

Good practice form

Titel:	Data onderzoek naar, op en met digitale fora als blended leerpraktijk
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Content specification:	For the MA seminar “New Media Theories Research Seminar: The Deep Vernacular Web”, we researched online forums, but also used these as a form of blended learning. In our class, we employed a <i>subreddit</i> as a “flipped classroom”, a subforum on the website Reddit. Students used the subreddit to discuss literature, ask questions, and post sources relevant to the class. These online discussions were then continued in the offline seminar, where groups of students had to curate dominant points of discussion that had already taken place online. Further, the students used tools and methods developed specifically for this class for empirical research.
Description of the preparation and support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Setting up and maintaining the subreddit for the class</li> <li>- Documenting how to use Reddit as a blended learning environment (both practically and our ‘best practices’)</li> <li>- Developing a tool so students could query and download data from online forums for their own empirical research</li> <li>- Developed executable computational methods to visualise the abovementioned data</li> <li>- Documented the abovementioned tools and methods</li> <li>- Aided the students in their literature discussion, both online (through Reddit) and offline (in-seminar)</li> <li>- Aided the student groups in their empirical work, both online (through Reddit) and offline (in-seminar)</li> </ul>
Added value of the project:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students collectively engaged with the course literature <i>before</i> class. This aided the discussion in the offline seminar, because part of the discussion had already taken place and could be continued in the classroom.</li> <li>- Since our course topic was on digital forums, using one as a platform for the course aided the students in understanding these environments.</li> <li>- We documented the use of Reddit and the various worksheets used so future seminars can copy the format we used.</li> </ul>
Lessons learned:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to employ Reddit as a blended learning environment. This required some thinking through and experimentation, but the funds helped us find a very fruitful format.</li> <li>- Do’s and don’ts regarding the incorporation of computational methods into an theory-oriented class.</li> </ul>
Want to know more? (add links here)	<p>Interested in how we used the subreddit? Make a Reddit account and request access to <a href="https://reddit.com/r/nmtrs">https://reddit.com/r/nmtrs</a></p> <p><b>Teaching with Reddit guide:</b> <a href="https://oilab.eu/teaching-with-reddit.pdf">https://oilab.eu/teaching-with-reddit.pdf</a>  <b>Reddit Research worksheet:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/reddit-worksheet">https://bit.ly/reddit-worksheet</a>  <b>Chan Research worksheet:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/4chan-worksheet">https://bit.ly/4chan-worksheet</a>  <b>4CAT tool (continues development):</b> <a href="http://4cat.oilab.nl">http://4cat.oilab.nl</a>  <b>Chanalysis scripts (continues development):</b>  <a href="https://github.com/salhamander/chanalysis">https://github.com/salhamander/chanalysis</a></p>