01 / Reading academic literature in times of AI

Topic : LABS

Chair : Merlijn van Hulst (Tilburg University)

Second Chair : Kirsty Holstead (Wageningen University)

Third Chair : Shirley Kempeneer (Tilburg University)

Fourth Chair : Albert Meijer (Utrecht University School of Governance)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

We aim to start a conversation about the reading of academic literature, in order to 1. share reading experiences and practices; and 2. ask attention for the differences and similarities of humans and non-human reading. Many researchers are wondering about reading in times of AI. We think that reading must be unpacked to better see what it actually entails. In our academic lives we have read thousands of pages yet not talked about reading as such too much. In addition, while the writing that AI/LLMs (Large Languages Models) can do has been a central topic for some time, the reading they might do for us/with us is still underexplored. Opportunities and downsides should be discussed. We intend to learn about the topic together. This can make us more confident in deciding when and how to work with AI/LLMs, and when to abstain from doing so.

CALL FOR PAPERS

This workshop will be for interest to participants in the conference from all contexts, disciplines, backgrounds, and career stages. We all read and experience reading. It might be especially helpful for researchers who need to “review the literature” and wonder about ways to do that that fit our interpretive-critical paradigm. The Lab will have a format that allows for everybody to engage as intensely as they like. We will encourage dialogue and also (respectful) dissensus within it.

On the basis of our conversation at IPA we will develop a short note with critical insights and practical tips on reading in times of AI. These might be used in teaching as well is for research in the institutes that we all work.