

Digital editing projects

A project to create an online, open-access digital edition of a text or part of a text from the eighteenth century. These projects have been delivered within the 'Creative Enterprise' strand of the third-year dissertation module *EN6001 English Project*. Students develop – in consultation with the supervisor – the project's aims and the criteria by which it will be assessed. This is a 'real life', live project that will be seen by others and fosters a high degree of awareness of audience and readership. It develops skills in independent research; project management; editing; and current digital humanities technology.

The project involves:

- choosing a suitable work and finding an electronic file (which demands an ability to access and evaluate current scholarly literary-historical resources and projects online). Depending on the source, this may also involve correcting an existing digital text using some open-source software;
- encoding or refining existing encoding, using web-standard conventions and software (TEI / XML)
- dealing with some editorial decisions: this demands careful thought as to the audience and purpose of the edition, and fosters an awareness of current debates about accessibility (such as the 'Creative Commons' licence);
- depending on these editorial decisions the edition might also include: writing an introduction; and/or annotating the text (if necessary using hyperlinks); and/or providing contextual material; and/or textual apparatus; and/or textual visualizations (using open-source software);
- writing a reflective piece on the process, (and possibly blogging or tweeting progress);
- mounting the whole final project via a suitable platform (e.g. Wordpress, Omeka, Blogger).