Tools for the Digital Humanities

The HRC provides software for the analysis and writing of text including concordance and qualitative analysis tools, and word processing. Many of these are tools that you would want to install on your own computer if you were to find them useful. Test drive these applications in the HRC and find the tools that will facilitate your research and writing goals.

Alternatives to MS Word

Microsoft Word is installed on every computer in the HRC. Word is clearly the most commonly used word processing application. The HRC, however, also makes available several other tools for writing.

Word Processing

Mellel
Mellel is a word process for Mac OSX oriented toward long and sophisticated with a special focus on scholarly and multilingual writing.

Scrivener
Scrivener is software for writing that includes virtual index cards, outlining, version control, import/export options, and scriptwriting features. Passages of text can be stored, re-arranged and played with to facilitate the creative process. This can be particularly useful for large scale creative writing.

Oxygen
Oxygen is an XML editor particularly useful for the marking up of TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) documents. Oxygen alerts you to invalid markup, allows you to run XPath and XQuery commands, and can transform TEI documents to HTML with XSLT.

Hypertext and linked note-taking

Tinderbox
Tinderbox is a note-taking and brainstorming tool that aims to help organize thoughts, plans, and ideas. Tinderbox maps notes as you create them allowing you to build relationships and links between notes, assign color codes, and generate timelines.
**HypeDyn**

HypeDyn (pronounced ‘hyped in’) is a tool for writing hypertext fiction. Add links to your writing to incorporate notes, alternate story lines, and branching logic. The appearance of links within the text can also be dependent upon the readers actions. For example, a link can be set to appear only if the reader has first read a certain passage.

**Text Analysis**

**CasualConc**

CasualConc is an attractive and easy-to-use concordancer. It allows you to import a collection of text and search for words or phrases across all the texts. The results of a search are in the keyword-in-context format. That is, the results show the context in which the search term occurs and highlights the words surrounding the search term. The software can also provide word counts, word clusters, and supports multiple languages.

**Juxta**

Juxta is a text comparison tool intended to highlight differences in multiple witnesses to the same text, such as printed editions of manuscripts. The software allows users to set one edition of the text as the base text and add or remove witness texts. The comparisons revealed by the software can then be annotated and exported. The software also incorporates visualizations such as heat-maps and histograms.

**Text Analysis Markup System (TAMS) Analyzer**

TAMS Analyzer is a program that lets you assign codes, or tags, to passages of a text just by selecting the relevant text and double clicking the name of the code from a predefined list. It then allows you to extract, analyze, and save coded information.

**Text Encoding and support for text collections**

The HRC also runs an eXist XML database. This database is available to host your text collections for research purposes. The system provides elaborate support for XQuery and XSLT transformations, and a built-in Lucene search engine.

The HRC is continually looking for software tools that may be of interest to students and faculty. If there are any applications you would like to see made available in the HRC, please contact Ben Johnston at hrc@princeton.edu.