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Three Literary Questions You Can Only Answer With Computational Stylistics (Vortrag in englischer Sprache)

Can statistical features of his texts help us appreciate the works of, let's say, William Shakespeare? Which new insights can we gain by using quantitative methods, and may these insights lead to a new, broader understanding of literature?

Professor Craig will present three computation-based studies which tackle literary problems which could only be solved using quantitative methods. They involve the dating of a sixteenth-century play, the identification of the typical novel of a particular period, and the difference in style between play dialogue in prose and play dialogue in verse. Craig aims to show that computational stylistics – the application of statistical methods to literary language – is beginning to deliver on its promise of discovery, in the broad foundational questions which inform interpretation, as well as in concrete matters of fact.

Hugh Craig is the director of the Centre for Linguistic and Literary Computing at the University of Newcastle. He has been an advocate of computer-assisted analysis of language in literature since the controversial field began to emerge in the 1980s. Craig is an acclaimed expert for English Renaissance literature. Recently, he has also worked on biographical language change related to ageing and the onset of Alzheimer's disease.

Dienstag, 15. April 2014
18.00 – 20.00 Uhr
Philosophicum Hörsaal 3