IQLA-GIAT Summer School in
Quantitative Analysis of Textual Data
7th edition
8-12 September 2025
University of Padua

Presentation

Active since 2013 and now in its seventh edition, the IQLA-GIAT International Summer School in *Quantitative Analysis of Textual Data* is a distinguished training opportunity in the fields of computational text analysis and digital humanities. Methods for the quantitative analysis of textual data are an *object of research* in linguistics, computer science, social sciences, mathematics, and statistics but they also serve as valuable *research tools* across further disciplines, such as psychology, philosophy, sociology, sociolinguistics, education, history, political studies, literary studies, communication, and media studies.

Digital sources that provide archives of books, documents, and journals or disseminate information, such as newspapers and social media, now constitute an essential foundation for many research studies. Recent developments in computational methods and large language models have not only transformed how research is conducted in the humanities and social sciences but also reshaped how it is conceived and designed. The demand for data scientists is growing in all disciplines, both in academia and in productive and commercial sectors, and a new generation of researchers must be trained to apply data science methods to a wider range of applications.

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School is defined by three main elements:

1. A general section dedicated to quantitative methods for text analysis.
2. A distinctive methodological topic that has changed in each edition.

> **2025: Large Language Models: Does AI Challenge Traditional Methods?**
> 2023: Language Variation and Change from a Computational Perspective
> 2021: Quality of Texts quality of News (online edition)
> 2019: Data Science and Data scientists in Humanities and Social Sciences
> 2017: Topic detection and authorship attribution in Elena Ferrante's case-study
> 2015: Measuring style and computational stylistics
> 2013: Measures and methods in authorship attribution

3. Lab-tutorials dedicated to case studies and computer-aided analysis of textual data.

Objectives

This edition's topic is the challenges that artificial intelligence (AI) and the use of large language models (LLMs) have posed to traditional methods of textual data analysis. The guiding question for the 2025 edition is "Large Language Models: Does AI Challenge Traditional Methods?"

The School is designed for bachelor's and master's graduates, PhD students, post-docs, researchers, and scholars (both academic and non-academic) from all disciplines within the humanities and social sciences who are interested in tools for studying large digital text corpora, including newspapers, social media, documents, novels, and interviews.

The activities of the School are designed to stimulate critical reflection on the advantages and limitations of methods, and to engage participants in an interdisciplinary context to discuss the potential, challenges, and opportunities of different approaches. The interdisciplinarity of the School is ensured both by the presence of speakers from various scientific fields and by the diverse backgrounds of the participants.

The School aims to share knowledge on methods, software, corpora, scientific literature, and research outcomes; promote dialogue among disciplines on a timely issue such as the use of LLMs in text analysis; develop innovative analytical tools and integrated research methods; introduce young researchers to high-quality research environments.

Does this School fit your needs?

Would you like to analyse large volumes of text, such as novels, transcriptions of open-ended interviews, scientific literature, or social media comments, to identify patterns and trends in language usage? Are there simply too many texts for any scholar to read in a lifetime?

Why not let a computer do the work?

While software can't perform close reading, mathematical and statistical tools can be used for distant reading, collecting data, extracting relevant information, summarizing features, and identifying patterns. Instead of reading a limited number of texts, why not work with thousands, upload them to a computer, and let software generate analyses and results?

Application and deadlines

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School is open to **20 participants** including researchers, scholars and postgraduate students.

Applicants must send a file in pdf format including:

1. curriculum vitae
2. personal mission statement and research interests (max 500 words)

Applications should be sent to the following address: qatd.school@fisppa.it

Please note that there is **no selection procedure** and that the limited seats will be sold on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

> Deadline: **May, 31st**

> Tuition fee: **300€**

The first 20 applicants will receive information to complete their registration with the payment of the tuition fee. The tuition fee includes coffee breaks, lunches and the social dinner.

Location

> Palazzo de Claricini
> Sede della sezione di Sociologia (Sociology buildings)
> Dipartimento di *Filosofia, Sociologia, Pedagogia e Psicologia Applicata* (FISPPA)
> Università degli Studi di Padova
> Via M. Cesarotti, 10/12
> 35123 Padova

Schedule and classes

The 7th edition of the IQLA-GIAT Summer School will take place **from Monday 8th to Friday 12th September 2025**.

On Friday, the last two hours will be devoted to the School's evaluation and a self-assessment session.

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School is a full-time intensive course. It is an in-person event and on-line attendance is not possible.

Main topics: corpus compilation, quantitative linguistics, measures of language complexity; the role of artificial intelligence in humanities and social science research; Python in natural language processing; chatbots and prompting techniques; authorship attribution; text classification (AI-based vs traditional methods).

Provisional list of lecturers:
>Dr. Dimitris Bilianos (Kapodistrian University of Athens)
>Prof. Fabio Ciotti (University of Rome Tor Vergata)
>Prof. Emmerich Kelih (University of Vienna)
>Prof. Patrick Juola (Duquesne University, Pittsburgh)
>Dr. Alessandro Meneghini (University of Udine)
>Prof. Stefano Ondelli (University of Trieste)
>Prof. Adam Pawloski (University of Wrocław)
>Dr. Valentina Rizzoli (Sapienza University of Rome)
>Dr. Floriana Sciumbata (University of Trieste)

All classes are in English.

Teaching activities include lectures, tutorials, as well as Q&A sessions. Participants are requested to bring their own laptop.

Final Evaluation and self-assessment

All participants will be requested to complete an evaluation questionnaire to express their opinion about the main aspects of the School (e.g., organization, teaching, materials, facilities and equipment, expectations, satisfaction rate, suggestions, etc.). It is worth mentioning that the seventh edition of the School is organized also considering the results and suggestions obtained through the evaluation questionnaires done in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, and 2023 editions.

All participants will complete a self-assessment questionnaire on technical skills and general knowledge including 30 multiple-choice questions (one correct answer out of four). Grades will reflect the sum of all correct answers (one point) according to the following range: A (29-30 points); B (25-28 points); C (21-24 points); D (17-20 points); E (15-16 points).

Website and social media

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School will share information and teaching material with participants via both email and website. The School will be also active on social media:
>Website: https://www.fisppa.unipd.it/giat-en/summer%20school
>Facebook: facebook.com/IqlaGiatSummerSchool
>Instagram: instagram.com/qatdschool/

Credits

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School in Quantitative Analysis of Textual Data is organized by GIAT – Interdisciplinary Text Analysis Group (www.giat.org) in collaboration with the International Quantitative Linguistics Association (www.iqla.org).

The IQLA-GIAT Summer School is a project funded by the University of Padua (www.unipd.it) and coordinated by Professor Arjuna Tuzzi. The School is managed by the Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology.

Info

For any further information and details about terms, deadlines, application forms and payment methods, please contact: qatd.school@fisppa.it

Call and details: https://www.fisppa.unipd.it/giat-en/summer%20school