MODULE 1 Introduction

KEY TOOLS & PLATFORMS

HathiTrust
A library consortium founded in 2008. HathiTrust is a community of research libraries committed to the long-term curation and availability of the cultural record.

The HathiTrust Digital Library (HTDL)
HathiTrust’s digital preservation repository and access platform for public domain and in-copyright content from a variety of sources, including Google, the Internet Archive, Microsoft, and in-house partner institution initiatives. Overall, the content mostly consists of digitized books from libraries.

The HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC)
HathiTrust’s center for facilitating computational, scholarly research using the 16+ million volumes in the HathiTrust Digital Library. The HTRC provides mechanisms for non-consumptive access to content in the HathiTrust corpus, as well as tools for computational text analysis.

ACTIVITY: Explore sample research projects

In pairs or small groups, review the summarized research projects available at http://go.illinois.edu/ddrf-research-examples.

Then discuss the following questions:

- How do the projects involve change over time, pattern recognition, or comparative analysis?
- What kind of text data do they use (time period, source, etc.)?
- What are their findings?