

Call for Contributions

The Eighth International Conference on Writing Analytics

Academic Writing in Digital Contexts: Analytics, Tools, Mediality

Organization: Zurich University of Applied Sciences

Conference chairs: Christian Rapp, Otto Kruse and Noah Bubenhofer (Zurich University of Applied Sciences)

Location: Winterthur, Switzerland

Date: September 5 – 6, 2019 (2 full days)

Aims and conference themes

Digital technologies transform writing and reading fundamentally and lead to new forms of literacy, media use, writing habits and competence profiles. Keeping pace with these developments is a challenge for not only writers in academic settings but also writing teachers. There are simply too many innovations and too little guidance to help select what might be useful for writing classes or seminars. Similarly, for writing researchers, it is a great challenge to react to new research needs and provide adequate methodologies and research strategies. New research settings, media, data collection opportunities and analytic methods have to be created and applied, which, in turn, lead to new research perspectives, discourse communities and exchange forums. In light of these challenges, this conference aims to bring together various disciplines, covering composition and writing research, corpus and computer linguistics, media studies, psychology and educational technology, to provide a setting where knowledge, research results and methodological concepts can be exchanged.

The conference addresses three distinct yet interrelated and complementary study fields to provide a more complete and integrated understanding of the impact new technologies have on writing and teaching of writing in higher education, as well as their implications for learning, thinking, communicating, language use and collaboration. We invite submissions that focus on research-based and conceptually-elaborated studies in the following three adjacent fields. The list of example topics is not exhaustive.

Writing Analytics

- Approaches and technology for data extraction, processing and visualization
- Analysis of data from large samples of texts in writing contexts
- Corpus and computational linguistics approaches to writing analytics
- Use of data for improving writing and writing instruction

Innovations in tools development

- Strategies for tools development
- Implementation and testing studies
- Studies on feedback tools and feedback platforms
- Automatic feedback and intelligent tutoring
- Integrating tools into the teaching of writing

Media and literacy studies

- Exploring the use of new digital writing tools or platforms

- Media use, media acceptance and mediality from linguistic perspectives
- Studies on writing software and the functionality of word processors
- Studies on writing in digital contexts (e.g. collaborative writing, automatic correction etc.)

Conference Fee: 220 Swiss Francs / PhD Students: 110 Swiss Francs

Presentation formats: Papers (20 minutes + 10 QA), Posters and demos

Submissions: Extended abstract (max. 350 words).

Submission deadline: April 21, 2019

Notification of Acceptance: May 15, 2019

Website: <https://writinganalytics.zhaw.ch/>