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AUSTRIAN
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SCIENCES

2 ZOOM ONLINE SESSIONS | NOV 17, DEC 15
2-DAY-WORKSHOP IN PERSON AT VIENNA | JAN 29-30
INSTITUTE FOR MEDIEVAL RESEARCH
GEORG-COCH-PLATZ 2
AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
1010 WIEN

WINTER SCHOOL OF HANDWRITTEN TEXT RECOGNITION OF MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS

LATIN|GREEK|CZECH



ORGANISATION

Institute for Medieval Research of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

CONTACT

Dr. Jan Odstrčilík | Austrian Academy of Sciences Jan.Odstrcilik@oeaw.ac.at

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We are witnessing a revolution in the study of manuscripts: Machine learning tools have been developed to enable automatic transcription of documents. These tools are now able to assist in the production of texts from medieval manuscripts with a level of accuracy that was previously unattainable. Today, libraries have used these tools to make their collections searchable, while researchers have accelerated the process of text editing and adopted them for use in the study of medieval documents.

After last year's success, we continue this year with another HTR Winter School in Vienna, focusing on the automatic recognition of handwritten texts in medieval documents. The course will have two main parts: 2 online sessions (Friday afternoons) and a two-day in-person workshop in Vienna. In between, we will use online platforms to coordinate our work between the sessions: [Notion.so](https://www.notion.so) and Discord. During the first phase, participants will be briefly introduced to the theory of handwritten text recognition and comprehensively instructed in its practical application using the tool Transkribus (transkribus.eu).

We will work in four groups, focusing on four different periods and languages: Carolingian Latin, Late Medieval Latin, Byzantine Greek, and Late Medieval Czech. Each group will have its own supervisor(s), and their goal will be to train an HTR model for each type of writing and/or to improve an existing model.

During the in-person workshop in Vienna, we will finalize the projects and visit libraries in Vienna to view selected manuscripts in person. At the end of the course you will receive a certificate and the results will be published on Zenodo and HTR-United with the names of the contributors.

REQUIREMENTS

The course is primarily designed for Masters or PhD students, however, we will consider other applications as well. You are expected to be familiar with the language of the group you want to join: Medieval Latin, Byzantine Greek or Medieval Czech.

We expect you to have a basic knowledge of medieval paleography and manuscript studies. The course will be taught in English.

COSTS

There is no participation fee, but you are expected to cover the cost of your travel to Vienna, including accommodation.

APPLICATION

Please, send a short CV and cover letter to Jan Odstrčilík | jan.odstrcilik@oeaw.ac.at and to HTR.school@oeaw.ac.at before 29th October 2022.

As a subject, use „HTR School 2023“. Please don't forget to indicate the team/module you would like to take (i.e. Carolingian Latin, late medieval Latin, Byzantine Greek, medieval Czech). If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

ORGANIZERS *(alphabetically)*

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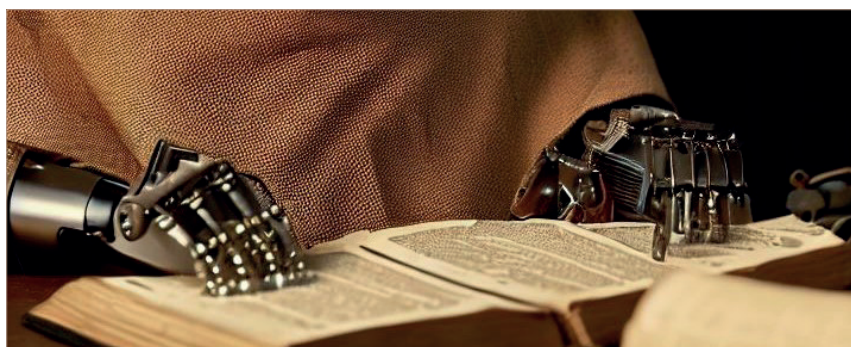
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SCHEDULE

2 ZOOM ONLINE

SESSION 1, Nov 17, Friday

- What is HTR? A general introduction
- Transkribus 1 (uploading documents, layout recognition, simple transcription)
- Introduction into manuscripts and working in groups
- Working in groups

SESSION 2, Dec 15, Friday

- Transkribus 2 (training of models)
- Working in groups

IN-PERSON IN VIENNA

JAN 29, Monday

- Finishing work on the transcription and models
- Sharing is caring: How to share your data
- Alternatives to Transkribus

JAN 30, Tuesday

- Library visit
- Presentation of results by working groups

