This 2nd GENESyS methods workshop hosted by EASt will serve the following purposes:

- Explore epistemic challenges facing identity building in a digital world
- Unpack methodological challenges associated with virtual ethnography
- Introduce tools and techniques of researching online phenomena
- Debate the most recent trends in online political activism in Japan

**VENUE**

**Wednesday Oct. 11**
Centre Interdisciplinaire d’Études des Religions et de la Laïcité - Université Libre de Bruxelles
17, Avenue Franklin Roosevelt B-1050 Brussels (BELGIUM)

**Thursday & Friday Oct. 12 & 13**
Institut d’études européennes - Université Libre de Bruxelles
39, Avenue Franklin Roosevelt B-1050 Brussels (BELGIUM)

This project has received funding from the GENESyS ARC research project on East Asian Youth: Identities and Practices in Public Spaces.
This is the 2nd Methods Workshop hosted by the East Asia Studies (EAST) research unit of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) within the framework of its research project on «East Asian Youth: Identities and Practices in Public Spaces» (GENEsYs).

Jointly organized by EAST and the Maison des Sciences Humaines the various sessions scheduled over the course of this three-day gathering seek to: (1) publicize the GENEsYs research project; (2) jointly explore methodological and practical challenges facing the GENEsYs research agenda; and (3) encourage further integration within the GENEsYs researcher community.

Three public events (highlighted below in orange) will seek to contribute towards wider debates surrounding topics of interest to EAST and GENEsYs - i.e. Youth, Identity and New Technologies in East Asia.

The workshop also foresees a series of closed door roundtables focussed on methodological and practical challenges associated with GENEsYs interdisciplinary research agenda. These are to include both skills training session geared towards the acquisition of certain tools related to the study of online phenomena, and involve roundtables geared towards experience sharing and peer-learning exercises including both invited third-parties as well as members of the GENEsYs community. A first set of two roundtables will focus on the ethical and theoretical challenges facing the study of Religious Identity Construction in a Digital World; the following three sessions will explore the Methodological and Practical

The last day of the event will be coordinated by the Oxford Internet Institute (OII) and will provide both theoretical and practical training sessions. These will present the most recent tools and insights associated with the empirics of online research. The focus will be on the ethics, challenges, tools and softwares involved in the qualitative analysis of aggregated online corpuses of text. Beside an introductory lecture focussing on the ethics of online research, the challenges associated with big data and the the access points to online data; the day foresees three further closed-door workshops on: data-mining aimed at gathering online texts; sentiment analysis geared towards crystalizing the attitudual inflection of large bodies of text; and modeling seeking to represent the inherent structures and relations within a given corpus.

AGENDA

SCHEDULE

DAY 2 - THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER

18:15-19:45 OPENING LECTURE

Buddhism and Public Space

Chair: Baudouin Decharneux (CIERL, ULB, EAST-GENEsYs)

19:00 - EASt START of Year Buffet

19:15 - 20:15 ROUNDTABLE 1 - Ethics and Religious Identity Construction in a Digital World

Chair: Pierre Bonneels (ULB-PHI, EAST-GENEsYs)

10:00 - 11:00 ENVISIONING ETHICS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Jin Y. Park (American Uni.)
Closed-door workshop: Data-mining aimed at the access points to online data; the day foresees three further closed-door workshops on: data-mining aimed at gathering online texts; sentiment analysis geared towards crystalizing the attitudual inflection of large bodies of text; and modeling seeking to represent the inherent structures and relations within a given corpus.

AGENDA

SCHEDULE

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER

18:00 - 18:15 WELCOME WORDS

Vanessa Frangville (ULB-Philixte, EAST-GENEsYs)

18:15-19:45 OPENING LECTURE

Buddhism and Public Space

Chair: Baudouin Decharneux (CIERL, ULB, EAST-GENEsYs)

DAY 3 - FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

HOW TO ANALYSE LARGE VOLUMES OF ONLINE TEXT

Training Day co-organized with the Oxford Internet Institute

9:00-10:15 INTRODUCTORY LECTURE - Challenges & Opportunities Presented by Big Digital Data

Yin Yin Lu (Oxford Internet Institute)

10:45-12:00 WORKSHOP I [Part 1] - Introduction to Python for Digital Text Analysis

Yin Yin Lu (Oxford Internet Institute)

LUNCH BREAK

13:00-14:00 WORKSHOP I [Part 2] - Introduction to Python for Digital Text Analysis

Yin Yin Lu (Oxford Internet Institute)

14:00-15:15 WORKSHOP II - Topic Modelling - An Empirical Approach to Theme Detection

Folgert Karsdorp (Meertens Institute)

15:30-16:45 WORKSHOP III - Sentiment Analysis - The Emotionality of Discourse

Mike Thelwall (Wolverhampton University)