**For Students in FR355:**

**Notes from a DH ‘unconference’** about Digital Humanities (esp. mapping) attended at the University of Victoria this past summer, shared by Prof. Serena Ferrando (Colby Department of French & Italian):

Unconference Speaker: **Randa El Khatib**

<https://aub-lb.academia.edu/RandaElKhatib>

<https://dhibeirut.wordpress.com/author/elkapelka-2/Basic>

**Main concepts**:

-geocoordinates (wikipedia provides them)

-geoparsing (manual or automatic): finding a location and the geocoordinates and bringing them together

-weight: the number of times a place name is mentioned

-CSV file (often need to follow a set of rules to be parsed by tool; columns can be visualized in different ways). This is the format you want when digitally mapping. You can always enrich your map with annotations, colors etc. To do this, you can add columns of information. After you have all the information, you need to find the right platform and tool to visualize what you have.

-layers (in colors)

-gazetteers (historical, modern, country-specific): they are extremely useful to find places (recent or ancient) on a map. A good gazetteer is <http://www.geonames.org/>

Another good one is getty tgn <http://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/tgn/>

Local gazetteers are also a great option/resource.

Research gazetteers in whatever language you work with.

**1.Topotext** --<https://github.com/rkhatib/topotext>

Import any amount of text you want (novels, too) and have the software create a word cloud or do a location-based search. It will create tables with all the information.

You can browse the map, you can see the weight of a word.

Go to location detector and export your CSV file (which is the best part): it can export the map or the table.

**2.Google Maps Engine** <https://www.google.com/maps>

Allows you to automatically parse 3 layers of 100 entries, which means you will not be able to see all of your information.

**3.Cartodb** <https://cartodb.com/>

Great visualizations. Allows you to do all that Google Maps lets you do and more.

You can visualize very complicated things.

You can do moving maps [GREAT]

They are constantly developing new features and improving the platform.

When you import your data into Cartodb, you can add a lot of information and attributes.

You can also add very basic lines of code to color features etc. (there is a lot of support on the Internet and there are cheat sheets online)

**4.Odyssey** <https://cartodb.github.io/odyssey.js/>

Also by the Cartodb people. You want to use this when you want to tell a story with a map.

Open access and open source.

Easy to use. The manual is online.

**5.Neatline** <http://www.neatline.org/>

More sophisticated than Odyssey, but with a steeper learning curve.

You cannot import your own data. Omeka wants you to make your own.

[Mark Wardecker (Academic ITS at Colby) must give you access to Omeka in order for you to use Neatline.]

**6.Map Warper** <http://mapwarper.net/>

To work with historical maps, you want to use this software so that your historical map can be georeferenced to a current (and more accurate) map.

**7.Open Street Maps** <https://www.openstreetmap.org/>

Basically, the new Google maps. Open source and crowd sourced (over 2 million people crowd source for it)

**8.Papermachines** <http://papermachines.org/>

A plug-in in Zotero. It takes your information and lets you visualize with via word clouds as well as maps. It lets you export your data.

**Other cloud-based mapping platforms**

**9.MapBox/Tilemill** (major issue: not web-based) <https://www.mapbox.com/>   <https://www.mapbox.com/tilemill/>

**10.BL Georeferencer** (British Library) <http://www.bl.uk/maps/>

**11.ArcGIS:** [**http://www.arcgis.com/features/index.html**](http://www.arcgis.com/features/index.html)

Mapping Without Limits...

**12.QGIS** (open access) <http://www.qgis.org/en/site/>

**12. Storymaps** <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/en/>

**13. Palladio** <http://palladio.designhumanities.org/>

**14. WorldMap** <http://worldmap.harvard.edu/>

They have their own mapwarper tool.

**15. Time Mapper** <http://timemapper.okfnlabs.org/>

**16. Openlayers** <http://openlayers.org/>

**18. Shiny Rstudio :** [**https://www.rstudio.com/products/shiny/**](https://www.rstudio.com/products/shiny/)

19. Also, David Rumsey Map Collection <http://www.davidrumsey.com/>

**For annotating texts**,

see also <http://www.lacunastories.com/> and <http://lit.genius.com/>

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By way of example, see access the website "Visualizing *Les Misérables*" at

<https://lesmiserables.commons.mla.org/>

The site includes a section on "Paris of *Les misérables*" with maps of sites and itineraries and a section on "characters" which includes a database of all characters and their encounters as well as character-graphs for the entire novel and for each of its five parts.