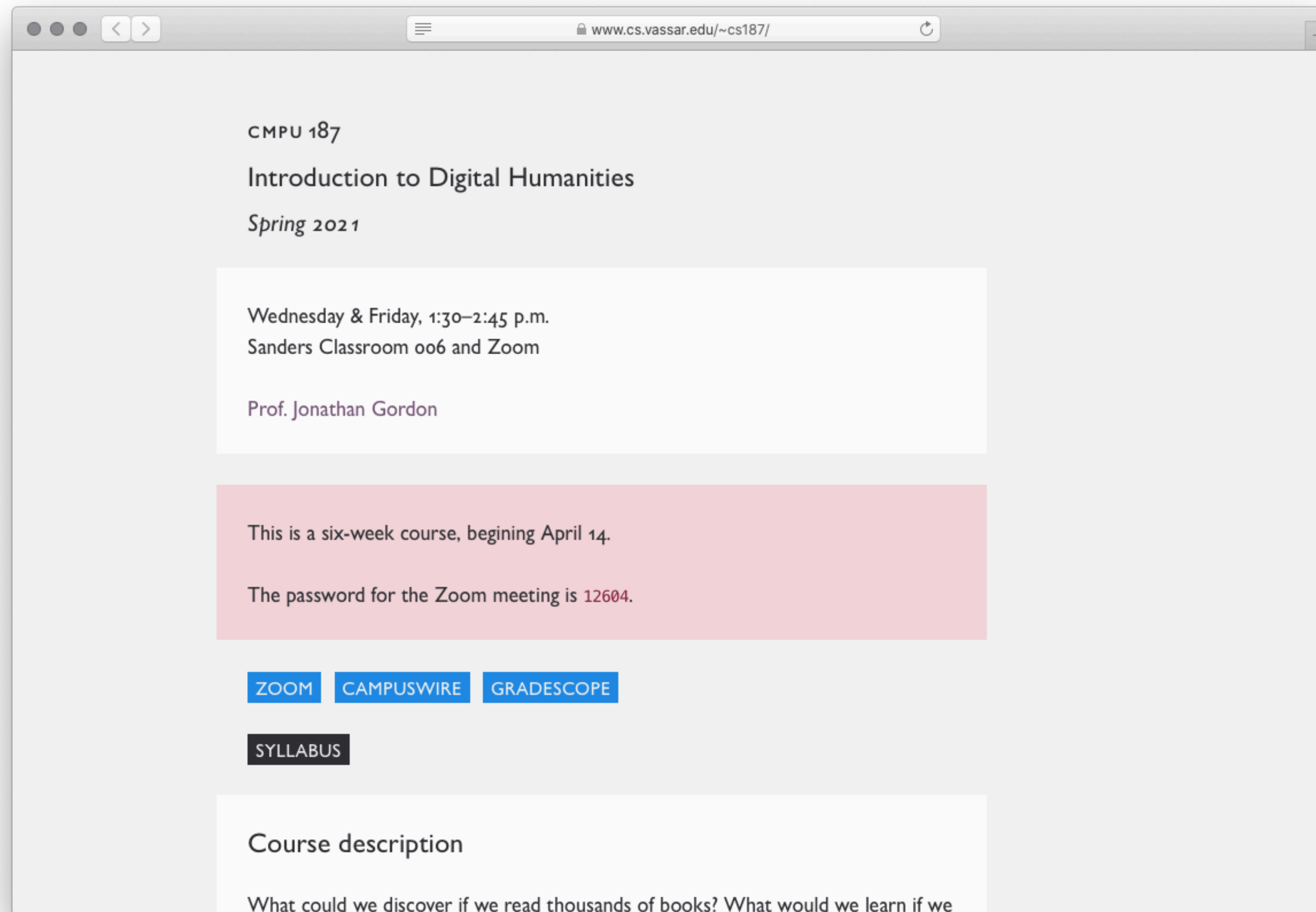


CMPU 187

Introduction to Digital Humanities

14 April 2021





cs.vassar.edu/~cs187

CMPU 187
Introduction to Digital Humanities
Spring 2021

Wednesday & Friday, 1:30–2:45 p.m.
Sanders Classroom 006 and Zoom

Prof. Jonathan Gordon

cs.vassar.edu/~cs187

This syllabus is a plan, not a contract. This is an unusual semester, and I want us to work together to find the best way for you to learn.

Overview

What could we discover if we read thousands of books? What would we learn if we tracked the word choices of a poet throughout their life? How would it change our understanding of a novel if we mapped the characters' movements? This course explores the theory and practice of using computational methods to illuminate questions in the humanities, with an emphasis on the role of data in literary studies. Readings, discussion, and hands-on practice facilitate engagement with computational methods and their application in the context of scholarly research.

Course format

sonyahuber.com/2014/08/20/shadow-syllabus/

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Shadow Syllabus

1. I'll tell you exactly how to get an A, but you'll have a hard time hearing me.

2. I could hardly hear my own professors when I was in college over the din and roar of my own fear.

3. Those who aim for A's don't get as many A's as those who abandon the quest for A's and seek knowledge or at least curiosity.

4. I had bookmarked a citation for that fact, and now I can't find it anywhere.

5. The only way to seek knowledge is to open your hands and let your opinions drop, but that requires even more fear.

6. The goals and outcomes I am required to put on my syllabus make me depressed; they are the illusion of controlling what cannot be controlled.

7. I end up changing everything halfway through the semester anyway because the plan on paper is never what the living class ends up being about.

8. I desperately needed A's when I was in college because I didn't know what else I was besides an A.

9. Our flaws make us human; steer toward yours. I steer toward mine. That won't always be rewarded in "the real world."

10. "The real world" isn't the real world.

11. I realize that I, as the authority figure in this room, might trigger all kinds of



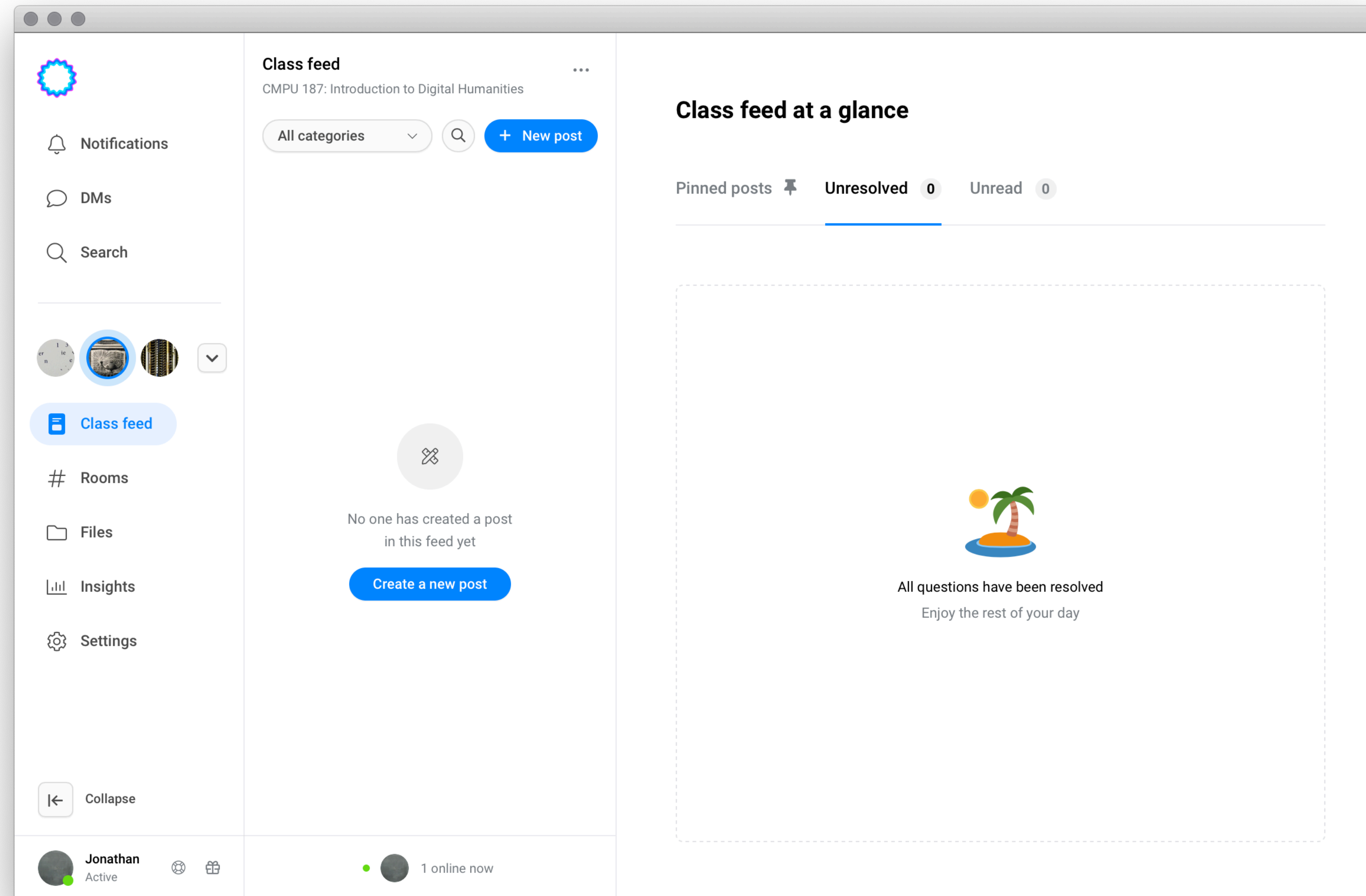
Search

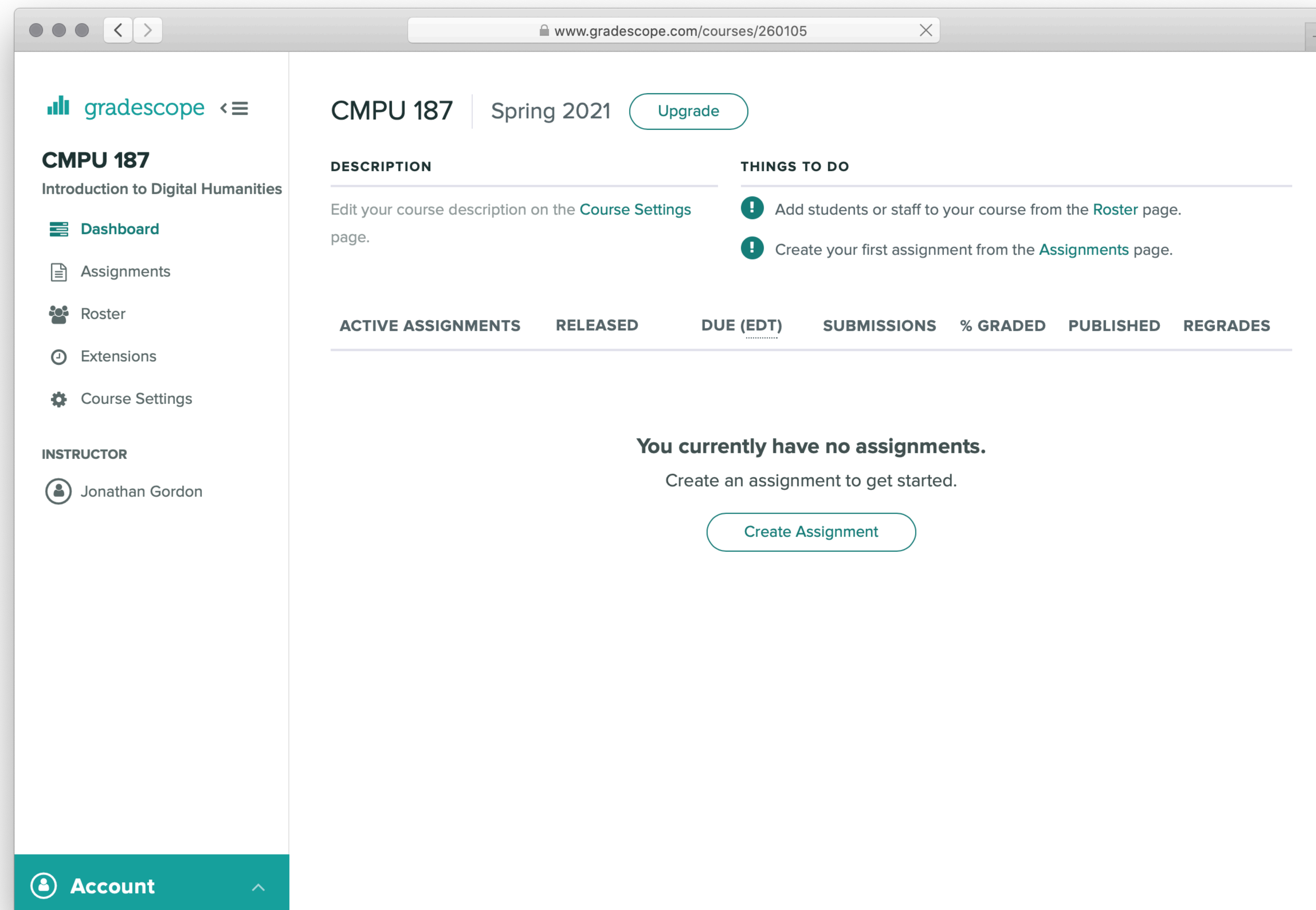
SEARCH ...



Writing Pain with Sonya Huber







gradescope.com

Readings

Grades

“All through our education, we are being taught a kind of reverse mindfulness. A kind of Future Studies where – via the guise of mathematics, or literature, or history, or computer programming, or French – we are being taught to think of a time different to the time we are in. Exam time. Job time. When-we-are-grown-up time.

To see the act of learning as something not for its own sake but because of what it will get you reduces the wonder of humanity. We are thinking, feeling, art-making, knowledge-hungry, marvelous animals, who understand ourselves and our world through the act of learning. It is an end in itself. It has far more to offer than the things it lets us write on application forms. It is a way to love living right now.”

Matt Haig, *Notes on a Nervous Planet*



Phil Gentry @pmgentry · Apr 5



A professor of mine went to go hear Derrida speak once. The entire talk was about cows; everyone was flummoxed but listened carefully, and took notes about...cows. There was a short break, and when Derrida came back, he was like, "I'm told it is pronounced 'chaos.'"



1.1K



14.1K



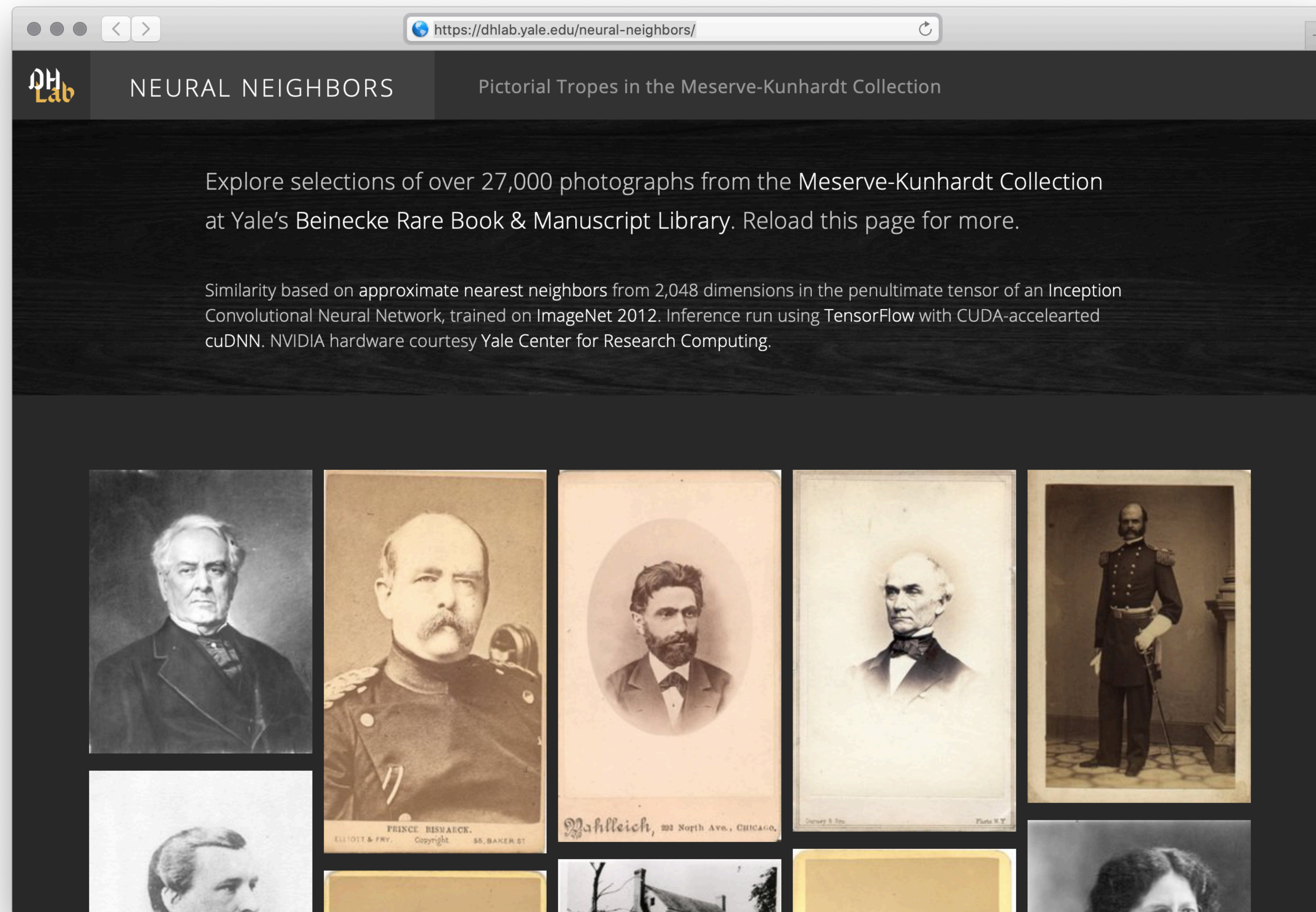
99.2K



Projects to discuss



bit.ly/3a5Xjrq



bit.ly/3mM5AGg

dh.library.yale.edu/projects/vogue/

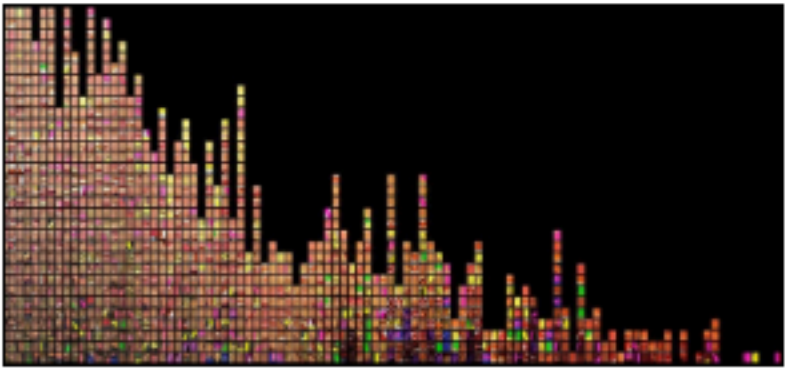
Digital Humanities at Yale University Library Home Experiments Bibliography About

Robots Reading *Vogue*

Data Mining is in Fashion

Few magazines can boast being continuously published for over a century, familiar and interesting to almost everyone, full of iconic pictures — and also completely digitized and marked up as both text and images. What can you do with over 2,700 covers, 400,000 pages, 6 TB of data? Students, librarians and faculty are excited about the possibilities of working with *Vogue* to explore questions in fields from gender studies to computer science. We highlight some early experiments below:


Slice Histograms



Direct visualization of color patterns.

Explore »

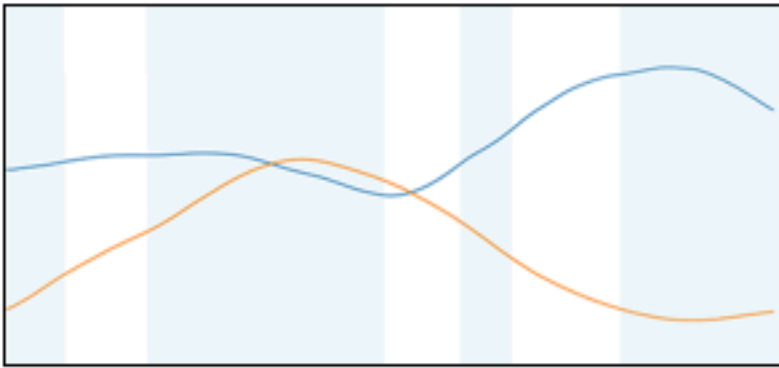
Cover Averages



Visual continuity and change across the decades.

Explore »

n-gram Search



Search and compare word usage in 400,000+ pages within ads, articles, or all texts.

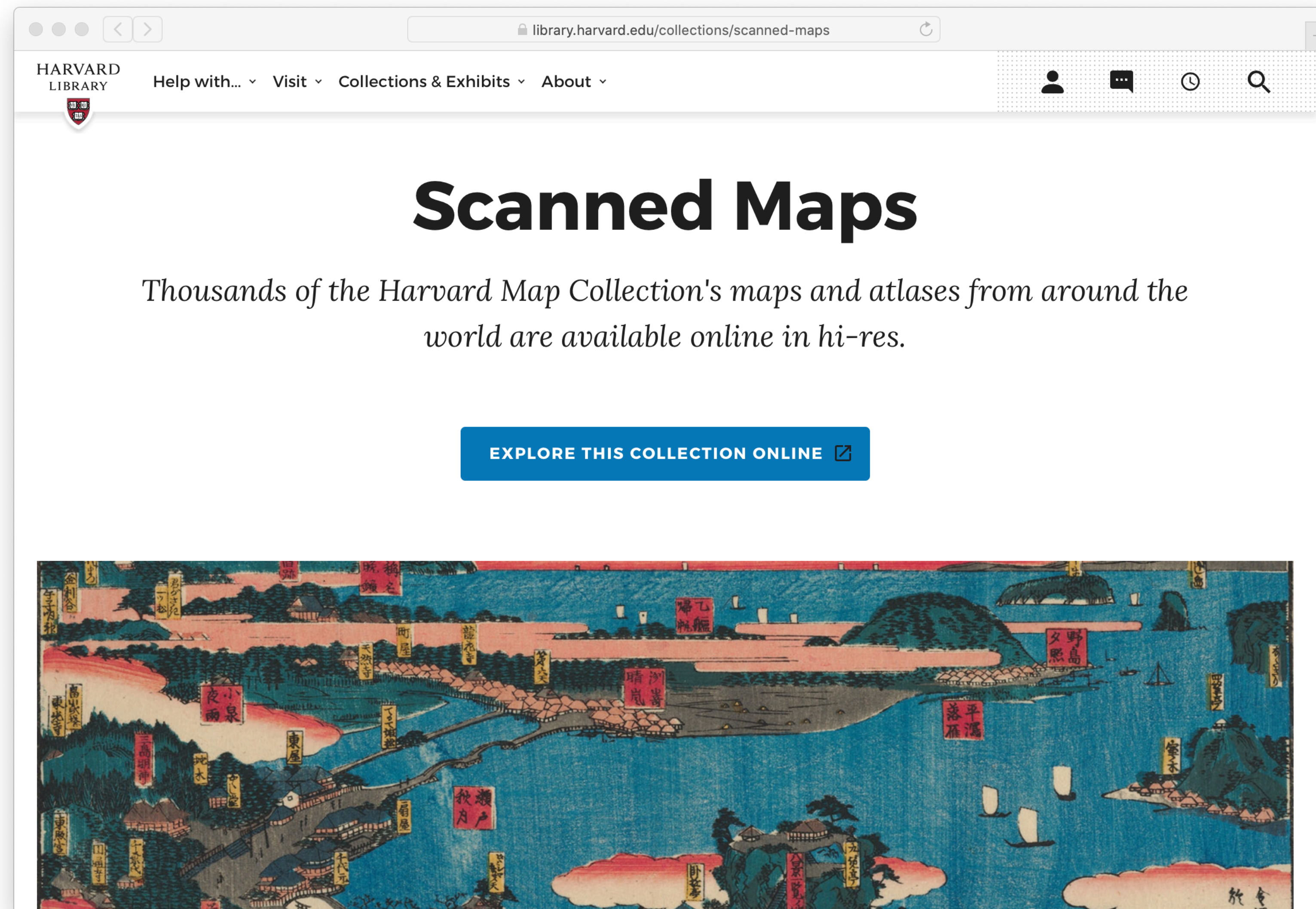
Explore »

Topic Modeling

Advertisements

Statistics


bit.ly/voguebots



bit.ly/3dfKe0I

https://publicdomain.nypl.org/greenbook-map/

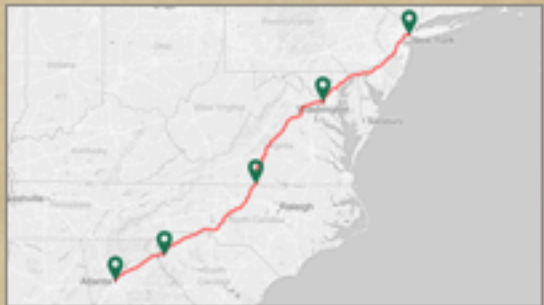
A public domain remix by Brian Foo of NYPL Labs, using the data released by NYPL. [View source code.](#)



The 1947, 1948, 1955, 1956, and 1960 covers of the Green Book, NYPL Digital Collections


NAVIGATING THE GREEN BOOK

The Green Book was a travel guide published between 1936 and 1966 that listed hotels, restaurants, bars, gas stations, etc. where black travelers would be welcome. NYPL Labs is in the process of extracting the data from the Green Books themselves and welcomes you to explore its contents in new ways.



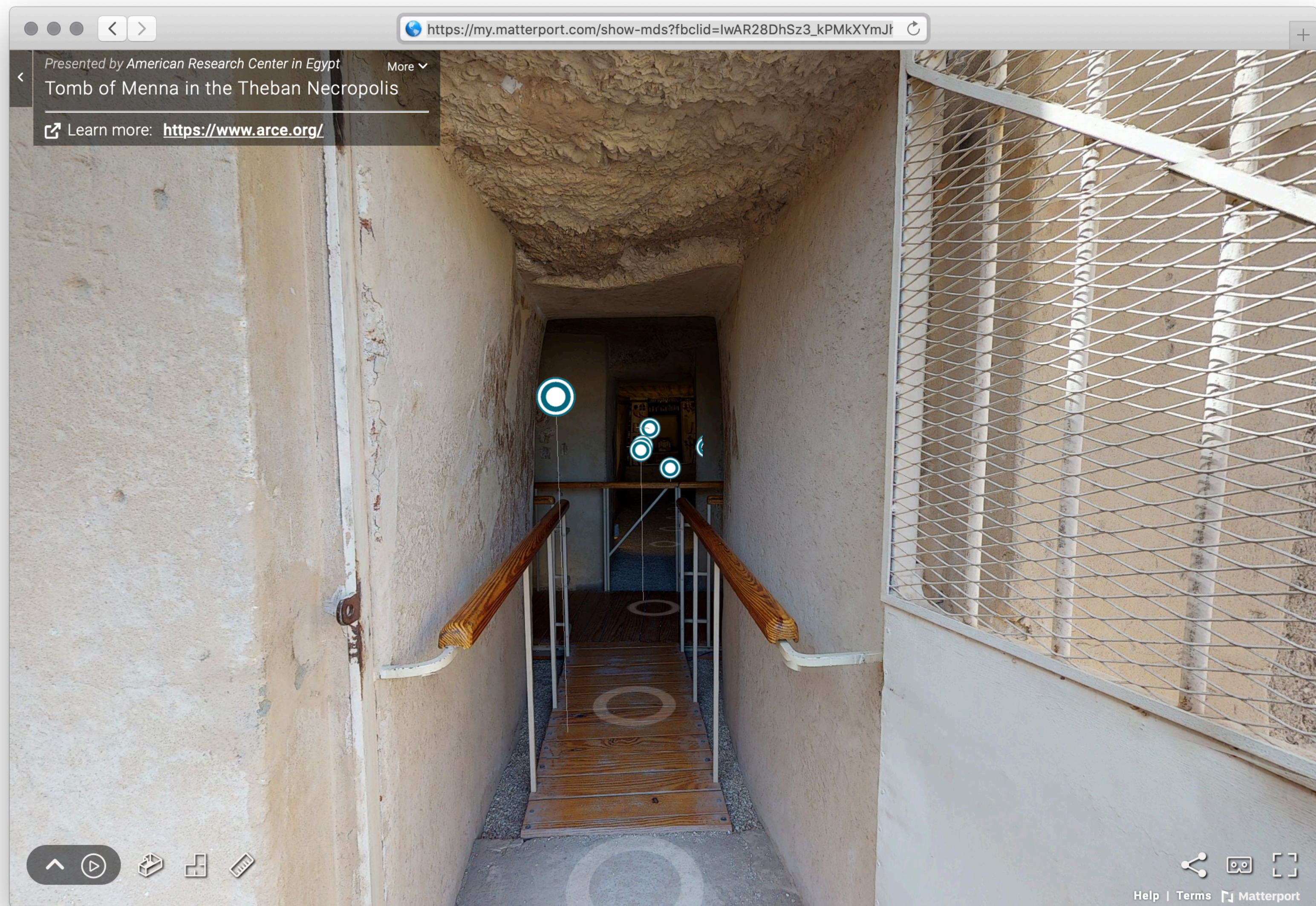
Visualize a trip using the Green Books

Map A Trip

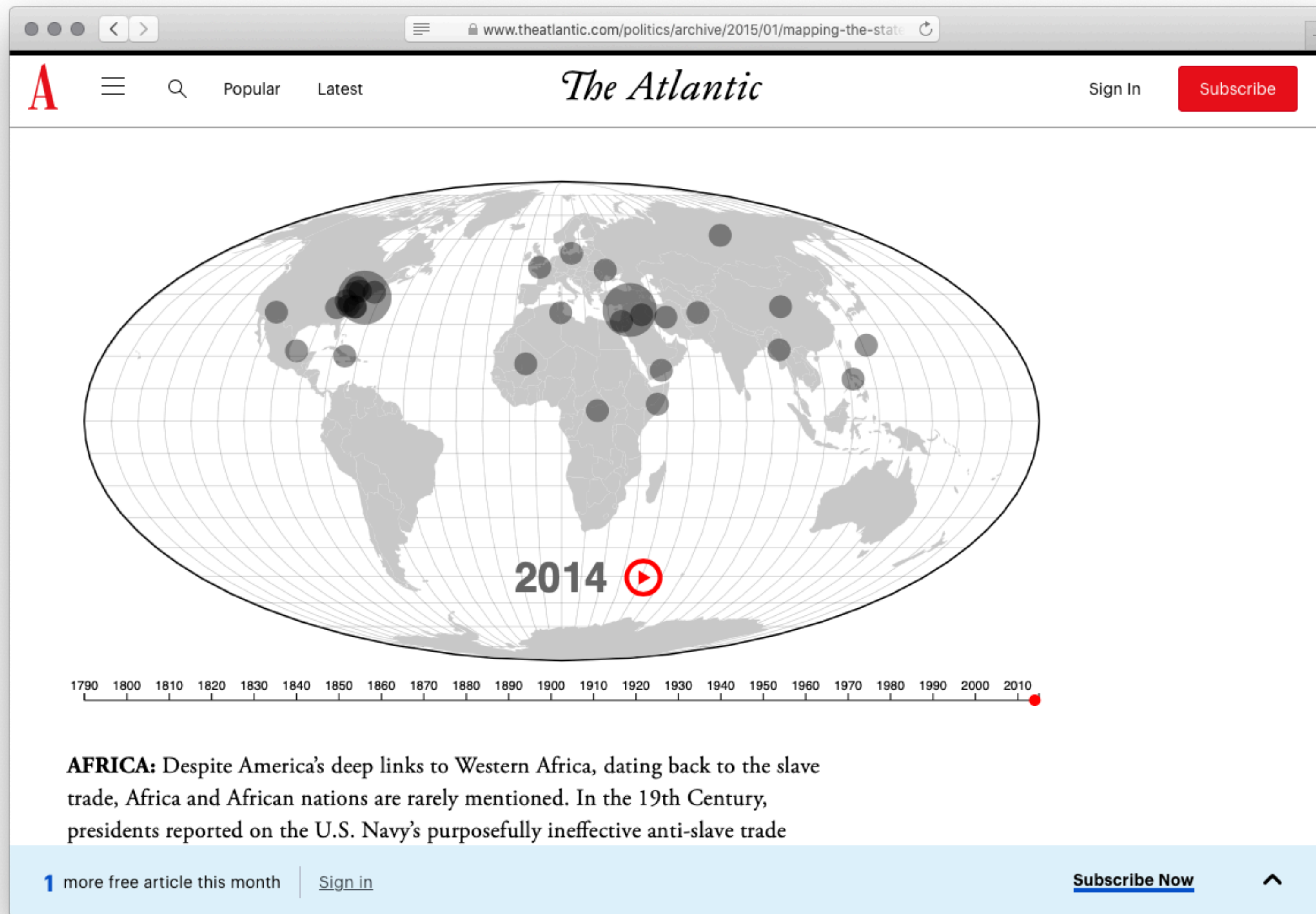


View a map of the data extracted from the Green Books

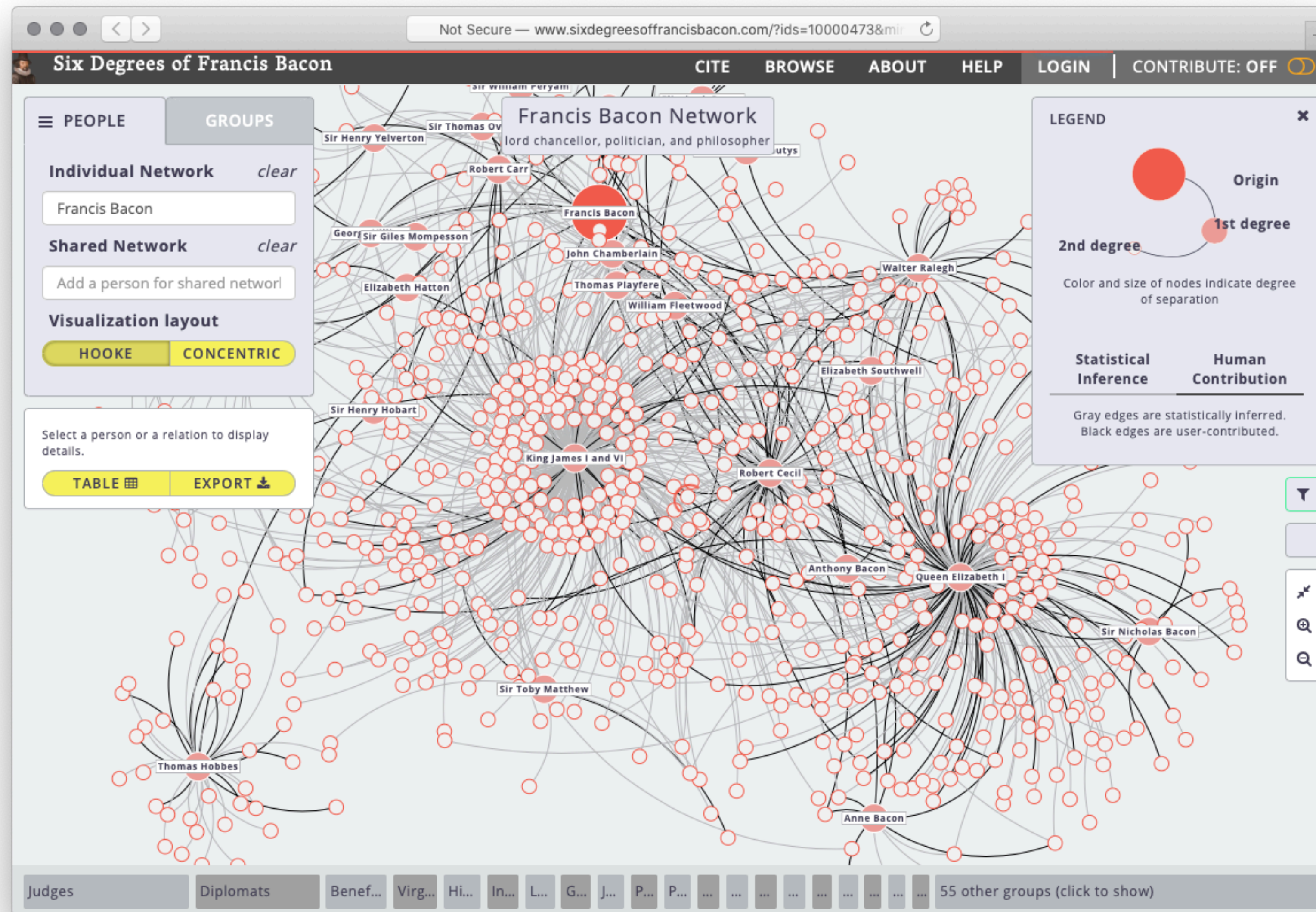
bit.ly/navgreenbook



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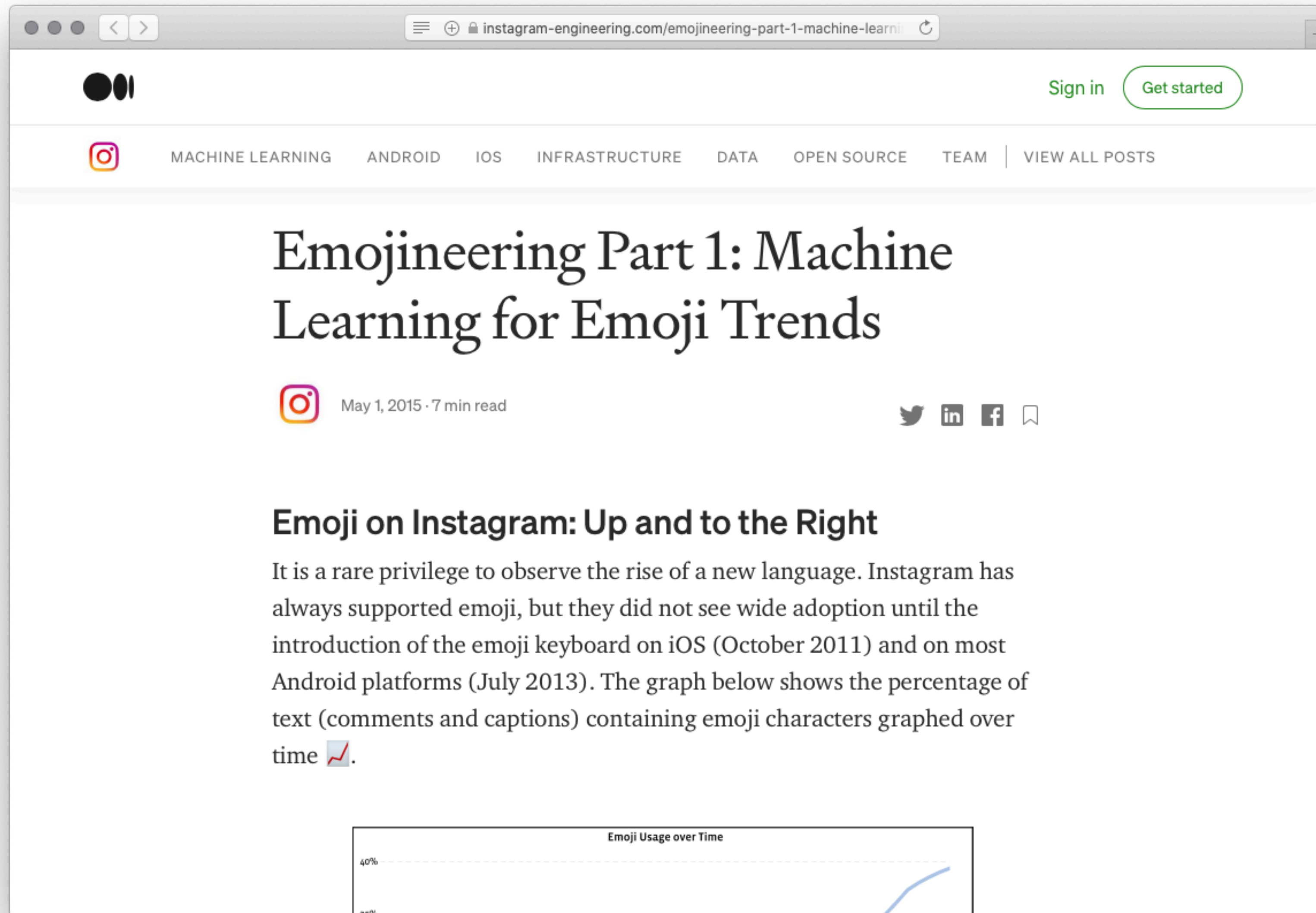
bit.ly/mappingsou



bit.ly/sixbacon



dissinet.cz



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⚙

← Thread

Megan Mansfield @cornerof_thesky · Apr 1

Happy April 1st everyone! I'm pleased to announce that myself and Darryl Seligman have a new paper up on the arXiv... "I Knew You Were Trouble: Emotional Trends in the Repertoire of Taylor Swift" arxiv.org/abs/2103.16737



GIF

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Megan Mansfield @cornerof_thesky

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PhD student at University of Chicago studying transiting exoplanets. Amateur runner, chocolate addict, and devoted cat mom. (she/her/hers)

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Nuggets at Warriors

Trending with [Adam Silver](#)



ET Canada · 1 hour ago

Ryan Reynolds is back in action in 'The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard'



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