



Workshop on Digital Databases for Women's Periodicals



October 15, 2015
Faculty of Philology
Classroom 35
Duration: 10:00-18:00

I Women, periodicals, digital databases (10:00–13:00)

1. Presentations of a database “Women in Press: Periodical Database” (10:00–11:30)

A) Katerina Dalakoura, “Women in Press: periodical database” – general overview

Digital media become increasingly crucial in the research of women's and gender history and the development of humanities, as they enable access to numerous writing works and visual relevant materials. So digitalization of historical sources and furthermore creation of relevant databases are of great significance for the academic research. This applies all the more to historical sources such as media press (newspapers and periodicals), which are difficult to be located or/and searched throughout due to their diverse contents and volume of pages/issues. Database “Women in Press: periodical database” was created for the Ottoman women's journals published during the 19th century and till the collapse of the Ottoman Empire (1923). At this stage, the database concerns periodicals edited by Ottoman Greek women, while there is provision for future collaboration with databases concerning women's periodicals edited within other Ottoman religious/ethnic communities and/or South Eastern Europe. In this presentation, I will present and discuss the objectives of the development of the database and its scheme, the information entered (written and visual data), the content categories created for the contents of the periodicals, and the information the database can provide to the provisional users.



B) YpakoiPapadopoulou, Researching periodicals for a database

The creation of a database is very important nowadays. However, in order to accomplish such a project, much time and effort is needed. We created a database during a postgraduate seminar, titled “*History of Education: The press as the ‘worldwide school’ -Education and gendered social procedures in the Ottoman space*”. My purpose is to present the ways all MA students have worked as a research group and cooperated (sharing, exchanging data and information etc.) among us for the database to be created. More specifically, I will present how we worked to collect the primary material required; localize the existed editions of the periodicals in question; index the contents of the periodicals according to a system of content categories and sub-categories; gather additional information on journals, editors and contributors and provide a short description of the periodicals’ profile and editors’ biographies. Last, I will refer to the problems and the difficulties which occurred in the course of the project (i.e. inclusion of visual materials, unsigned articles, articles signed by nicknames, short un-listed pieces), as well as the ways we overcame them.

C) Maria Paitaki, Using the database “Women in Press: periodical database”

My presentation regards the way I have used the database to study a journal already entered in the “*Women in Press: periodical database*”. This journal is *Hmerologion ton Kyrion (1888-1889)*, edited in Istanbul by Alexandra Papadopoulou and XarikleiaKorakidou. Specifically, I tried to outline the technical characteristics of the journal and to construct its “editing” profile and gender identity by comparison with other journals of the same genre in the same database. In other words, the database provides the opportunity to study the contents of a journal (on a qualitative and quantitative scale), the technical characteristics, while it provides short information of the journals as a whole and the editors, and cites the most important bibliography on them. Also, it provides direct access to the journals. All in all, the database gave me the opportunity of an easy and immediate access in details and information which were necessary for my study and helped to a broader research concerning more general research questions.

COFFEE BREAK (11:30–12:00)



2. Discussion: Periodical studies, theory and method (12:00–13:00)

The role of digitalization: does digitalization affect the research of periodicals and in what ways (theory, method, new perspectives)?

Periodical studies vs. studies of women's/feminist periodical press: similarities, differences, political/ideological aspect.

Descriptive vs. normative approach: classification and categorization of the journals (e.g. "little magazines", women's magazines...) and of the magazines' contents (e.g. genres, themes, artistic value...).

If magazines are digitalized, do we need anything else besides some sort of magazine ID (descriptive in its nature)? Good example: Modernist Journals Project (<http://www.modjournal.org/>).

II Women, periodicals, databases (15:00–18:00)

1. Presentation of a database *Knjiženstvo* (15:00–16:00)

A) Biljana Dojčinović/Jelena Milinković, Presentation of a database *Knjiženstvo* and the role of periodicals – general overview

B) Ana Kolarić, Presentation of the research on feminist/women's periodical press published in the journal *Knjiženstvo*

COFFEE BREAK (16:00–16:30)

2. Working group discussion: how to incorporate periodicals in a database *Knjiženstvo* (16:30–18:00)