

Matteo Romanello, PhD

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION



Born on 17/07/1982 in Treviso (Italy).

Research Scientist, DHLAB, EPFL

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2. EDUCATION

2015 **PhD in Digital Humanities Research**, Department of Digital Humanities, King's College London.

Thesis entitled: *From Index Locorum to Citation Network: an Approach to the Automatic Extraction of Canonical References and its Applications to the Study of Classical Texts.*

Supervisors: Prof. Willard McCarty. Date of Viva: 14 October 2015

2008 **MA (Hons) in Digital Humanities**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy)

2005 **BA in Classics**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy)

3. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2015 – **Research Scientist**, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Digital Humanities Laboratory.

[2017 –] *Impresso: Media Monitoring of the Past*¹

Team: DHLAB, directed by Prof. Frédéric Kaplan

Research topics: information extraction, named entity extraction and disambiguation, text re-use detection

Responsibilities: project management, system design and data management, annotation and benchmarking, named entity recognition and disambiguation

[2015 – 2017] *Linked Books* project²

Team: Giovanni Colavizza, Laurent Bolli, Vicent Barbay, Silvia Ferronato, Martina Babetto, Prof. Frédéric Kaplan

Research topics: citation mining, bibliometrics

Responsibilities: project coordination and management, data architecture and processing, database administration

2011 – 2017 **Research Associate**, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI), Berlin.

Project: DARIAH-DE³

Team: Scientific IT of the DAI, directed by Prof. Reinhard Förtsch

Responsibilities: research, work package coordination, training and workshop organization

¹ <http://impresso-project.ch>

² <https://dhlab.epfl.ch/page-127959-en.html>

³ <https://de.dariah.eu/>

2009 – 2011 **Postgraduate Research Assistant**, Department of Digital Humanities, King's College London.

Project: BIOMAP, on the development of a tool for the multi-modal exploration and visualization of information about the biofuel sector

Team: Dr. Gerhard Brey and Dr. Julie Tolmie

Responsibilities: front-end development, system administration

2008 – 2009 **Visiting Research Scholar**, Tufts University, Perseus Project (Boston, MA).

Team: Prof. Gregory Crane, Dr. Monica Berti, Dr. Federico Boschetti.

Research topics: digital edition of fragmentary texts

Responsibilities: research

4. APPROVED RESEARCH PROJECTS

2018 Principal investigator (PI) on the project “*Scholar Index: Towards a Serendipity Engine for the Humanities and Social Sciences*”, financed by a Europeana Resource Development Grant. Funded amount: 8.000 EUR.

2018 Co-PI (with Dr. Hugh Cayless, Duke University) of the Pelagios-funded working group “Linked Texts”. Funded amount: 4.000 GBP.

5. JUNIOR SUPERVISION

2015 Master student: Matteo Filipponi, works now as a software engineer at Device Gateway SA.

6. TEACHING ACTIVITIES

2018 – 2019 **University of Lausanne (spring semester)**

Approcher l'Illiade et son imaginaire avec des outils numériques with Prof. David Bouvier (UNIL). 6 ECTS course.

2017 – 2018 **University of Rostock (winter semester)**

*Introduction to Digital Classics / Einführung in die "Digital Classics"*⁴. 3 ECTS course.

2017 – **Sunoikisis Digital Classics (online training programme)**

Two lessons (common sessions) on the extraction of named entities in Python.

2015 – **École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)**

Teaching Assistant of Prof. Kaplan on the MA course “Digital Humanities I and II”.

2012 – 2017 **Freie Universität Berlin**

BA course “Digitale Methoden in den Altertumswissenschaften” (Digital Methods for the Study of the Ancient World). 5 ECTS course.

2012 **Institute of Historical Research, London**

⁴ The syllabus is available at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1297063>.

Developed an online learning module on Natural Language Processing for historians.

2005

Department of Digital Humanities, King's College London

Teaching assistant of Dr. Pierazzo on the BA course “Introduction to Digital Humanities”. Designed, taught and assessed the module “Databases: Database design and implementation”.

7. MEMBERSHIPS IN PANELS AND BOARDS

- 2018 Member of the scientific committee of the “Workshop on Scholarly Digital Editions, Graph Data-Models and Semantic Web Technologies” (University of Lausanne, 3-4 June 2019)
- 2018 Editorial board member of the DH Benelux Journal
- 2011 – 2017 Scientific committee of the Digital Classicist Berlin seminar
- 2011 – Regular reviewer for the following journals: LLC: The Journal of Digital Scholarship in the Humanities, J LIS.it, Journal of the TEI, Frontiers in Digital Humanities.
- 2011 – Regular reviewer for the following conferences: Digital Humanities (DH), Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA)
- 2017 – Member of the program committee for: Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics (CLiC) and Second Workshop on Corpus-based Research in the Humanities (CRH-2).

8. ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES

- 2012 – 2017 Co-organiser and founder of the Digital Classicist Berlin seminar
- 2011 – 2017 Co-organiser of several DARIAH-DE workshops on metadata, licensing and usability
- 2011 Co-organiser of the InterFace2011 conference for young researchers

9. PRIZES

- 2017 **Best paper award** at the Workshop on Humanities in the Semantic Web. Title of the paper: “Using Linked Open Data to Bootstrap a Knowledge Base of Classical Texts”.
- 2016 **Diversity Scholarship** to attend the PyData Berlin conference.
- 2011 **Travel bursary** to attend the Digital Humanities conference 2011, awarded by the Association for Computers and the Humanities.
- 2010 **Tuition scholarship** and **travel bursary** to attend the Digital Humanities Summer Institute 2010, awarded by the Association for Computers and the Humanities.
- 2009 – 2011 **Postgraduate scholarship** from UK’s Arts and Humanities Research Council

1. Digital Fragmentary Texts

Before beginning my PhD, I developed a conceptual model and data architecture for a digital edition of fragmentary texts.* Although my focus was on the fragments of the Greek historians, the solution is generic and valid for fragments of any literary genre (comic, epic, etc.). The digital edition of fragmentary texts—namely works which were preserved to us only by means of direct or indirect quotations in other sources—was a novel and complex problem for which no solution existed. My solution rests on two main pillars: 1) the use of the CITE architecture, developed at Harvard's Centre for Hellenic Studies for unique identifiers of fragmentary authors and works; 2) the conception of an ontology to express the semantic relations existing between a fragment and the literary sources that have transmitted it to us.** This architecture has been implemented and extended in the context of the Leipzig Open Fragmentary Texts Series (<http://www.dh.uni-leipzig.de/wo/lofts/>), now directed by Dr. Berti at the University of Leipzig.

* **Romanello, M.** (2011). "The Digital Critical Edition of Fragments: Theoretical Problems and Technical Solution". In *Linguistica e Filologia Digitale: Aspetti e Progetti*, edited by P. Kurras Cotticelli, pp. 147–155. Alessandria: Edizioni dell'Orso. <http://eprints.rclis.org/handle/10760/15592>.

** **Romanello M., Berti M., Boschetti F., Babeu A., Crane G.** (2009). "Rethinking Critical Editions of Fragmentary Texts by Ontologies." In *Rethinking Electronic Publishing: Innovation in Communication Paradigms and Technologies – Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Electronic Publishing*, 155-174. ELPUB. Milano, Italy.

2. Classics Citation Mining

My PhD work focused on the extraction of bibliographic references to primary sources in the domain of Classics, the so-called *canonical references*. This work led to the development of a method and tool to mine this kind of citations from scholarly publications (<http://citedloci.org>). This method has found applications in the automatic indexing of publication archives like JSTOR*, in the computer-assisted creation of book indexes** and in the study of scholarly reception*, based on the hypothesis that citations can be used as a proxy of the success of authors and works in the scholarship. A paper published about one component of this system—a knowledge base of classical authors and works—has received the best paper award at the International Semantic Web conference.

* **Romanello, M.** 2015. "From Index Locorum to Citation Network: An Approach to the Automatic Extraction of Canonical References and Its Applications to the Study of Classical Texts." King's College London. doi:11858/00-1780-0000-002A-4537-A.

** **Romanello, M.** 2019 (in press). "Large-Scale Extraction of Canonical References: Challenges and Prospects." In Pierazzo, E. and Cogitore, I. eds., *Digital Humanities and Antiquity. Humanités Numériques et Antiquité. Actes Du Colloque International, Grenoble 2-4 Septembre 2015*, 74–89. Pre-print available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.32634.59842>.

3. Scholar Index – Citation Index for the Arts and Humanities

After my PhD, I continued my work on citation mining and broadened its scope to references to secondary sources in the domain of History.* This research, conducted in the context of the SNF-funded *Linked Books* project, has led to the development of the Venice Scholar (<http://www.venicescholar.eu>), the first citation index tailored to the needs of historians of Venice. This platform serves also as a prototype of the Scholar Index, a citation index for the Arts and Humanities (<http://scholarindex.eu>). The importance of this work was recognized with a grant that I received to integrate into this platform the digital objects about Venice that are available in Europeana.

* Colavizza G., **Romanello M.**, Kaplan F. 2017. "The references of references: a method to enrich humanities library catalogs with citation data" in *International Journal on Digital Libraries*. DOI: 10.1007/s00799-017-0210-1.