

## **Free/Libre and Open Source Software for Social Sciences and Humanities researchers**

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The purpose of the workshop is to present several Free/Libre and Open Source Software (F/LOSS) solutions for Social Sciences and Humanities researchers engaged in a broad range of fields. A special focus will be given to F/LOSS that might be useful to accomplish tasks related to reference management, Social Network Analysis, content analysis, diagram drawing, concept and mind-mapping, statistical analysis and film/image analysis.

There are several reasons that justify the use of F/LOSS in research. Beyond financial costs savings, the use of F/LOSS in research should be justified on ethical and strategic grounds that we believe to be critical: 1) avoid vendor lock-in by gaining independence from private forprofit sector strategies and commercial interests; 2) prevent the imposition of pre-determined workflows and techniques opening a sphere of possibilities and experimentation; 3) foster collaboration, solidarity and sharing practices among researchers allowing to surpass artificial barriers imposed by budget costs and software license restrictions, to mention a few. As citizens, but also as educators and researchers, the ethical grounds are particularly important. We see the use of F/LOSS in general, also in research, as a statement about the world we live in and how we choose to live and work in it.

An initial presentation on Free Software and Open Source concepts and importance for research will be articulated in the demonstrations on the chosen F/LOSS tools' main features and workflows. After this overview, the workshop will adopt a hands-on approach, inviting the audience to participate in a oriented exploration of the software focusing on a range of tasks with real-world data sets.

There are no special prerequisites and the audience is expected to have none or a basic level of experience with the software. All the presented tools are available for GNU/Linux Operating Systems, although most of them are also available to other operating systems.

The workshop is intended to give the audience some background in a wide range of F/LOSS options and will also provide an insight into the chosen F/LOSS main features. It will help to build basic introductory skills and level of software proficiency establishing a relevant starting point for future use for higher education teachers and researchers interested in the use of F/LOSS for research and educational purposes.

## **Medien – Wissen – Bildung: Freie Bildungsmedien und Digitale Archive**

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