culture are being remodelled. This means uncertainty, which is not only a threat, but also offers room for innovation. With our conference motto, we would like to invite you to combine the expertise of the humanities, cultural studies and data sciences in order to address the productive uncertainty of "being under construction".

This motto emphasises the constructed nature of knowledge as a result and condition of digital humanities practice. Dealing with data, data infrastructures and data processing is of central importance for contemporary digital humanities (DH). In the humanities, which share the common concern of investigating practices of meaning-making, data can be regarded as traces of practices of meaning-making in the past, present and future, in spaces of different types and by means of objects of different shapes by a variety of actors. The conference aims to sharpen the role of data in the DH and ask for a concept of data in the humanities. In view of the progressive datafication of culture and the living world, a humanities-based concept of data is needed for the study of emergent phenomena such as data-driven economics, net culture, virtual reality, reading digital texts or human-machine interaction. At the same time, this concept of data should be able to capture analogue objects such as text, images and architecture that are digitally represented, converted into research data and prepared for analysis. The same applies to the representation of performative practices, but also to cultural data on food or clothing, which are regulated and made connectable through forms and conventions. Data and theories are in a relationship that is modelled in an interdisciplinary way, for example in the field of interdisciplinary data assimilation, but also in the theory of science and methodological research, especially in the social sciences. We would like to invite you to question convictions about the data (form) of culture and to explore new possibilities, also in the sense of self-empowerment in the face of monopolising economic interests. Questions about construct validity and internal validity need to be asked here, but also to discuss

what significance these have and could have in the DH.

Both everyday and scientific data are growing and should be analysed by the humanities using methods appropriate to the subject matter in order to understand and explain dimensions of human society, culture, language and history as well as thought and communication. The symposia will explore the potential and blind spots of data humanities (e.g. subjectivism, biases, reification, Data protection and GreenDH/sustainability). In addition, promises from the early days of DH (e.g. DH as an interdisciplinary project) will be critically scrutinised, ideally in collaboration with colleagues from the disciplines.

Where better to do all this than in Bielefeld, at the reform university that was founded on an interdisciplinary idea? The motto of the symposium also refers to the campus in terms of design: the construction phase planned for 2025 will connect the iconic main university building to the contemporary modern architecture of the campus and, as a landmark, shall trigger aesthetic reflection processes in the social and cultural programme accompanying the conference.

Possible topics for submissions are:

- Methodological and technical prospects
- Role of data librarians
- Artificial intelligence and the humanities
- Digital humanities in public discourse
- Citizen Science and Digital Humanities
- Studies on reception and user data
- A View on Prior Findings within DHd: a look back at trends, successes and failures
- Standardisation efforts such as standardised vocabularies, ontologies, markup languages, etc.
- Data practices, such as issues of digitisation, datafication, databases, metadata, etc.
- Data and method criticism

In addition to these focus areas, submissions on all topics covering DH as well as the presentation and discussion of project results are welcome.

The following formats can be submitted:

- Presentations (submission of at least 1500, maximum 2000 words)
- Presentations in the Doctoral Consortium (submission of at least 500, maximum 750 words)
- Panels (minimum three, maximum six participants, one submission of at least 1200, maximum 1500 words)
- Poster (submission of at least 500, maximum 750 words)
- Half-day or full-day workshops prior to the symposia (submission of at least 1200, maximum 1500 words)

For the submission, you must register in ConfTool (activation will take place shortly) and submit a dhc file created with the DHConvalidator web service for review. In addition, a short summary of the submission of approx. 100-150 words must be entered in ConfTool. The submissions, which have the character of regular, permanently citable small publications, will be published both in the Zenodo Community of the DHd Association (individually and in the conference publication) and together with the short summaries on the conference website and in the conference programme. Via the DHConvalidator you will also receive a template for the submission of Word or OpenOffice formats with the guidelines for citations, references and bibliography.

The deadline for submissions is 24 July 2024 (23:59, CEST). Please note: As in previous years, this deadline will not be extended.

Review of the submissions will follow an open peer review process in which the names of the submitters and reviewers will be disclosed to each other (so-called open identities), the reviews themselves will not be published. Notification of whether the submission has been

accepted is expected to be sent by 4 November 2024. If you have any questions regarding the submission, please send an email to: dhd2025@uni-bielefeld.de

The main languages of exchange in the DHd community are German and English. Proposals can be submitted in German or English. We encourage all participants to hold their presentations at the conference in German, but contributions in English are also welcome.

It is assumed that accepted entries will be presented by the contributors in person and on site.

Participants may only make one submission for a presentation or poster (role: 'Presenter in ConfTool') and only give one presentation. Co-authorship of a maximum of two further submissions (presentation or poster) is possible. In addition, participants can be involved in a maximum of one panel submission. Workshop submissions are not subject to this restriction. Each DHd working group also has the opportunity to make one additional submission (workshop, panel, poster), which must be labelled as such. For submissions with multiple contributors, it is recommended to indicate the role(s) of the contributor(s) in a footnote at the start date of the submission according to the CRediT taxonomy (<https://credit.niso.org/>) (in the form: "Contributor Roles: First name1 Last name1 (Conceptualisation, Writing - original draft), First name2 Last name2 (Software), First name3 Last name3 (Writing - review & editing)").

A submission for a scientific presentation usually has references, which are listed at the end in a bibliography. These are not taken into account when determining the length of the text. All words before them (e.g. captions) are counted.

A good submission follows the principles of good scientific work and describes the research question, material, method and results in a structured way in terms of content and form. Please note that your submissions should be small but fully-fledged scientific publications that can be published accordingly. If you are unsure about the form of submission, we recommend taking a look at successful examples from the last symposia: The Book of Abstracts for DHd2024 provides an overview of accepted presentations, panels, posters and workshops. We also recommend taking a look at the handout for the review process of the DHd annual conferences.

Possible formats:

(potential contributors for all formats are encouraged to read the amended review criteria, which will be published on the website)

Individual presentations (20' presentation + 10' discussion; submission of at least 1500, maximum 2000 words):

Unpublished results or developments of significant new methods or digital resources and/or a methodological or theoretical concept should be presented. Presentation submissions should contextualise the research contribution in an appropriate way against the background of the current state of research and make clear its significance for the (digital) humanities or a respective sub-area thereof. Submissions for presentations must be explicitly assigned to one of the foci "Tool/Resource", "Theory/Meta-reflection/Position Paper", "Method", "Computational Analysis/Interpretation", or Open Field". The poster format is intended for projects for which no interim results are yet available.

A final version of accepted presentation submissions must be submitted by 2 December 2024, taking into account the expert opinions, with a maximum length of 2,500 words.

Presentations in the Doctoral Consortium (submission of at least 500, maximum 750 words):

The promotion of young researchers is a special goal of the annual conference of the association "Digital Humanities im deutschsprachigen Raum e.V." For this reason, presentations can be submitted separately to a Doctoral Consortium in order to present dissertation projects of selected participants. In addition to the opportunity to present your own research topic, you can also obtain re-enrolment from the specialist audience in order to further develop your own doctoral project thematically and methodologically. The focus is on the initial phase of doctorate/Phd studies. Doctoral candidates with advanced projects are therefore encouraged to submit individual presentations (see above). Exposés (length 500-750 words, plus bibliography) for the Doctoral Consortium can be submitted until 24 July 2024 in the usual way via the ConfTool as a contribution of the type (conference track) "Doctoral Consortium". The authors of the best exposés will be invited to the Doctoral Consortium. For them, the participation fee for the symposia will be waived; in addition, the costs for an overnight stay will be covered by the organisers if possible. Additional accommodation and travel costs will be borne by the participants themselves.

In addition, it is planned to award travel grants to presenters and participants who have little or no financial resources available for their own positions and projects. Participants in the Doctoral Consortium will also be able to apply for these travel grants. A separate call will be published for the travel grants.

Panels (minimum three, maximum six participants incl. moderator; 30' panel statements, 30' discussion; submission of at least 1200, maximum 1500 words):

Panels offer three to six participants the opportunity to discuss a topic that goes beyond the scope of a single project, project ending date or research location. Panels should not consist exclusively of participants from a joint project. It is encouraged to submit panels related to the conference theme in particular and to give the audience the chance to discuss controversial topics. Care should be taken to ensure that a panel is composed according to diversity criteria. It is expected that no more than one third of the 90-minute meeting will be devoted to prepared statements and that the debate within the panel will allow sufficient time for discussion with the audience. The panel organisers submit a short description of the topic of at least 1200, maximum 1500 words and confirm the willingness of the listed staff, people to participate in the panel. A stringent presentation of the thematic or methodological context of the individual contributions is of decisive importance for the acceptance of a panel submission.

Posters (submission of at least 500, maximum 750 words):

Posters can be submitted on any topic of the Call for Papers. They can also describe the status of individual projects. The posters will be published together with the submissions in the Zenodo Community of the DHd Association under a CC-BY licence. Posters that are accepted for presentation must therefore be submitted by the presenters as a file via ConfTool by 24 February 2025 at the latest. More detailed information on the procedure will be communicated to the poster presenters after acceptance.

Workshops taking place before the conference (half day/4 h to two half days/8 h incl. breaks; submission of at least 1200, maximum 1500 words):

In addition to teaching, training and further education formats or tutorials (e.g. on specific topics, technologies, tools, key skills), collaborative forms of work on topics and/or data (e.g.

hackathons, barcamps, tool testings) as well as longer meetings of DHd working groups focussed on a predefined output can also be submitted. Workshops will last half a day (4 hours, incl. break) or two half days (7-8 hours, incl. breaks) and will take place on Monday and Tuesday of the conference week.

Submissions must include the following information:

- Title and a short description of the topic (minimum 1200, maximum 1500 words), full contact details of all contributors and a paragraph on their research interests
- Format details
- Information on the target audience, in particular on necessary prior knowledge
- The number of possible participants
- Details of any technical equipment required
- The Call for Papers specific to the workshop, if one is published

Workshop conveners are expected to register for the symposia.

Submission deadline: 24 July 2024

Note of Acceptance: 04 November 2024

Conference: 03-07 March 2025

Watch our website: <https://dhd2025.dig-hum.de/>

Please direct any questions and comments to: dhd2025@uni-bielefeld.de

We are looking forward to many and diverse submissions!