

Learning Voyant:

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Prepared by Geoffrey Rockwell for IIT Delhi [Digital Humanities Winter School 2025](#).

This document is a Table of Contents for the week-long Learning [Voyant](#) workshop held at IIT Delhi in 2025. These outlines accompany a live instructor. They are not meant to be used alone. The individual workshops will normally run about 90 minutes. This Table of Contents for the week-long workshop is online at:

bit.ly/IIT-Delhi-DH2025

[Voyant Tools](#) is part of a larger project with the book [Hermeneutica](#) (MIT Press, 2016).

Day 1: [*Introduction to Text Analysis*](#)

The first workshop will introduce you to Voyant. You will learn how to use individual tool panels and then how to use the default skin of multiple panels.

Here is an outline of what will be covered:

- Brief introduction to the Voyant project and what will happen in this workshop
 - I show then you play and ask questions
 - Develop a small project
- Looking at the Cirrus word cloud in Voyant
- Using the default environment (View) of tools
- Uploading a text
- Getting help

The [Dialogica Walkthrough 1: E-Texts and Analysis](#) is here

Day 2: [*Exploring a Text with Text-Mining Tools*](#)

The second workshop will show you how to use some of the text mining (or bag-of-words) tools in Voyant to explore texts.

Here is an outline of what will be covered:

- Exploratory Analysis and Testing
- Topic Modelling in Voyant
- The ScatterPlot View
 - Principal Component Analysis
 - Correspondence Analysis

[Dialogica Walkthrough 5: Exploring a Text](#)

Day 3: *Importing and Exporting*

The third workshop will cover how to import collections of texts either as a collection or in a spreadsheet or XML file. You will then look at how to export results.

Here is an outline of what will be covered:

- Importing a set of texts
- Exporting a visualization for a paper
- Managing collections of texts
- Using a spreadsheet to manage a collection
- Importing texts from a spreadsheet
- Using XML

[Dialogical Walkthrough 3: Sharing Results](#)

[Dialogica Walkthrough 4: Corpora with Spreadsheets and XML](#)

Day 4: *Salient Words*

In the fourth workshop you will look at different ways you can identify salient words that can help you interpret a text.

Here is an outline of what will be covered:

- Different types of word statistics
- Stopwords and white words
- Following a word through a text
- Using Categories

[Dialogica Walkthrough 7: Salient Words](#)

Day 5: *Visualization*

In the fifth workshop you will look at different visualization tools and we will discuss how visualizations can inform or mislead.

Here is an outline of what will be covered:

- Looking at different display options in the Trends tool.
- What is a visualization? Thinking about visualization.
- Types of visualizations. Trying different Voyant visualizations.

[Dialogica Walkthrough 8: Visualization](#)

Day 6: Your Projects

On the final day you will get a chance to present your projects. Be prepared to give a brief presentation (of about 5 minutes). Some things to think about:

- What text or collection are you studying? Why?
- What questions do you want to ask of it? How can text analysis help?
- Any interesting results? Can you test them with some other practice/tool?

What other features would you like to learn?

Discussion Questions:

- What infrastructure do you need to do DH research and teaching? Does your university offer it? Is it available to graduate students?
- What sorts of spaces are needed to encourage DH collaboration?
- What activities should academic associations offer?
- What sorts of further training would you like?
- How can you communicate with your peers across the country?
- If you were to write a Manifesto for Indian DH what would be in it?
- How could a journal support the community? What types of interventions would be useful in a journal? (code reviews, dataset reviews, project announcements, project reviews, publications in Indian languages, calls for collaboration ...)

Join the [Voyant Consortium](#)!

About this document

This workshop outline was created by Geoffrey Rockwell. Feel free to copy, adapt, and remix it to suit your teaching.

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