1 / Wednesday 2nd April (research seminar with Master Degree students)

Visualizations of Time: Research Methodologies in History and Cultural Theory

The presentation explores how methodologies from history and cultural theory allow us to analyze and interpret visual representations of time. Moving beyond the idea of visualizations as neutral backdrops, it considers visual structures –from timelines and trees to digital networks– as expressions of how different eras perceive and construct temporality. Spanning from the 18th century to the digital present, the presentation brings diverse visualizations into dialogue, seeking to uncover the ways time is made meaningful through form and structure.

Image title: Temple of Time.jpg

Caption (if needed): Emma Hart Willard, *The Temple of Time*, 1849

2 / Thursday 3rd of April (open conference/lecture)

Digital Media, Cultural Meanings: Designing Cultural Experiences in the Digital Era

The presentation explores how culture can be experienced, interpreted, and designed for digital platforms. Focusing on content design for cultural institutions – such as museums and galleries, archives and libraries– it showcases creative approaches to working with memory, heritage, and cultural content.

Drawing on the courses I teach in the Department of Culture, Creative Media and Industries (https://cult.uth.gr/en/), the presentation highlights how students engage with real or simulated projects – from digital exhibitions to interactive archives – turning ideas into experiences through content design and interface thinking. A case study on the visualization of time illustrates how visual metaphors (timelines, rivers, and networks) communicate meanings about culture and cultural identity.

Image title: screencapture-kapodistrias-digitalarchive

Caption (if needed): Screenshot from the *Kapodistrias Digital Archive* (https://kapodistrias.digitalarchive.gr/)

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Short Bio

Ioulia Pentazou is a historian and Assistant Professor of Humanities and Digital Media at the Department of Culture, Creative Media and Industries, University of Thessaly, Greece. She holds a degree in History from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, an M.A. in Intellectual History from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and a Ph.D. in Digital Design from the Department of Architecture, University of Thessaly.

Her work lies at the intersection of history and cultural theory, content design for digital media, and digital tools and narratives for cultural institutions. She has led the content design, narrative structure, and interaction design for numerous historical and cultural websites, and has curated both permanent and temporary exhibitions in the city of Volos. Recent digital projects include the Kapodistrias Digital Archive (https://kapodistrias.digitalarchive.gr/) and the 1821 Digital Archive (https://1821.digitalarchive.gr/), both of which explore new ways of representing historical knowledge through digital media.

She is the author of the book *Exhibiting History: Practices of Digital Design* (*Istoria se ekthesi / Praktikes psifiakou schediasmou*), Hellenic Open University Editions, 2019).

Shorter version

Ioulia Pentazou is a historian and Assistant Professor of Humanities and Digital Media at the University of Thessaly, Greece. Her research focuses on cultural theory and digitality, content design for digital media, digital tools and exhibits for cultural institutions. She has led content and narrative design for cultural websites and exhibitions in Greece. Recent projects include the *Kapodistrias Digital Archive* and the *1821 Digital Archive*. She is the author of *Exhibiting History: Practices of Digital Design* (Hellenic Open University Editions, 2019).