



# D I G I T H U M

The Humanities in the Digital Era

<http://digithum.uoc.edu>

## Editorial

**Francesc Núñez**  
Director, *Digithum*

We are pleased to present issue number 11 of *Digithum*, Humanities in the Digital Age, which, as is usual, brings together a series of diverse articles, selected by means of anonymous review of all those received by the journal, and a themed dossier coordinated by an expert or experts in the subject. This issue's dossier is directed and coordinated by Dr Elisenda Ardèvol (Arts and Humanities, UOC) and Dr Antoni Roig (Information and Communication Sciences, UOC) and is devoted to media ethnographies.

The dossier includes five articles by young academics and researchers who took part in the international Media Practices and Cultural Producers workshop organised by the UOC and held in Barcelona in November 2008, and the EASA (European Association of Social Anthropologists) Media Anthropology Network. They offer different innovative perspectives on the study of the media in which media-related or media-oriented practices are understood as cultural productions.

In the article entitled *Discussing the Life of Others: Doing Ethnography in the Brazilian Big Brother Fan Community*, Bruno Campanella (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) examines a group of web-based fans. Veronica Barassi (Goldsmiths College) speaks of the adaptation of British trades unionism to the new practices offered by the internet in the article entitled *Mediating Political Action: Internet-related Beliefs and Frustrations amongst International Solidarity Campaigns in Britain*. Virginia Melián (Stockholm University) focuses on some of the links between social movements and the internet in an article entitled *New Media and Protest in Hybrid Societies*. The article entitled *Producing a Religious TV Series: The Making of Popular Piety Culture in Indonesia* by Rianne Subijanto (New York University) shows some of the implications of the production of soap operas in an Islamic cultural context. Finally, in the article entitled *Local Content in Brazil: Conceptual Framework and Methodological Implications*, Tori Holmes (University of Liverpool) provides a few methodological reflections on the study of media-related practices.

The miscellaneous section of this issue includes contributions by researchers and lecturers from Catalan universities. Sílvia Buset and Lydia Sánchez (University of Barcelona) talk about *Adolescents and Photoblogs: Building Identity through Play*; IN3

(UOC) researcher Joaquim Moré discusses *Automatic Creation of Specialised Multilingual Dictionaries in New Subject Areas*; the work entitled *Links between Catalan Identity and the Perception of Ethno-linguistic Vitality in a Sample of University Students* is an original work by M. Àngels Viladot (UOC) and Moisès Esteban (University of Girona); and finally the contribution by Dimitrios Vlachopoulos (University of Barcelona, International University of Catalonia) focuses on *Introducing Online Teaching in Humanities: A Case Study of the Acceptance of Online Activities by Academic Staff of Classical Languages*.

Of note is the journal's being published using the OJS journal management software, which aids the handling and assessment of the originals received and the structuring of the various sections of the publication by the managers. It also offers the advantage of automating communication with the databases indexing the journal.

With the new system, *Digithum* becomes one more of the science journals around the world – now numbering more than two thousand – to benefit from this open-source software. The fact that it can be modified and improved offers added value; indeed, the UOC has been able to incorporate four modules with new features.

With this new improvement, we are taking another step on the road towards strengthening the journal's ability to take on the challenges for today's scientific publications: attending to the authors, providing a precise and timely response for a quality selection and review process with modern standards, and serving our potential public – human and social sciences researchers who analyse the 'refraction' that contemporary society, marked by the intensive use of technologies, causes in their respective disciplines (theoretical orientations, study objects, working methods) and in their projection in the educational and academic world.

Finally, we are happy to see the sustained interest that the journal and its contents arouse. *Digithum* has a monthly average of 1,000 visits and 650 users, alongside 474 subscribers in three languages.