

La Russie numérisée: Developing an online database for the research project on the Russian émigré newsmagazine La Russie illustrée

Abstract

In my contribution to the closing symposium of the Doctoral School on Digital Humanities I will discuss how the digital component of my research project (i.e. the creation of an online database) has benefitted from this course. As a neophyte in the digital world, my hopes and expectations were straightforward: learning as much as possible on how to develop databases. Due to the diversity of the field as well as of the other participants' various projects, most of the explored approaches and tools were not applicable for my particular research. What is more, a lot of the proposed possibilities even raised more questions than answering them. The session on 'Managing a digital humanities project', however, did put my research in the right direction: not by offering a ready-to-use database, but by focusing on the importance of a well thought-out Data Management Plan. This strategy has resulted in concrete steps and significant progress towards the creation of my database.

Bio

Phaedra Claeys (°1992) is a doctoral student in the Languages and Cultures department, section Eastern European Languages and Cultures (Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, Ghent University), where she is affiliated to the research group GCEES. She obtained a master's degree in Eastern European Languages and Cultures (Russian and Slovene) from Ghent University (2013-2014) and also holds a master's degree in French (2015-2016). As of October 2016, she has been working on a PhD project on the interwar Russian émigré newsmagazine 'Illustrated Russia' under the supervision of Ben Dhooge.