ELEXIS: Training and Education

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Why does ELEXIS need training and education?

- ELEXIS: knowledge network and service provider
- Diverse user base
- Training and education is a core requirement for the social sustainability of research infrastructures
WP5 Objectives

• evaluate the skills researchers need in order to benefit from and contribute to the lexicographic infrastructure.
• develop online training materials covering the full spectrum of producing, exploiting and disseminating lexicographic data.
• develop and enhance online tutorials for a variety of ELEXIS tools and services.
• organize and conduct ELEXIS training measures
Deliverables

• **D5.1 ELEXIS Skillset Report (M12)** Primary data for this report was gathered via qualitative interviews with lexicographers, service providers, ELEXIS working groups, DARIAH and CLARIN.

• **D5.2 Guidelines for Producing ELEXIS Tutorials and Instruction Manuals (M24)** A set of practical recommendations for developing tutorials and instruction manuals for ELEXIS tools and services that lower the barrier for participation in the infrastructure.

• **D5.3 Overview of Online Tutorials and Instruction Manuals (M42)** A clear, structured overview of tutorials and instruction manuals developed within the project will be made available on the ELEXIS website.
Deliverables (translated into non-EU speak)

• D5.1 was about what we need to teach
• D5.2 was about how and where
• Y3 and Y4 were about producing ELEXIS Learning Resources (and we’re still there)
Task 5.1 Skills Assessment - Key Findings

• Almost all of our informants received no formal lexicographic training

• Almost all of our informants described themselves as lexicographic self-learners who honed their skills by:
  • consulting various dictionaries;
  • reading the scholarly literature;
  • attending workshops and seminars outside the regular university curricula; and/or
  • learning from their colleagues or on the job.
Task 5.1 Skills Assessment - Key Findings

- Lack of university curricula in lexicography or systemic, integrated training outside the university
  - The knowledge gained in unconnected workshops is partial and segmented (Hudeček)
- If lexicography is taught as a university subject, it is in some countries too theoretical and removed from contemporary trends and best practices
- If students have a background in linguistics, they don’t necessarily have the necessary technical skills, and vice versa

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Task 5.1 Skills Assessment - Key Findings

- Technology is not the ultimate challenge: the reluctance to adopt new methods is also a social and cultural challenge.
- Not all lexicographers believe in a culture of open access, open source and sharing lexicographic data.
Task 5.1 Skills Assessment - Key Findings

- We should support critical use of tools
  - The tools of today are not necessarily the tools of tomorrow. We should prepare students not only how to learn tools but also to be able to switch to different tools. (Costa)

- Training materials should be on a wide range of topics and openly accessible to everybody
  - ELEXIS should contribute towards setting a general training standard as well as a reference point for lexicographic practice in general. (Grønvik)
  - ELEXIS could play an important role in integrated curriculum development. (Hudeček)
Based on the Skillset Report, Survey on User Needs and internal consultations, we decided to work toward an **ELEXIS Curriculum**

- to embed the description of our services into a broader training narrative (countering the lack of university curricula or systemic, integrated training opportunities outside the university)
- to provide a healthy balance between theory and practice ("Do not assume that anybody knows anything. Think how low you can go.")
- to create a “specific website” or a “platform”
Task 5.2 ELEXIS Curriculum (intro, intermediate and advanced)

- Introduction to Dictionaries
- Introduction to Dictionary Users
- Introduction to Corpus-Based Lexicographic Practice
- Capturing, Modeling and Transforming Lexical Data: An Introduction
- LEX2 Mastering ELEXIS Corpus Tools for Lexicographic Purposes
- Lexonomy: Mastering the ELEXIS Dictionary Writing System
- Automating the Process of Dictionary Creation
- CLARIN Tools and Resources for Lexicographic Work
- Lexicography in the Age of Open Data
- Standards for Representing Lexical Data: An Overview

- Modeling Dictionaries in TEI Lex-0
- Modeling Dictionaries in OntoLex-Lemon
- LEX3: Transforming Legacy Dictionaries using Elexifier
- LEX3: Publishing Legacy Dictionaries with Publex
- Mastering LEX1: The Dictionary Matrix
- Mastering oXygen XML Editor for Dictionary Nerds
- Extracting Lexical Data: XPath for Dictionary Nerds
- Transforming Lexical Data: XSLT for Dictionary Nerds
- Trends in Computational Lexicography: A Pathfinder for Developers

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Task 5.2 ELEXIS Curriculum (Contextualization, ELEXIS Tools and Other Tools)

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- LEX3: Transforming Legacy Dictionaries using Elexifier
- LEX3: Publishing Legacy Dictionaries with Publex
- Mastering LEX1: The Dictionary Matrix ..... 
- Mastering oXygen XML Editor for Dictionary Nerds
- Extracting Lexical Data: XPath for Dictionary Nerds
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DARIAH-Campus

• central hub for DH training and education
• both a discovery layer (for remote resources) and a hosting platform
• Harvested by the SSHOC (Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud) Marketplace
• Onboarded on EOSC (European Open Science Cloud)
• Stability, versioning, sustainability
The ELEXIS Curriculum

The ELEXIS Curriculum is an integrated set of training materials which contextualizes ELEXIS tools and services inside a broader, systematic pedagogic narrative. This means that the goal of the ELEXIS Curriculum is not simply to inform users about the functionalities of particular tools and services developed within the project, but to show how such tools and services are a) embedded in both lexicographic theory and practice; and b) representative of and contributing to the development of digital skills among lexicographers.

Resources

Introduction to Dictionaries

The goal of this course is to introduce a brief history of dictionaries as tools for the organization of knowledge about words and their meanings, and to analyze different ways of understanding and classifying the dictionary genre.
Not all roads lead to Rome (or Florence, for that matter)

- Different paths through the curriculum
- Different learning scenarios
From zero to hero...

- Intro to dictionaries
- Intro to modeling
- Lexicographic Standards: An Overview
- Ontolex-Lemon
- Elexifier
- Mastering oXygen

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ELEXIS Curriculum: Multiple Points of Entry

- DARIAH-Campus: integrated curriculum
- ELEXIS: tool-centered
What’s next?
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• Publication of the curriculum on DARIAH-Campus
• Testing the curriculum
• Relax: nothing is perfect
• Updating the curriculum
• Expanding the curriculum
• Ideally, we’ll think of the ELEXIS Curriculum as a *living curriculum*, one that can evolve over time, together with this community
Thanks!