Broadening Access to AI Infrastructures through Skills and Support

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Digital Skills in Arts and Humanities: a UK capacity building initiative

- **Aim**: broaden access to Digital Research Infrastructure (compute, tools, data services) and reproducible workflows
- **Audience**: A&H researchers who need ”larger laptops”, lack confidence or equipment
- **Role**: a community interface between researchers and infrastructure

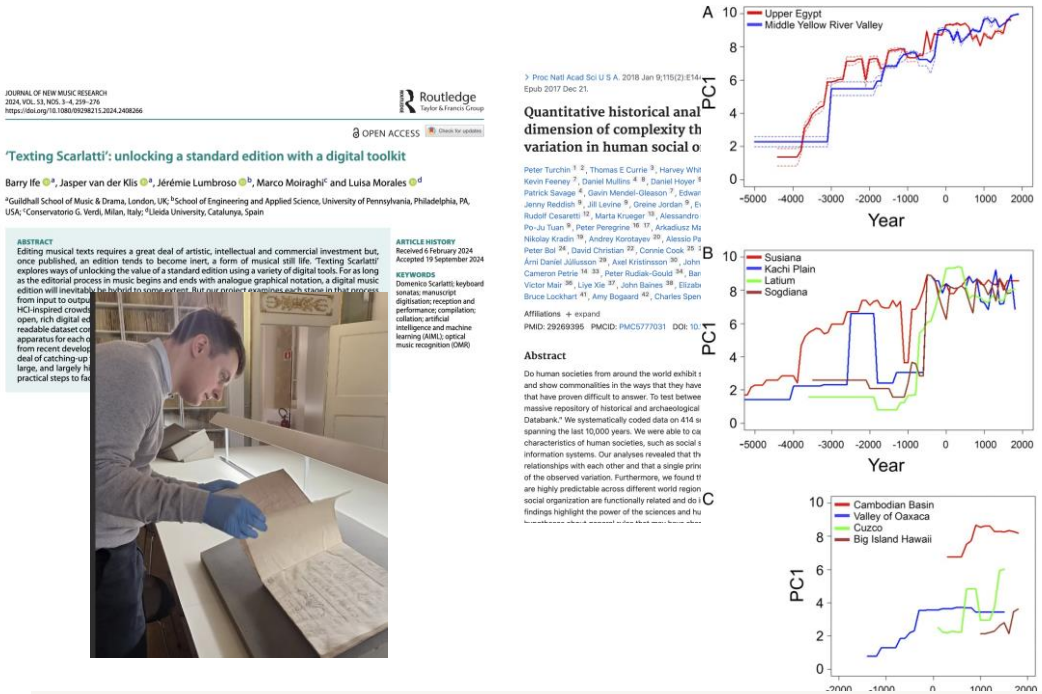
DISKAH | Digital Skills in Arts and Humanities **Network**

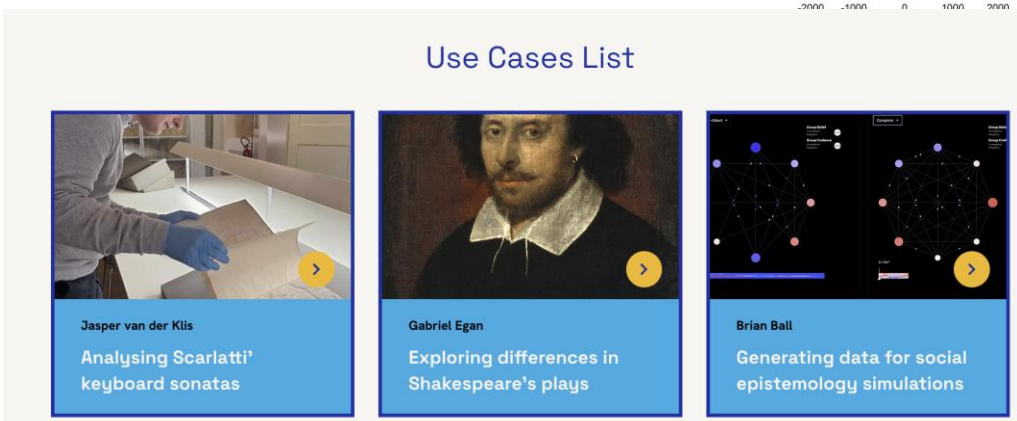


2025-2026, DISKAH Co-design workshop, Brighton, April 2025 (top), DISKAH training at RSE Summer school, London, July 2025 (bottom)

How it works: the fellowship model

- A&H researchers bring their own research question.
- Guided/supported route to compute, data and workflow development
- Outputs are illustrative use cases (diskah.org/use-cases) and training for others to learn from
- 11 fellows, access to UK/regional HPC, workflow-platforms and training.





Lesson: Skills only take you so far in AI

- Training alone does not always lead to use.
- Supported access through Digital Research Technical Professionals (DRTPs) works:
  - Brokering infrastructure
  - Workflow design
  - Onboarding and the first workflow
  - Profiling and improving code
- Most communities don't need to fine-tune models, but they do need critical AI literacy
- Communities of practice sharing good practice speed up adoption more than courses do.
- *Lack of support and skills risks inaction and low uptake*

Implications for EOSC AI Capacity-building Priorities

- Establish ***supported access, use case development and training*** resources in every Node
- ***Share good practice*** across Nodes, including for use cases and AI governance, to avoid fragmentation
- Put ***critical AI literacy and research integrity*** explicitly into competence frameworks, EOSC skills profiles and recognise them in research careers.