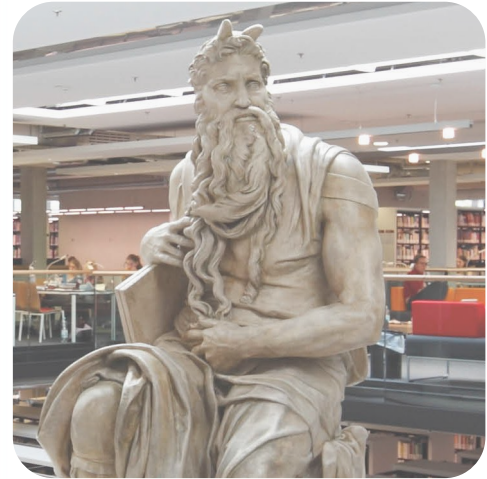


The wave of developments in generative artificial intelligence is challenging some of the core concepts in History and Cultural Studies: since the advent of generative AI, 'truth' as a benchmark for knowledge production can no longer be taken for granted, and questions arise about whether 'creativity' as a source of human culture can now be ascribed to machines. At the same time, the technology opens-up a wide range of new methods and possibilities – from text and image recognition and classification to forms of academic writing. Application and reflection go hand in hand, sharpening our understanding of generative AI. The combination of active use, experimentation and critique forms the starting point for this event organised by the Faculty of History and Cultural Studies at Johannes Gutenberg University.

The international workshop seeks to foster exchange across the fields and perspectives mentioned above. The discussions will focus both on the cultural, societal and technical frameworks of knowledge production as well as questions of authenticity and creativity in machine-generated outcomes.

<https://www.geku.uni-mainz.de/ai-workshop/>

Contact: AI-workshop@uni-mainz.de



Who's Afraid of AI?

Creativity, Credibility and the Humanities

International Workshop of the
Faculty of History and Cultural Studies

17–18 November 2025
Campus JGU, Alte Mensa

WHO'S AFRAID OF AI? CREATIVITY, CREDIBILITY AND THE HUMANITIES

Monday, 17 November

Alte Mensa (left auditorium)

- 10:00 **Welcome:** Dean Prof. Dr. Heide Frielinghaus
Vice-President Prof. Dr. Stephan Jolie
- 10:15 **Introduction** by Prof. Dr. Stefanie Acquavella-Rauch and Dr. Steffen Haug on behalf of the organisers
- 10:50 Short break
- 11:00 **Keynote:** Prof. Dr. Stephen J. Cave (University of Cambridge): *Origin Myths of the Artificial and the Intelligent*
Moderation: Dr. Steffen Haug
- 12:00 Group discussion and lunch break
- Lectures:**
- 14:00 Classification: Dr. Barbara McGillivray (King's College, London, online): *Analysing word meaning in Historical Texts with Computational Methods*
Moderation: Dr. Maxime Brami
- 14:50 Authentification: Dr. Michael Hicks (University of Glasgow): *Intentional Metaphors and Intentional Reality: Using Teleological Language to Discuss AI*
Moderation: Dr. Jan Beek
- 15:40 Tea break
- 15:50 Authentification: Hadiyah Touqeer B.A. (University of New Delhi): *Forging Trust in an Unstable World: Authenticity, Deceit, and the Digital Afterlife of Oral Memory*
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Thomas Blank
- 16:40 Creativity: Prof. Dr. Miriam Akkermann (Universität der Künste Berlin, online): *Creative computing – creative computer?*
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Stefanie Acquavella-Rauch
- 17:30 Break, change to Atrium Maximum

- 18:00 **Fishbowl Discussion:** *AI in the Academic World – Opportunities, Risks & Ethical Concerns*
(co-organised with the Junge Akademie of the Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur Mainz): Prof. Thorsten Schrade, Prof. Dr. Stefanie Acquavella-Rauch, Frauke Pirk, Michel Seiwert
Moderation: Carina Schroeder (freelance Journalist, Host of the podcast „KI Verstehen“)

- 19:30 Reception

Tuesday, 18 November

Alte Mensa (Atrium Maximum)

- Case Studies:** AI and Creative Practices
- 9:00 Arrival and welcome
- 9:15 Dr. Be Andr (London): *Code and the Sensuous*
Artist talk moderated by Prof. Dr. Ursula Ströbele (Hochschule für bildende Künste, Braunschweig)
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Prof. Dr. Immanuel Ott and Henrik Schuld (Hochschule für Musik, Mainz): *AI in Music Schools and as a tool for the reconstruction of lost scores*
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Stefanie Acquavella-Rauch
- 11:30 Break
- 11:45 Prof. Florian Jenett, David Rittershaus and Anton Koch (Motionbank) (Hochschule Mainz): *AI in Dance-Studies. Annotated Pre-Notations*
- 12:45 Lunch
- 14:00 Group discussion and round-up

Organised by Prof. Dr. Stefanie Acquavella-Rauch (IKM), Dr. Jan Beek (ifeas), Prof. Dr. Thomas Blank (HS), Dr. Maxime Brami (IAW), Dr. Steffen Haug (FB), Prof. Dr. Jörg Rogge (HS) and Sabine Wilke (FB).

Supported by the Gutenberg Lehrkolleg (GLK) in the „Hallo, KI!“ series under the aegis of the Vice-President for Teaching and Learning.