

## Investigating (with) Big Data



A ONE-DAY SYMPOSIUM  
CARDIFF UNIVERSITY  
Wednesday, 24 May 2017

*Keynote Speakers: Linda Naughton, JISC and Dawn Knight, Cardiff University*

Big Data has provided new ways of empirical research, theorizing, and interpreting a wide range of artefacts and processes in both the humanities and social sciences. Yet these new ways have also affected approaches to, and understandings of, research. The questions (and concerns) raised by scholars have consequences for the collection, interpretation, and use of Big Data. What are the theoretical, practical, and pedagogical problems of working with and critiquing Big Data, its collection, investigation and use? What can the social sciences and the humanities teach each other about Big Data and its analysis?

Sponsored by Cardiff University's Digital Humanities Network, this one-day symposium seeks to bring both humanities and social science perspectives to the field of Big Data to think about critical uses and useful critiques of 'datafication' in humanities and social sciences research. It explores Big Data-based research and investigations, questions surrounding the generation, use and interpretation of Big Data, and the risks and challenges of Big Data.

We welcome proposals for 20 minute papers that examine the theoretical, the practical, and the pedagogical dimensions of creating, using, and critiquing Big Data, including but not restricted to:

- New research objects for analysis such as digital music, film
- Constructing big data for research
- Text- and data-mining of historical and archival material
- Curation and preservation of big data
- Big data and archival practice
- Linked data and Big Data
- The myths of data-based objectivity and impartiality

- **Characteristics and gaps of data-based epistemologies**
- **Discrimination in data analysis**
- **Investigating algorithms**

The symposium will be held on 24 May 2017 at Cardiff University

Proposals for should include a brief two-page C.V. and a 300-word abstract of the proposed paper, and are due by 24 April 2017 and we will inform speakers by 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Submissions and all inquiries should be directed to Michael Goodman [GoodmanMJ@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:GoodmanMJ@cardiff.ac.uk)

For more information about Cardiff Digital Network, please see [cardiffdigitalnetwork.org](http://cardiffdigitalnetwork.org)

**Symposium organisers:** Arne Hintz, Anthony Mandal and Keir Waddington