

CALL FOR PROPOSALS for a special issue of  
*Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*



# DATA VIZ IN WRITING STUDIES

Editors: John Gallagher and Dànielle Nicole DeVoss

From information-dense infographics to interactive graphic storytelling to trends displayed through other visual interfaces, data visualization has become a critical part of the work of writing studies, composition, technical communication, and the digital humanities.

This special issue of *Kairos* will feature webtexts that address data visualization in writing studies, including, but not limited to, the following questions:

- What is the role of data visualization in writing studies?
- What role does data visualization already play in writing studies?
- What does data visualization—as method, tool, and/or practice—allow us to see, identify, and pinpoint? What does data visualization potentially obscure?
- What are potential theoretical orientations and/or framing and methodologies for data visualization practices?
- What are impediments to current and future data visualization work in writing studies?
- What are ethical and ideological implications of data visualization? How might we teach these as practices?

We invite proposals for webtexts interrogating these questions from a variety of perspectives, including technical communication and data displays; uses of the terms *data* and *big data*; and technological and cultural turns toward images, figures, graphs, and infographics in digital pedagogies.

The special issue will include and we invite proposals for any of the following areas:

1. **Topoi:** Webtexts that offer both theoretical and methodological approaches to data visualization while integrating data visualization in that work. We will encourage authors to attend to issues of rhetorical constructions of data creation and visual rhetoric, as well as the way these elements affect gender, race, class, and sexuality.
2. **Praxis:** Webtexts that focus on the intersections of why, how, when, and in what ways data visualization happens and can matter in the writing/rhetoric classroom and why.
3. **PraxisWiki:** Short wiki entries offering teaching narratives, assignments, and short digital pedagogy pieces related to data visualization.
4. **Reviews:** Short pieces that constellate and review work on data visualization both within and beyond writing studies.

Proposals should be no more than 1000 words, and should mention the section to which you're proposing and the key question(s) your webtext will address.

**Proposals are due no later than June 1, 2018;** proposal authors will receive notification regarding the status of their proposals by June 30, 2018. Webtext drafts will be due on November 15, 2018. Please send proposals—and any questions you have about the special issue—to both editors, John Gallagher ([johng@illinois.edu](mailto:johng@illinois.edu)) and Dànielle Nicole DeVoss ([devossda@msu.edu](mailto:devossda@msu.edu)).

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#### *header image visualizations from*

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Mueller, Derek. (2012). Grasping rhetoric and composition by its long tail: What graphs can tell us about the field's changing shape. *College Composition and Communication*, 64 (1), 195-223.

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Gries, Laurie. (2017, Spring). Mapping Obama Hope: A data visualization project for visual rhetorics. *Kairos*, 21 (2). Retrieved from <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/21.2/topoi/gries/index.html>

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