

Development of a Digital Catalog
Featuring English Literature Graduation Papers
Hugo Armando Novoa Losada
Universidad Nacional de Colombia

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Director: Norma Isabel Ojeda

Author Note

Correspondence concerning this graduation paper should be addressed to Hugo Novoa,
Foreign Languages Department, National University of Colombia. Email: hanovoal@unal.edu.co

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Abstract

Although graduation papers used to be highly estimated in the University context, the absence of a policy for conservation has negatively influenced their accessibility. To increase their consideration as a key instrument, a digital catalog for English literature graduation papers worth spreading is proposed in this paper. The purpose is to transcend the traditional repository, and thus, drive the consumption of this content in and beyond the classroom by featuring it in an online platform. The selection includes fourteen graduation papers written after the English Literature Seminars of the Philology and Languages Program in Universidad Nacional de Colombia. An exploration into the experimentation field of digital humanities underlies this project to motivate the academic community to undertake similar strategies to display their educational and research efforts. The digital catalog uses WordPress, as it is a prevalent tool in the digital humanities community, and a minimum of plugins to extend the functionality of this Content Management System. A Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration is added to assist IT personnel and librarians in the implementation and administration of the catalog. These graduation papers should be considered pedagogical devices, so they may serve as guides for future papers, and academic devices that enable the possibility for further developments. In that sense, this digital catalog is intended to highlight scholarly production and lead into the consolidation of an Internet for academic purposes, that enriches and enhances scholarly experiences in the context of digital transformation.

KEYWORDS: Digital humanities, digital catalog, digital transformation, institutional repository, English literature seminar, graduation papers, open-source CMS

Resumen

Aunque los trabajos de grado eran más importantes en el contexto universitario, la ausencia de una política de conservación ha influido negativamente en su accesibilidad. Para aumentar su consideración como un instrumento clave, en este documento se propone un catálogo digital para los trabajos de grado de literatura inglesa que vale la pena difundir. El propósito es trascender el repositorio tradicional, y así, impulsar el consumo de este contenido dentro y fuera del aula exhibiéndolo en una plataforma en línea. La selección incluye catorce trabajos de grado escritos a partir de los Seminarios de Literatura Inglesa del Programa de Filología e Idiomas en la Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Una exploración del área de experimentación llamada humanidades digitales fundamenta este proyecto para motivar a la comunidad académica a emprender estrategias similares y mostrar sus esfuerzos educativos y de investigación. El catálogo digital utiliza WordPress, ya que es una herramienta habitual en la comunidad de las humanidades digitales, y un mínimo de plugins para ampliar la funcionalidad básica de este Sistema de Gestión de Contenidos. Se agrega una guía completa para la instalación, administración y migración para ayudar a los funcionarios de TI y a los bibliotecarios en la implementación y administración del catálogo. Estos trabajos de grado deben considerarse un dispositivo pedagógico, para servir como guía de futuros trabajos, y un dispositivo académico que permita la posibilidad de desarrollos posteriores. En ese sentido, este catálogo digital pretende destacar la producción académica y conducir a la consolidación de una Internet con fines académicos que enriquezca y potencie las experiencias académicas en el contexto de la transformación digital.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Humanidades digitales, catálogo digital, transformación digital, repositorio institucional, seminario en Literatura Inglesa, trabajos de grado, CMS de código abierto

Table of Contents

Supplementary materials.....	5
Introduction.....	6
Justification.....	8
Objectives.....	10
Main Objective.....	10
Specific Objectives.....	10
Delimitations.....	11
State of the Art.....	13
Foundations.....	17
The principles.....	18
Digital Humanities.....	19
Development and installation.....	21
Hosting.....	21
CMS.....	22
Restoration.....	27
About the Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration.....	28
Conclusions.....	29

References	31
Annex 1	33
List of featured graduation papers	33
Annex 2	34
List of recommended plug-ins	34

Supplementary materials:

Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration.

Digital Catalog Database.

Duplicator Package for migration or restoration -PHP installer and ZIP package.

Introduction

Digital humanities is an experimentation field that involves the development of new strategies to act upon scholarly dynamics. These strategies imply a humanistic approach towards the implementation of technologies that are accessible to digital natives. They could also be understood as quintessential to overcome the challenges that digital transformation bears. This humanistic approach means to consider digital natives as the dwellers of the digital transformation.

In this sense, a digital catalog was developed and will consequently be migrated, tested, and launched in the School of Human Sciences website to enrich the academic online resources that Universidad Nacional de Colombia has to offer. The main purpose is showcasing graduation papers from the English Literature Seminars, which are courses at the end of the Philology and Languages program offered by the School of Human Sciences. Furthermore, the digital catalog sets an initial examination of digital humanities as a field of exploration and research.

After analyzing the repository, the first fourteen graduation papers were chosen to be adapted to a web format. The selection criterion is excellence: these papers have contributed with innovative, creative, and original interpretation perspectives, and were duly argued and supported. They are models of exhaustive documentary research, guides for the elaboration of useful and applicable conceptual and theoretical frameworks to support argumentation, and drafting essays in literary criticism and interpretation of verbal art. They also allow the creation of further interpretative resources and new topics to elaborate follow-up papers.

The Foundations section states three principles that support a broad initiative regarding an Internet for academic purposes, and subsequently develops a brief presentation of digital humanities (Berry & Fagerjord, 2017). The development and installation section gives an extensive account of the steps taken to carry out the implementation of this digital catalog.

The supplementary materials include a “Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration” to walk through those who consider implementing and managing a similar development: an installation guide to understand the steps to build this online platform, from the hosting decisions, the CMS configuration, and the deployment of the content; a librarian’s guide to update the catalog and show its functionality; and a migration guide to implement the catalog in the University servers and restore the website if necessary. In addition to that, a database that contains the elements of the content is also available as an example, and a starting point for the digital librarians who take over the platform. Finally, the backup files to migrate or restore the CMS, the plugins, and the content are included.

WordPress, an open-source and free web-publishing tool, is used along with several plugins to increase and customize extended functionalities. This digital catalog was set up in a shared web hosting service; it is then to be migrated to the University Nacional de Colombia servers following the ICTs office directions to be part of the academic online resources that the Foreign Languages Department provides through their official website.

Justification

Discussing the variety of graduation papers directed as an outcome of the English Literature Seminars, it was not surprising to know that in more than a decade there have been several outstanding works. The lack of an online platform to facilitate the access of faculty and students to the academic production of the English Philology and Languages program graduating students was clear. The situation is that there is no official policy for the storage and diffusion of undergraduate papers, thus the idea of developing a catalog of Graduation Papers written after the English Literature Seminars came up. The point is that an easy access to those papers would simplify the understanding of the variety of approaches, topics, and authors, as well as promote accessibility, reach, and outreach of those papers in the academic community and beyond. This turned into an opportunity to put forth the knowledge and initiative acquired in designing online platforms: this one would be functional to search for, access, and promote those graduation papers in English Literature with the objective of increasing the awareness of the quality of academic production at the undergraduate level. That idea was novel and helpful considering that for those who decide on elaborating an academic paper as a graduation option, this is the way to expose the quality, fulfillment, and completion of their undergraduate education process. Therefore, a digital catalog from the perspective of digital humanities is justified.

Despite the fact that there is no official policy in the Universidad Nacional de Colombia for the conservation, publication, or promotion of these graduation papers, they are also a cornerstone that will possibly determine the birth of a researcher or a professor. The purpose is to give the academic community access to the graduation papers resulting from the pedagogical device implemented and the material considered in Associate Professor Norma Isabel Ojeda's

Seminars I and II in English Literature, one of the graduation options in the English Philology and Languages program.

Since an early age, technology has been a crucial and critical element in my personal development both in a professional and intellectual dimension. From basic preemptive maintenance of personal computers and laptops in my teens, to the implementation of communication strategies based upon technologies as the ones I am currently developing and implementing for the Institute of Biotechnology (IBUN), there has been a conscious and constant growth regarding how technology empowers people and how it may help humankind gain awareness of their potential. This is what the digital transformation is about. It is not about just apps, social media, gadgets, or software. It is the innovative implementation of information and communication technologies in contexts such as culture and knowledge. The 4th Industrial revolution is also about having the possibility to develop new ways of interacting with academic production. Therefore, developing an online platform for the classification, review, distribution of, and interaction with academic undergraduate degree papers in English Literature has its relevance in today's world. I want to offer the possibility to access these papers in an innovative and motivating online platform, initially to fellow students in the English Philology and Languages program in Universidad Nacional, as an inspiration and an example of how graduation papers could be done at an undergraduate level. As well, a broader discussion is intended with the academic community and beyond, in terms of accessibility and use of ICTs as a means to increase the outreach of academic development and the possibilities of digital humanities in our context.

Objectives

Main Objective

To present the foundations, and the creation, development, and implementation of a digital catalog featuring graduation papers written after the English Literature Seminars for the English Philology and Languages Program in the School of Human Sciences at Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

Specific Objectives

To establish the principles and the technical foundations of a digital catalog for academic purposes;

To elaborate the documentation for the implementation of the digital catalog, that includes an installation guide, a librarian's guide, and a migration guide;

To launch a digital catalog featuring the graduation papers selected;

To support the migration of the digital catalog into the School of Human Sciences website and verify it is in working order.

To instruct the Foreign Languages Department librarians to take over the administration of the digital catalog.

Delimitations

This paper considers graduation papers at the undergraduate level, resulting from Seminars I and II in English Literature, one of the graduation options in the Philology and Languages program that the School of Human Sciences offers on behalf of Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Although the promotion of graduation papers at all levels is imperative, this project only focuses on the undergraduate level. They are an important but underestimated source of knowledge, example, and culture. They can also be considered evidence of excellence, and a reflection of the education that is offered by the Foreign Languages Department. Accordingly, this project focuses on graduation papers by English Philology and Languages students, specifically those related to English Literature.

No software development was used. Basic skills of HTML and CSS are required to fine-tune the catalog. Intermediate skills of JS and PHP may be necessary for further functionalities. Open-source repositories were not considered to show that intermediate Internet literacy is enough to develop a digital catalog based on a CMS. The fact that WordPress is not yet the most commonly CMS used at Universidad Nacional de Colombia implies technical barriers that this project will not address, mainly the installation of a template developed for another CMS to display institutional branding.

The main purpose of this project is to facilitate access to academic production. For this reason, the general catalog will be public, including a reference to every paper and every author, in the form of independent but linked posts, but the full repository will only be available to those with explicit authorization. An open-source content management system and the free versions of high-quality plug-ins are used in consideration of budget and simplicity. The technical requirements for the implementation of this project were defined in agreement with the director

of the present work, Professor Norma Isabel Ojeda, and the School of Human Sciences ICTs office.

Classical open-source repositories were not considered for they are focused on storage more than distribution, and they require technical skills beyond the scope of this project. While there is the chance to further the development by integrating such a system with repository functionalities, the important point to consider is to evidence that technical barriers are overestimated to develop an exploration into the digital humanities. Online repositories and other projects involving ICTs and other digital technologies as the fundamental channels for distribution could be carried out without a dependency on IT experts, but they will surely be engaged if their expertise is integrated in a multidisciplinary effort.

State of the Art

Just before finishing the 20th century of the Common Era, a publishing and academic attempt was made with fellow students of the Philology and Languages program. Under the name *Signatum* (Colombia, 1997) a collection of some of the best examples of academic production written by active students was included in a booklet that was cheaper to buy than to photocopy. The spirit of the journal considered relevance, quality, and accessibility as the main pillars. This graduation paper -up to some extent- is the materialization of those substantial foundations.

The Colombian Universities Javeriana (“Recepción tesis y trabajos de grado | Pontificia Universidad Javeriana,” 2019), Distrital (“Repositorio Institucional Universidad Distrital - RIUD: Home,” 2019), and Antioquia (“Repositorio Institucional UdeA | Universidad de Antioquia,” 2019) have digital repositories that include undergraduate graduation papers in a platform that also includes M.Sc. and Ph.D. theses. Their systems are similar to the existing repository for M.Sc. and Ph.D. works in Universidad Nacional. Despite the fact that categories and search tools help the user get to the content, there are no visuals to aid navigation, and there are no alternative ways to show the content. Traditional digital repositories focus on data storage and indexing; hence, the importance of new approaches focused on user behavior and information seeking behavior.

In Universidad Nacional, graduation papers at a graduate level (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) can be found in the Biblioteca Central Gabriel García Márquez. Currently, there is no policy relevant to undergraduate level papers, letting each School or Department decide on the issue. The Foreign Languages Department (Unimedios, n.d.) has made an offline database available with access to a web storage service in an isolated computer for the purpose in the Self-Access Center, for internal use only. The database can be requested of the librarians by e-mail. This initiative has

evolved over time, due to the effort of the librarians at the Center following guidelines from the Department Director and the Philology programs Coordinator. What is proposed in the present paper is also a natural evolution of that effort.

Graduation papers in Universidad Nacional were a highly estimated academic requirement, beyond the fulfillment of the academic program. They were conserved and cataloged without exception until a change in University policies during the first decade of the 21st Century. According to new guidelines, graduation papers at the undergraduate level were not required to be handed in to the Sinab. Sinab, as the Universidad Nacional library system, no longer received those graduation papers when a new curriculum was official in 2009.

As of that moment, graduation papers from the Philology and Languages programs were conserved, but initially not cataloged. Currently, two copies of the final graduation paper are delivered by the author. One CD is kept by the professor, while the other is delivered to the Philology Programs Coordination Office. Students frequently visit the Coordination Office asking for a particular paper, but the office could not do more than hand them a bundle of CDs. When it was evident that access to graduation papers was continuously demanded, the Director of the Department and the Coordinator of the Program agreed to figure out a way to facilitate access to the undergraduate production. Therefore, they instructed the librarians to design a catalog to organize the material.

The first step was to move the boxes in batches to the library. The CDs were then transferred and organized by year of graduation. A computer was set aside for this project and it is currently the only access point to the existing graduation papers. From those CDs, the PDFs - and the extra materials included by the author- were uploaded in a folder. A database was designed and fed offering the users the most relevant categories to find a paper. Up until now,

the spreadsheet includes an overview of the content and allows access to the whole database where the user may filter results. The access is restricted to users with credentials on the Universidad Nacional servers. If a visitor is not logged in with a unal.edu.co account, the links cannot be followed.

Graduation papers in other universities are included in the general repository all together with no distinction. Doctoral, Master and undergraduate papers are available for public browsing, and as in Universidad Nacional, they can only be accessed by the particular academic community.

Undergraduate programs in Universidad Nacional currently make independent efforts to protect, organize, and grant access to those graduation papers no longer received by Sinab. As stated above, the Foreign Languages Department has conducted a continuously developing strategy updating a database to offer access to all the graduation papers in electronic format. The consumption of academic content has evolved as digital consumption increases in all platforms. Users increasingly demand the production of online content for web and mobile. The current situation in the Foreign Languages Department is introduced to set the context of the proposal included in this paper. Their long-lasting initiative leads to this selection of graduation papers from the English Literature Seminar, and their adaption for digital promotion and distribution in an online catalog.

It has been not so long since the collection, the library, and the librarian were considered as one. There was an intrinsic bond among them based on the characteristics of the service. For example, a student used to go to the place and ask the librarian for specific material in the collection. Although self-access is commonly allowed, the relationship between the collection

and the librarian was very deep. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) has unavoidably transformed this concept (Sennyey, Ross, & Mills, 2009).

First, the collection is no longer limited by physical space. That means, storage is not a concern in the same terms as before. It is now measured in digital terms. The whole collection could be stored in a regular storage device. Besides this, the library may include a digital library in terms of allowing access to content through metadata, or a digital repository where digital items are kept and organized. Second, the library may consider offering internet access through computers in the place. But the point here is that the availability of the collection is not limited to open hours. Third, the librarian's role is evolving in this context. Classifying, organizing, and serving as a reference librarian should be considered now beyond the traditional one-to-one relationship.

While currently there is an offline repository enhanced with a Google Drive folder, in addition to the physical collection, this project intends for the current system to evolve into a digital catalog built upon a WordPress adaptation of a repository. Once the digital catalog is fed with a significant collection of graduation papers, a natural step would be to include a digital library service that connects through metadata to other collections.

Foundations

The technical and ideological foundations included here expose the procedures and reasoning behind the main decisions and considerations that were taken into account throughout the process conceptualizing and of developing a set of working principles, a functional prototype, and the corresponding guide for a digital catalog featuring English literature graduation papers. There are plenty of high-quality graduation papers that not only have the merit of their quality to be propagated across the University community and beyond, but that also serve as fine examples of what is expected of a graduation paper in English Literature.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) help spread knowledge and culture, and this project is evidence of these possibilities at the dawn of the Digital Transformation and the 4th Industrial Revolution (Svensson, 2016). The main objective is to inspire online platforms with academic purposes projects under the same spirit and characteristics. With this in mind, a broad discussion regarding the principles that inspire this project, the conditions of the environment defined for testing and development, the way the publishing software was set up, as well as the content adaptation and enrichment are presented to set a common ground for discussion and to motivate more initiatives that involve the creation of enriched web experiences built upon online academic platforms.

Information and communication technologies are applied in a context of interest and that deserves to increase its outreach, as is the undergraduate academic production related to English literature. Academic online platforms can be developed using widespread and relatively free tools. Besides, conservation in the digital era means different challenges: there is no limit to storage, and at the break of the Digital Transformation Era scholarly production must be integrated using new technologies and approaches implementing ICTs (Terras, 2016).

The Digital Transformation the world is undergoing demands new ways of relating to the production of knowledge. These papers deserve to be online as examples of quality graduation papers, considering also, that the current generations have a different way of relating to knowledge in general, and to content in particular (Thorell, Fridorff-Jens, Lassen, Lange, & Kayser, 2015). Efforts to propagate academic production are to consider this reality.

The strategies to make academic content not only accessible, but also motivating and engaging must consider novelty, mobility, and usability. Novelty is important to surprise current generations, trying diverse ways of connecting with these new audiences, by developing new types of content, while engaging in the new trends of communication. Mobility is relevant because access should be granted on different platforms and technologies, in particular, handheld devices. Tablets and cell phones will be increasingly common. Usability is key, because this undergraduate production should be at the forefront, and not kept waiting behind a search box.

The principles

Three principles inspire this initiative: openness, inclusiveness, and action. The first principle, openness, refers to the intention of initiating a dialog at all levels and domains, in the first place; and second, to promote reuse and maximize impact of academic production. An Internet for academic purposes implies a broad discussion to increase the reach and outreach of academic content. The best way to validate and scale this project is to understand the current needs of the interested parties, so ideas and needs can be synchronized. This paper, the guide, and the digital catalog itself must be free to build upon.

The second one, inclusiveness, refers to the necessity of involving different disciplines and empowering professionals, the faculty, and students in the use of ICTs. The contemporary scope of digital humanities implies a multi and interdisciplinary approach. It is the point of

convergence where the applicability of ICTs and other digital technologies transcend the way culture, arts, and science are communicated (Burdick, Drucker, Lunenfeld, Presner, & Schnapp, n.d.).

And the last one, action, is an invitation to explore the challenge. This paper, the guide and the digital catalog is just the tipping point of what is about to come. The proposal is to go beyond open-source online repositories. A starting point is to implement communication strategies based on tools that do not require the most advanced skills. Content management systems, such as WordPress, should be soon considered as an entry mechanism to Internet literacy and digital scholarship, and not an obstacle to those engaged in the adaptation of current scholar practices to their evolution involved in the digital transformation.

Digital Humanities

Digital humanities question the distance or -hopefully- the proximity between traditional Institutional Repositories, the needs of the academic community to access scholarly production, and the digital transformation. This project engages a relatively new experimentation field which intersects the current digital transformation and the more traditional questions and approaches of humanities.

A potential description of Digital Humanities stands somewhere in the classical definition of philology: love of learning; and the implementation of ITCs processes, procedures, and methodologies to address the more traditional questions of the humanities (“Intro to digital humanities. Imported from http://dh101.humanities.ucla.edu/?page_id=13,” n.d.).

Facing the challenges of digital transformation in the academic context with a humanistic approach implies the consideration that the current ways of conservation are antiquated, and they may as well not seem suitable for digital learners.

More particularly, this collection assembled as a digital catalog probably provides the best models of graduation papers in English literature using a convergence of well-known technologies, such as a CMS in a public web server, the implementation of plugins to enhance the experience, and the deployment of academic content in a digitized environment.

Digitization of texts and the use of qualitative tools to address the traditional questions of the humanities are some of the most clear examples of the evolution from humanities computing to digital humanities, but today there is a lot left to be done with more accessible tools that at least allow access to and diffusion of academic content.

Digital humanities encompasses the evolution of humanities computing into a greater field of research and experimentation; it implies a broader understanding of context and user engagement. A digital catalog fits into the latter in the sense that diffusion of scholarly production means taking into consideration that undergraduate students belong to a digital native generation. Their relationship to technologies regarding information and communication is natural, so the enhancement of the current repository of graduation papers into a digital catalog is an example of the application of digital humanities.

Development and installation

Graduation Papers written after the Seminars I and II in English Literature can be browsed in this Digital Catalog. The authors are graduating students in the English Philology and Languages program in Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

The front page includes a word cloud highlighting the keywords in every paper and a live search engine that extends the functionality of the default system. This engine shows results while typing. Below, there is a responsive grid with search tabs showing the featured images of the two types of content: “author” and “paper” posts. You can choose to show only the authors, only the papers, or even the papers of a specific year.

The purpose of author posts is enriching the experience by adding extra content delivered by the author; they additionally include the full list of references. Paper posts are composed of three sequential pages. The first presents a featured image, the title, the year of graduation, the keywords, and the abstract; the second page shows the complete introduction; and the third one displays an embedded PDF file of the full text, the option to read the text online or print it, and a contact form.

Author posts, as well as paper posts, have a landing page where they are listed. This is an alternative way to browse the content. Finally, the lists of the posts are presented in a more classical manner in the authors page and the graduation papers page.

Hosting

A key technical issue to consider when developing an online project is the hosting service that will allow the visitors to access and enjoy the experience. Since the University has deployed a formidable infrastructure, it is worth considering that efforts in developing academic online experiences should cleverly use the resources and actively gather evidence of responsibility,

professionalism, and expertise to enable a more efficient relationship with technical personnel. Developing a site outside the University servers is not the recommended approach, according to the University current policies regarding web development. Considering the fact that the University does not have yet any hosting services for this type of projects a reasonable approach was used; for this case a shared web hosting service was used during the tests prior to the final launching on the University servers. Therefore, the testing phase and initial development of this project were performed in a paid hosting service that offered the minimum requirements.

The resources needed to implement a website like this one are basic, so it is easy to find a cheap but confident hosting service that allows the chosen CMS to work properly. Bandwidth and storage requirements are minimal to consider.

BlueHost is a web hosting service that meets the basic requirements for the installation of the latest WordPress: PHP version 7.3 or greater; MySQL version 5.6 or greater OR MariaDB version 10.0 or greater; HTTPS support. Furthermore, this service offers 1-click WordPress installs, which means that no specialized knowledge is needed to perform this step.

A subdomain was created under the main domain to have an independent WordPress installation in it. The development of the test site was performed using resources provided by the author of the present paper. The digital catalog than can be accessed at:

<https://english.graduationpapers.online/>

CMS

This project is not software development or website design. It is focused on the appropriation of an open source publishing system, and the application of consistent procedures to achieve a web experience that enhances the academic processes.

The first key consideration is the implementation of the publishing tool used in this project. The tool must provide flexibility, security, accessibility, and a gentle learning curve. Although several systems offer most of the crucial characteristics, WordPress is chosen, as it is the most popular today -at least thirty-three percent of the web uses this CMS-, by the developer and supporter community, and more importantly, it is currently considered “a tool that is prevalent, canonical, or has "buzz" in the digital humanities community” (“[dhresourcesforprojectbuilding \[licensed for non-commercial use only\]](#) / Digital Humanities Tools,” n.d.).

The installation of a Content Management System (CMS) such as WordPress depends highly on the administration tools that the hosting services have available for web development. For the testing environment, a BlueHost account was created and a basic plan chosen. One of the reasons this hosting service was used is that it allows 1-click WordPress installs. Anyhow, being WordPress the most popular web publishing tool in the market today, every hosting service should have at least a tutorial to perform this step.

WordPress is an open-source content management system. The code is available to be downloaded for free, and it can be easily implemented in a web hosting service after a few clicks. Thousands of templates -called themes- are offered in the WordPress community repository, as well as thousands of plugins that extend the theme functionality.

Site Theme

“Twenty nineteen” is the parent theme for this project for a few reasons. First of all, it is free. Second, it is an official WordPress theme, developed by WordPress itself. Third, it is a widely used theme, with more than a million installations.

The first reason is important because there is no need to use a professional theme for this project. Although paid themes have more functionalities (and support), this theme offers the essential features needed to get started. Additional functionality will be provided by a careful selection of plug-ins. The second reason has to do with support and documentation. Being this an official WordPress theme, it is guaranteed that it was fully tested before launching, so the support and documentation that is available is quite appropriate. Finally, the third reason goes beyond just the number of installations. It has to do more with the interaction among the users. There is an official forum where thousands of questions and issues have been discussed. Besides this, there are plenty of blog posts and discussions with supporters and developers interacting around them that enrich the official support and documentation provided.

So, these three reasons: cost, developers, and popularity, may provide a solid ground to build upon the following layers of development: content adaptation, sitemap, and plug-ins for basic and extended functionality.

A child-theme is a copy of the original theme installed in WordPress. The purpose of using a child-theme is that in the case of an update of the theme, there is a chance for all the customization to be lost. One of the suggested plugins offers this functionality as it explained in section 2.2 of the guide.

Plugins: installation and activation

The plugins that were installed in this website give extended functionalities to WordPress. Plugins are directly downloaded to the hosting service web servers from the official WordPress plugin repository.

Child Theme Configurator plugin

Additional site modifications without modifying parent theme are available with this plugin. Specifically, it performs theme analysis, child theme creation, and additional CSS customization.

WP Ultimate Post Grid plugin

Responsive grid for posts. This is open source software. An isotope filter aids navigation. The content adapts to any device seamlessly. The shortcodes generated by this plugin are used in the front page to visualize the author and the paper posts in a dynamic distribution. The visitor can select either author posts or paper posts, and the grid will only show that category. Moreover, the other categories corresponding to the year of graduation are also available to navigate the content.

Ajax Search Lite plugin

This a responsive live search engine that transcends the default search function. It is highly compatible and responsive. Search is performed in pages and posts, as well as in permalinks, categories, and tags.

Post Grid plugin

Displays posts anywhere on the site. Used to create lists using a simple short code. The shortcodes generated by this plugin are used in the “Graduation papers” page and the “Authors” page.

PDF Embedder plugin

Uploaded PDFs can be embedded anywhere on the site, and they will automatically adjust to their natural size. This service uses JavaScript, so no third-parties or *iframes* are necessary. This plugin is used in the paper post to allow access to the full text.

WPForms plugin

Contact form creation plugin. It is a simple drag and drop form builder. More than one million downloads and an average score of 5 stars validate the use of this plugin. This is the Lite version of a commercial plugin.

Sitemap and Navigation

A sitemap is the structure of pages in a web site. The pages created for this catalog are as follows: Authors” page, “Blog” page (Posts Page), “Contact form” page, “Graduation Papers” page, “Graduation Papers – Digital Catalog” page (Front Page).

A main menu was created for essential navigation. The elements are as follows: Graduation Papers – Digital Catalog” page, “Graduation Papers” page, and “Authors” page. This is the primary navigation of the website. It appears at the top of every page.

Additional Setup

Permalinks are the web address to access the content. Its intention is to have a permanent link to pages and posts, as the name suggest. This option was set to “post name” to clearly differentiate author and paper posts.

A static page is selected to make the CMS work not as a blog that shows entries, but a more traditional website with a home page.

All the footer widgets that are included in the original theme are deleted in the child theme. The foot will be populated with elements of the institutional template.

A few lines of code are added to make the content go full width. The original parent theme has a margin set to allow widgets in the right column.

Restoration

Migration and backup utilities are key in case it is necessary to move the website to a different webserver or to restore it if there is some problem with the integrity of the files.

Duplicator plugin

This plugin is a migration and backup utility. It is commonly used by the WordPress community for the zero downtime migrations it guarantees. More than one million active installations validate this procedure. The package and the installer needed to migrate the digital catalog is added.

UpdraftPlus plugin

This plugin is a backup and restoration utility. This is an alternative to the Duplicator plugin.

About the Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration.

This Digital Catalog should be updated at least once every semester. This is why the administration must be in the hands of the library keepers. This guide is intended to help them perform the necessary steps easily and confidently to add an Author post, a Paper post, how to edit them in case a change is requested, and how to delete a post if needed.

The content structure is supported in two types of posts: author posts, that introduce the author of the graduation paper and enrich the experience by offering additional content; and paper posts, that include each full paper and alternate ways to approach to the content. Paper posts are divided into three pages. The first one shows the title, author name, year of graduation, abstract, and keywords. The second extends the experience by including the introduction. The third offers the possibility of reading the paper in an embedded PDF of the full text, printing the document, or downloading it.

Chapter 1 of the Complete Guide for Installation, Management, & Migration explains the reasoning behind the hosting services used in the development stages of this digital catalog. Chapter 2 presents the initial setup and further configurations of the content management system. Chapter 3 is exclusively dedicated to detail the step by step procedure for librarians to take over the administration of the digital catalog. Chapter 4 develops the process for migration, backup, and eventual restoration.

It is necessary to be logged in with the institutional account to add or modify the content of the digital catalog.

Conclusions

Graduation papers from the undergraduate level must be considered a key academic and pedagogical device. They can be held as evidence and as an example to follow. These papers, standing alone or significant sections of upcoming papers such as the “State of the Art” or the “Theoretical and Conceptual Framework”, or the criticism and interpretation essays, could be used to socialize in Literature courses or seminars as interpretation perspectives and study material.

A digital catalog provides the possibility to engage with fellow students, professors, researchers, and even beyond with society, accordingly to the current development of the digital transformation and as an example of the possibilities of Digital Humanities. Developing scholarly digital experiences imply that Internet literacy must include the knowledge and experience in content management systems.

A communication strategy should be developed to socialize the spirit and results of this project with the intention of receiving feedback to improve and further develop the platform. Furthermore, I offer to keep the digital catalog in running order until January 2020, to upgrade the WordPress platform and the installed plugins to the latest version, and to upload the papers done in 2019. From then on, it is up to the Department of Foreign Language to make the decisions to guarantee the maintenance, management, and further development of the digital catalog.

The technical characteristics of this project do not require too advanced skills, motivating others to propose and implement projects with the same purpose. To this aim a series of workshops covering the tools needed to develop this digital catalog could be planned to promote autonomous projects by professors and students.

Working in consonance with the librarians and the ICTs officers, hopefully involving more teachers and students, is the cornerstone for the successful deployment and implementation of strategies that motivate the creation of meaningful digital experiences.

Detailed documentation and open access provide the academic community to get involved in the digital humanities without the presumption of considering this field of research and exploration inaccessible or distant. On the contrary, it is an invitation to start considering a future Institute of Digital Humanities, and meanwhile activating these emerging methodologies and intentions as part of a laboratory that intersects the effort of the Departments of Psychology, History, Literature, Linguistics, and Foreign Languages -but not excluding the other departments in the School of Human Sciences, and beyond-; the laboratories ascribed to those departments; and the research groups that consider this an opportunity to engage and face the challenges of the Digital Transformation.

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Annex 1**List of featured graduation papers**

Title of Graduation Paper	Graduation Paper Author
Mi Cuarto Propio: una Etnografía	Laura Madelaine Suarez Arenas
Neil Gaiman's Coraline: A Portrait of the Mythical Heroine of a Current Family	Lina M. Parra Ante
The Hidden Meaning of The Snows of Kilimanjaro	María Camila Jaimes Barrera
Jonathan Swift's A Modest Proposal and Antonio Ungar's Kamandil Viarko: An Interpretation of Cannibalism	Paula Silvana Granados Roa
The absurdity of the waiting in Waiting for Godot	Edison Blanco Reyes
Interpreting Chuck Palahniuk's novel, Fight Club, as a Depiction of Jung's Process of Individuation through the Use of Archetypes	Oscar Nicolás Reyes Roa
The Tragic Vision and Poetic Patterns in Othello	César Andrés Martínez Pinzón
Jack Kerouac's October in the Railroad Earth: Writing and Music in a Jam Session	César Alirio González Blanco
The Apollonian and Dionysian Voices in The Picture of Dorian Gray	Juan David Escobar Chacón
Charles Bukowski and Efraím Medina: Two portrayals of Transgression in Postmodern Literature	Sergio Alejandro Garzón Torres
Imágenes de Época en los Retratos Tempranos de Gertrude Stein	Claudia Patricia Vinueza Riveros
A Broken Lyre: History, Violence and Art in Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian	Felipe González Serna
Carnivalization in Langston Hughes' "Ask your Mama: Twelve Moods for Jazz"	Felipe Cifuentes Velásquez
The Aesthetics of the Constant Mutability of Verbal Creation in Virginia Woolf's The Waves	Laura Catalina Arias Barragán

Annex 2

List of recommended plug-ins

Plugin	Version	Description
Child Theme Configurator	Version 2.5.0	Child-theme configuration
WP Ultimate Post Grid	Version 2.8.2	Posts view in front page
Ajax Search Lite	Version 4.7.26	Live search engine
The Post Grid plugin	Version 2.2.73	Post view in pages
PDF Embedder	Version 4.3	PDF embeds
WPForms Lite	Version 1.5.3.1	Forms
Duplicator	Version 1.3.18	Migration and backup
Updraftplus	Version 1.16.15	Backup and restoration

Web links:

Child Theme Configurator: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/child-theme-configurator/>)

WP Ultimate Post Grid: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/wp-ultimate-post-grid/>)

Ajax Search Lite: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/ajax-search-lite/>)

The Post Grid: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/the-post-grid/>)

PDF Embedder: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/pdf-embedder/>)

WPForms Lite: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/wpforms-lite/>)

Duplicator: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/duplicator/>)

UpdraftPlus: (<https://wordpress.org/plugins/updraftplus/>)