

TexTexTileTexTure

Stanford Text Technologies Third Annual Collegium
Stanford University, Thursday 18 May and Friday 19 May 2017



Like texts, textiles function as a medium for the transmission of concepts, metaphors, and cultural constructs. This Collegium brings together a small group of internationally renowned scholars to explore through intense discussion the deep connection between text and textile technologies.

Textiles and their production provide a wealth of metaphors for literary and artistic production. In English we might “spin a yarn” or “weave a web of intrigue”. The words “text” and “textile” are etymologically related, sharing the Latin root “textus”, meaning woven fabric, cloth, structure, and framework. Similarly text and textile substrates are inherently related. The English term for velvet (Italian *velluto* or the French *velours*) is etymologically related to Latin *vellum*, and emphasizes the fur- or hair-like quality of the textile. Such metaphors and etymological networks that link texts and textiles exist across time and languages. And this bears testimony to a strong and deep cultural affiliation between texts and textiles.

This Collegium seeks to move beyond the metaphoric to explore this deep connection between text technologies, textual production, and textiles. This Collegium further seeks to develop an interdisciplinary framework of analysis for the study of the relationship between texts and textiles.

Core questions upon which we might focus are: How are we to make sense of this relationship between texts and textiles? What role do substrates play in the way we understand texts and textiles? What new interpretive possibilities open up when we view cultural artifacts through the nexus of texts and textiles?

This Text Technologies Collegium fosters intensive and friendly scholarly exchange over two days. To this end, all talks are plenary and colleagues are expected to attend the whole event. Sessions are relatively lengthy and allow for thorough presentations with ample time for questions. The Collegium is attended by a handful of guests from the Stanford community, but the focus at the table is on invited speakers. We record (on whiteboards) key elements of discussion as the Collegium proceeds, and we intend to publish suitable papers.

Speakers this year specialize in a variety of areas of Medieval and Early Modern text and textile studies from around the globe: China, Britain, Germany, Italy. The workshop will begin early May 18 and end after dinner on May 19. Each presenter is reminded to engage with the research questions above.

Thursday 18th May 2017

8.30-8.45am	Coffee
8.45-9.00am	Welcome by Kathryn Starkey and Elaine Treharne
9.00-10.30am	Gale Owen-Crocker (University of Manchester) From Dissertation to Database; and from 'Costume', via Cloth, to 'Dress and Textiles'
10.30-10.45am	Coffee and pastries
10.45-12noon	David Ganz (University of Zurich) Before <i>textus</i> became Text: The Fabric of Early Medieval Gospel Books
12noon-1pm	Lunch
1pm-2.15pm	Jane Tibbetts Schulenburg (University of Wisconsin-Madison) Women, Religious Textiles, and the Appropriation of Sacerdotal Roles and the Sacred, ca. 500-1200
2.15pm-3.30pm	Bettina Bildhauer (St. Andrews) The Dangers of the Net in Medieval German Narratives
3.30pm-5pm	Tea and Immersive Research
5pm-6pm	Provocation by Greg Walker (University of Edinburgh)
6pm-8pm	Supper at CESTA

Friday 19th May 2017

- 9.00am-9.30am **Coffee**
- 9.30am-10.45am Orietta Da Rold (St. Johns, Cambridge University)
Paper Threads
- 10.45am-12noon Suzanne Paul (Cambridge University Library)
Texture of Books
- 12noon-1.00pm **Lunch**
- 1.00pm-3.00pm Chet Van Duzer (NEH-Mellon Fellow, Library of Congress)
The Texture of the World: Early Modern Images of People Wearing
Maps
- Maren Clegg-Hyer (Valdosta State University)
Text/Textile: Wordweaving in the Literatures of Anglo-Saxon
England
- 3.00-3:30pm **Tea**
- 3.30pm-4.45pm Ron Egan (Stanford)
From the Empire of Silk: Brocade and Writing in the Chinese
Tradition
- 4.45pm-5.30pm Kathryn Starkey and Elaine Treharne
Weaving it all together

Cheese and Wine Reception

- 7.00pm **Conference Dinner at Café Brioche, California Avenue**