



Field Work 2017

Call for Proposals

A. Overview

There is a flourishing of new media, social networks, and virtual applications in recent decades. In the face of a wider application of digital technology in the cultural and humanities, the Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH), funded by an RGC grant, is set up to address the new possibilities of research in digital culture and humanities. Under the Institute there are two centres, namely, the Digital Humanities Research Centre and the Digital Culture Research Centre, which probe the increasing role that digital-based environments play in the contemporary world.

B. Field work on digital culture and humanities

Field work projects will be organized under the Digital Humanities Research Centre and the Digital Culture Research Centre respectively to explore the latest trends of digital culture and humanities in Beijing, Shanghai and Tokyo, the creative hubs of digital media and creative industries.

The aims of the field work include:

- To explore the latest development of the use of digital media in culture and humanities areas;
- To interview artists, designers and scholars in Beijing, Shanghai and Tokyo of their focus and preference in the digital media arena, and how they work out wonders in the face of various possible challenges and limitations;
- To examine how digital technology has impacted the humanities and inspired new ways of studies and research;
- To investigate how the use of digital technology has created new forms of culture;
- To reveal how human behavior, particularly perception, has been changed by the wide adoption of digital technology in communication and entertainment;
- To explore how the development of creative arts and cultural industries has contributed to the rise of digital culture;
- To uncover the educational opportunities as well as challenges in the digital age;
- To disentangle the cultural policies that have led to the rise of digital culture in the world in the last 50 years, and the cultural politics manifested; and
- To identify the business opportunities created by the rise of digital culture.

C. Call for project proposal abstracts

We are delighted to invite you to submit a proposal to organise the field work trips to be conducted in 2017. We intend to hold a total of three field work trips: one to Beijing, one to Shanghai, and



another one to Tokyo. A brief field work report and a sharing session will be needed for each trip, and the data collected from the field work trip can be delivered in the following forms:

- A field report;
- A critical essay;
- Artwork(s) and exhibition(s);
- Photographic and video records;
- Interview(s) and audio records;
- A conference presentation; and
- Contribution to research and teaching.

Book publication(s) will be one of the final deliverables of the series of field work, which will include, but will not be limited to, editorial articles and transcription of interviews.

The areas of study of the field trip can include or go beyond the following topics:

Topics for Digital Humanities

- Media ecology of literary institutions;
- Poetics of new media and electronic literature;
- Humanities research enabled through digital media;
- The institutional role of digital humanities in the contemporary academy;
- Internet studies, software and computer applications in arts and humanities;
- Digital arts, film, music, drama, new media and related humanities areas;
- Computer-based research in cultural, literary, linguistics and historical studies;
- Data curation and knowledge management for humanities digital archives and resources;
- Investigation of culture and education policies; and
- Visits and interviews of scholars, experts, as well as stakeholders of digital humanities.

Topics for Digital Culture

- Animation techniques and the digital art;
- Surrealism in 4D;
- Digitization of Chinese paintings;
- Digital Chinese ink in contemporary art;
- Image mapping and projection technologies;
- Digital image production and consumption;
- Impacts of digital imaging on society and people;
- Exploration of the development of creative arts and cultural industries that are in line with the rise of digital culture; and



- Visits and interviews of artists, designers and industrial practitioners on investigating how the emerging digital media and technology affect cultural production and consumption.

General aspects

- Sustainability of digital culture and humanities, and possible business models
- Observational evidence of city development in relation to the rise of digital culture and humanities

Time frame

It is recommended that colleagues conduct the field trips during the spring break of 2017 (March 2017) or May 2017.

Criteria for selection

1. Potential to lead to an FDS grant application;
2. Potential for publications; and
3. Contribution to the Institute's Research

Proposal abstract submission

Please submit a one-page proposal abstract (250 - 300 words) in either English or Chinese. The following information should be included:

1. Destination of the field trip - Beijing, Shanghai or Tokyo (may also include nearby cities)
2. Suggested time: March 2017 (Spring break) or May 2017 (or any period of time within the school year 2016-17 that can fit the arrangement of the team members and the interviewees)
3. Person-in-charge and/or team member(s)
4. Scope of study / Proposed topics (For working groups with over two members, the scope of study should cover both digital culture and digital humanities)
5. Proposed interviewees
6. Expected deliverables
7. Equipment needed
8. Proposed budget

The abstract should be sent to ridch@ouhk.edu.hk by 23 December 2016 (Friday) for review. The review process will begin right after your submission, and you will be notified within three weeks after your submission or latest by 5 January 2017 (Thursday) whether or not your submission has been accepted. A detailed proposal will be required upon acceptance of the abstract.