



Visualizing the Virus

Visualizing the Virus, a digital humanities project, is currently seeking Research Curators

(sponsored by the Princeton History of Science Program and the Princeton Center for Digital Humanities)

About

The international digital project, Visualizing the Virus, is an interactive platform through which audiences can visualize and understand the Corona virus pandemic from a variety of perspectives. It aims to highlight the inequalities the pandemic has made visible. Gaps between the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences are hard to bridge. This means that pandemics are often studied without considering their many interconnected histories. Visualizing the Virus connects insights from different disciplines to create a collective digital space for exactly such a convergence.

The digital architecture of the platform invites the visitor to navigate clusters of connection, exploring links between quotidian lived experience, pathologies, the natural sciences and socio-cultural critique. It provides not just a dynamic archive but spaces for reflection on the scale of the crisis and current global infrastructural inequalities. Visualizing the Virus is particularly committed to making visible stories and connections that are not otherwise so visible.

Why should you apply?

It will reach a broad audience of scholars, students, activists, general readers and thinkers. The project is supported by DARIAH-EU; the Institute for Experimental Design and Media, FHNW, Basel; and Princeton University.

It is an excellent opportunity for early career scholars in different fields to a) work closely on a digital humanities project and develop skills in qualitative interdisciplinary research, commissioning public scholarship, and curating research b) work collaboratively with an international team of senior and junior scholars across the arts, humanities, and social and natural sciences c) develop skills for making academic research accessible to a wider audience, and d) gain experience working in multimedia formats across text, audio and video, which is increasingly important for research communication. Visualizing the Virus is actively pursuing international collaborations with universities, museums and other institutions. Where there is mutual interest, there will be opportunities for research curators to get involved in voluntary and paid activities stemming from the project, including exhibitions, workshops and publications.



Research Curators will:

- a) Propose and curate themed sections of the platform (“clusters”). This includes: generating entries (images, audio, video, text, tags, annotations, narrative, etc.); soliciting and coordinating cluster contributions from other scholars; and writing short introductions and commentaries to link entries and clusters.
- b) Participate in monthly meetings with the Project Lead and other Research Curators.
- c) Become familiar with the Ivy Plus Global Social Responses to Covid-19 Web Archive as a database of primary sources that they will use themselves or invite scholars, activists and thinkers to reflect upon.

Research Curators will receive guidance from the Project Lead, as well as from Princeton faculty affiliated with the project. Support for using the web archive will be provided by the Program’s Web Resources Collection Librarian and curators of the web archive to make full use of the digital archives with which the Research Curators will be working.

Requirements:

- A strong interest in interdisciplinary approaches to art, science and society
- Strong writing/editorial skills
- Read, write and speak English fluently; additional research languages is a plus
- Be willing to participate in video calls
- Communicate regularly with PI and project manager
- Communicate regularly with team members
- No technical experience needed, but must have a working computer (with camera) and Internet access
- Willing to download and use computer apps such as Trello.

Deliverables from the Research Curators:

- At least **one original contribution** in the form of short texts (500–800 words), or of a photo or video essay, recorded conversation or interview, or other experimental formats. The original contribution may also be in the form of an essay that uses text analysis or data visualization to allow us to understand the web archive in a way that we would not otherwise be able to.
- Capacity to **solicit a minimum of 10 general contributions** from other scholars to write or speak (will be uploaded as a recording) about a relevant topic.
- Fellows may also choose to **bring together 1 cluster** (themed section) with some of the solicited contributions and their own, along with an introduction to the section. They may also bring together pre-existing contributions on the Visualizing the Virus website to broaden the cluster. While this is an optional deliverable, it is a desirable one for early-career scholars, who will receive credit on the webpage for their cluster.

Working Hours & Compensation:

Research Curators will join the team for **6 months** and be paid **\$1500** for the whole duration. The expected number of hours of work will be about **3–5 hours per week**. Payments will be made via SAFE.

How to Apply:

Email the following to: team@visualizingthevirus.com and chatterjee.sria@fhnw.ch

Subject Line: Research Curator Application

A statement of interest setting out relevant experience and interests (500 words)

- A CV (max 2 pages) which can include links to examples of your own contributions to 'non-traditional' academic platforms made over the past 1–2 years.

If you have any questions about the post, you can contact: chatterjee.sria@fhnw.ch

Send us your applications by July 28th, 2021.

You will hear back from us by August 5th, 2021.

The position will **start on August 30th, 2021.**