# Faculty of Arts Digital Research Seed Fund 2024

## Introduction

The Arts Digital Lab is pleased to invite applications for the Faculty of Arts Digital Research Seed Fund. We have funding capacity in 2024 to support up to five research projects. The successful projects will receive the following support:

* Funding for 200 hours of research assistant time, which may be split between two students;
* Support to recruit a research assistant with relevant skills for the project;
* Training and mentoring of the research assistant(s); and
* Advice and opportunities to present or workshop ideas at Digital Humanities Research Network sessions.

The Faculty of Arts is providing this funding to support research and build capacity in digital research topics and methods. We will report back to Faculty on the outcomes of the funding round in early 2025.

Applications are welcome from researchers across the Faculty of Arts, including postdoctoral fellows and staff in non-continuing roles. Current ADL committee members may apply, but must recuse themselves from the selection process.

## How to apply

Complete the attached application form to outline the aim of the research, the digital research component, timeline and likely outcomes (e.g. publication, digital output, Marsden funding bid).

Applicants are invited to attend a workshop on 27 March to discuss and develop proposals.

## Dates

Proposals workshop: **27 March 2024**

Apply by: **8 April 2024**

Funding announced: **22 April 2024**

Initial project meetings: **24 April – 3 May 2024**

Digital Research Symposium and Student Reflections Roundtable: **21 October 2024**

Projects to be completed by: **1 December 2024**

Project report due by: **1 February 2025**

## How projects will be assessed

Projects will be assessed by the ADL committee and the Executive Dean, who will choose the three projects to be funded according to the following criteria:

1. Relevance and Innovation: Aligns with ADL and Faculty of Arts research strategies and Te Rautaki Māori Strategy for Māori Development, and demonstrates innovative aspects of the project (e.g. novel research questions, methodologies, or technologies).
2. Research Base: Demonstrates a strong foundation in existing research and literature, and recognises and incorporates Vision Mātauranga
3. Feasibility and Impact: Clearly outlines how the project will be carried out within allocated resources, including how the 200 hours of RA time will be used before 1 December 2024, and demonstrates the potential for scholarly or public impact and future funding bids.
4. Alignment with ADL Support: Clearly indicates how the project will benefit from the 200 hours of RA support.
5. Future Research Capacity Building: Highlights how the research project will contribute to building future digital research capacity within the Faculty of Arts (e.g. opportunities for further research and collaborations, the skill base of Arts staff and student RAs, capacity and visibility of researchers currently under-represented in digital research in Aotearoa). For example, projects which offer opportunities for upskilling postgraduate students in line with the ADL’s “research alongsider” approach.
6. Potential to lead to other funding: Exploratory research that is likely to lead to a Marsden or other significant funding proposal in 2025.

## Project requirements

Funded project teams will:

* Meet regularly with ADL staff and the research assistant throughout the project, and take responsibility for academic supervision of the RA;
* Report on the project and outcomes;
* Present a paper on the project in the Digital Research Symposium, and encourage and support the RA to participate in the symposium; and
* Attend the Student Reflections Roundtable to support the learning and insights of our research assistants as ‘research alongsiders’.

## Example digital research project types

* Identify, collect, and process data for analysis. For example, using web scraping or other information extraction methods to build a research corpus.
* Study interfaces, platforms, technologies or communities using [approaches specific to digital media](https://www.digitalmethods.net/Dmi/DmiAbout).
* Literature review and analysis of the impact or application of digital technologies in a given domain.

## Projects that are not in scope for the fund

* Digital projects without a research dimension (e.g. a website to disseminate or promote research only).
* Projects with existing funding to do digital research.

## Questions?

 If you have questions, please contact Kaspar Middendorf: kaspar.middendorf@canterbury.ac.nz

# Application Form

Note: The application should be one to two pages. Expand fields and remove notes as needed. The application should address the criteria in the ‘[How projects will be assessed](#_How_projects_will)’ section.

Project Title:

Project Team Members:

Note: List the project team members with the first name as project lead. Identify Faculty of Arts staff.

Optional: Do you have a suitable student in mind as the RA?

## Project Summary:

Note: Provide a brief overview of the research project, including the research aims and refer to relevant scholarly literature.

## Digital research component:

Note: Describe the digital research component, its feasibility and how the ADL resource will be used. Please highlight any ethical issues connected with the research, e.g. data privacy.

## Expected outcomes:

Note: Indicate likely outputs and outcomes of the project and the scholarly or public impact.

## Timeline:

Note: Indicate during which months you are likely to need the RA time (this should be one continuous block of three to five months, ending before 1 December 2024).

## Additional Information:

Note: Provide any additional information or comments relevant to your application.

Please type your name below to indicate you understand and agree to the project requirements and criteria above:

<PROJECT LEAD NAME HERE>

## Submission

Please submit your application form to Kaspar Middendorf, kaspar.middendorf@canterbury.ac.nz, with the subject line ‘Digital Research Seed Fund Application’.

Thank you for your application!