

IS1404 E-READ: Evolution of Reading in the Age of Digitization

Position paper

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WG(s): WG3 Experiential and Emotional Aspects of Reading

1. **Potential research contribution** in light of, or linked to

A. WG interest and Scientific programme:

My research background is in the humanities, especially modern French literature, art history (B.A. at University of Heidelberg) and cross-border communication and cooperation (trinational M.A. at Saarland University, University of Lorraine and University of Luxembourg). For the three following years, I am pursuing a PhD on contemporary reading practices and online reviews of fiction works at the University of Maine (Le Mans, France) and the Saarland University (Saarbrücken) under the direction of Prof Brigitte Ouvry-Vial and Prof Hans-Jürgen Lüsebrink.

My recent research interest focuses on reading practices (the whys ? and hows ?) of fiction work in the digital age and especially on the sociality and interactivity of reading in the digital context. My research takes an interdisciplinary approach (book history, sociology, reception theory, information and media studies, technology) to aim at the intersection of object (paper books / digital books), content and recommendation / prescription. By doing so, I am looking for to learn about contemporary reading practices, reading strategies and digital forms of online prescription, recommendation and interaction between publishers, authors and readers and to see if the current digital reading revolution is either an evolution of or a rupture with historical reading practices. Furthermore my research is conducted with a special interest on cross-cultural differences, especially the french-german reception of the same books.

In constructing and testing an interdisciplinary, qualitative method to analyze online comments in different social networks and websites, I am expecting to make a small contribution to actual considerations and further research.

Moreover, as I am preparing my thesis under the direction of Prof Brigitte Ouvry-Vial, I am currently participating in her research action aiming at delivering an European Reading Experience Database (focus on the 18th -21st century) which will be a multilingual, participative, open access website to gather material of any form.

B. Action objectives (pages 7-10 in the MoU):

- Collections of existing empirical data on digital text reading.
- Providing an bottom-up, interdisciplinary, empirically derived understanding of digitization on a range of aspects of reading.

2. Interest in

A. organizing and/or participating in a **short-term scientific mission (STSM)**.

Optional: pursuing what research questions/projects; where to/with whom; linked to what objective(s) of the Action:

B. organizing and/or participating in a **Training School** (please indicate what kind of training [theoretical; methodological; technical]).

Optional: linked to what objective(s) of the Action:

Yes : participation in theoretical and methodological training.

As a young scholar, I am very interested to learn about new methods and to integrate them.