Twitter Analytics in the Humanities Classroom

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Workshop Schedule

- 1. Introduction
- 2. The Project: As it was presented to students
- 3. The Project: As it was conceived and prepared
- 4. Results, Evaluation, Conclusions
- 5. Intro to Tableau for Twitter Analytics

Data Expeditions

Intro to exploratory analysis of large datasets in an otherwise conventionally humanistic course

Undergraduate level

No prereqs or prior experience

Stand-alone unit

Four 75-minute class sessions

Grad student guest-instructing

Why Twitter?

Attraction for non-humanities students

Targeted public conversations

Original datasets

Authenticity of data

Free data

Familiarity to students— with potential to defamiliarize

The Project: Objectives

Student-Facing Objective:

Explore the role of Twitter in shaping public discourse

Pedagogical Objectives:

- Articulate the benefits and drawbacks of different methods of analysis
- Augment digital literacy
- Debate social justice implications
- Explore collaboratively

The Project: Student-Facing

https://bit.ly/2YCHGj0

Pedagogical Prep

- Objectives
- Topic and Themes
- Timeline of project
- Assessment plan

Data Collection

Data Cleaning / Preparation

Training (self / students)

Teaching (don't forget student releases)

Data Collection

- As early as possible
- API choice
- Collection parameters
- Tools:
 - Social Feed Manager
 - TAGS (Twitter Archiving Google Sheet)

Data Cleaning:

Exporting from Social Feed Manager

- Determine time span
- Export format (Excel, CSV, JSON, Numbers, Google Sheets, etc.)

Data Cleaning:

In the spreadsheet

- Choice of variables
 - Directing student focus
 - Eliminating ethically questionable data

Data Cleaning:

Importing into Tableau

- Dimensions (categorical)
- Measures (numerical)
- Dates
- T/F values

The Project: Conclusions and Considerations

API, Data, Software, and Skill Limitations

Substantive viability of findings

Time

Collaboration

The Project: Training

Tableau