

Womanist Ways: Exploring a Method of Engaged Digital Humanities

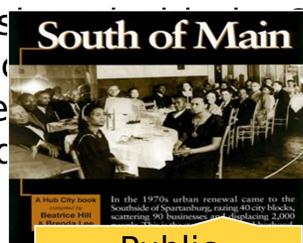
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Abstract

Womanist Ways was designed to explore the feasibility of a transdisciplinary approach to engaging indigenous and critical methodologies through digital humanities tools. Though the project began as a social network analysis of womanist scholarship, I pivoted based on my ethical concerns about the distant surveillance of Black women in academia, and instead developed a voluntary survey in collaboration with key womanist leaders to explore the dissemination of womanist thought via social media. The survey was designed for womanists in generations X, Y, and Z to share how they have engaged key womanist texts and how they deploy social media to develop community, organize for

Background

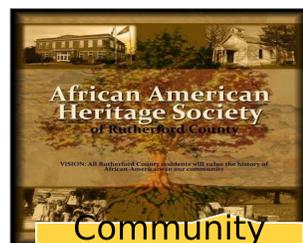
knowledge. The survey results will be used by the Center for Womanist Leadership and be shared with the Center for African American Studies and the Center for Digital Humanities.



Public Humanities



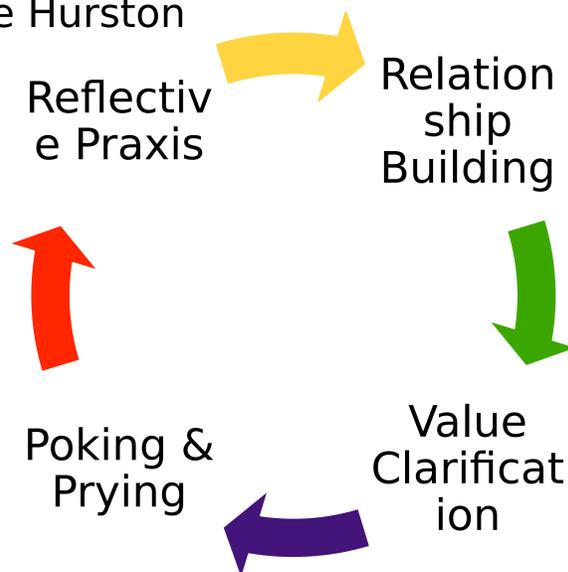
Digital Humanities



Community Engaged Research

Approach

Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose. – Zora Neale Hurston



Methods

This project was an extension of a pilot project developed to collect documents and develop a living social network. The project was hosted on the Omeka platform. I used Voyant to conduct a preliminary content analysis of popular womanist blog posts and social media posts. After early feedback during the fellowship year about the need for research concerning the role of social media in developing community, I used REDCap to develop a survey that will be released in collaboration with the Center for V... will



Results

Validated Model

- Distant reading can aid proximal research.
- Though DH tools are appealing, values must drive the approach and methodology.

Clarified Values

- Research teleology matters.
- Collaboration is more rewarding than commendation.

Revised Dissertation Methodology

- Distant reading of healthcare training curricula can inform empirical bioethics analysis.

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Acknowledgements

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