

BILLIG

Bilateral Lusophone Literature Initiative using GIS and Linguistics

Report: 1st Training Course - Introduction to Spatial Humanities in ILOS, OSLO

Participant researchers:

Daniel Alves, NOVA FCSH

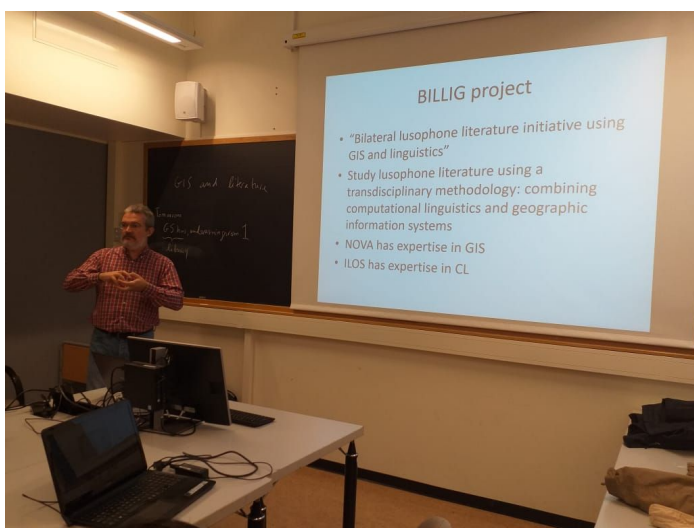
Danielle Sanches, NOVA FCSH

Dates: 11th – 12th September 2019

The two experts from NOVA gave a training course (2 days) at the University of Oslo providing an introductory training in GIS, and also presented projects that applied this methodology, specifically in literary studies. The various lectures focused on different spatial analysis tools that could be of interest for conducting broader studies in literature, geography, computational methods and humanities in general.

The first session focused on the presentation of Billig Project and the main objectives of these activities. It was also discussed issues like the “spatial turn”, how students could build a GIS project, the software for building a Spatial Analysis Project, and also a general introductory approach regarding QGIS software, layers, joins and visualization options, which was intended for participants that had no familiarity with this topic.

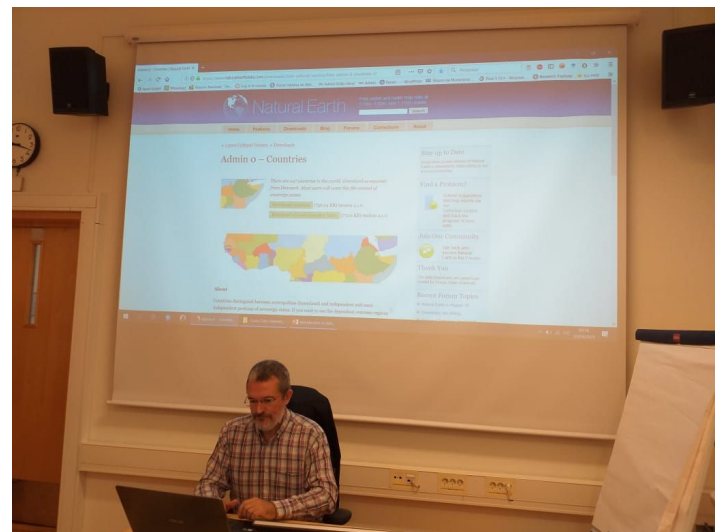
Photos of the course



The second session focused on a more practical application of GIS, and the participants started to do some exercises concerning the subjects covered. The students began their first contact with the methodology by creating a small information table, with latitude and longitude extracted from the *Batchgeo* platform, so that they could learn how to automatic georeference the data, and also learned about the coordinates systems as a way to structure data.

Another point addressed was the acquisition of files in *.shp* format for constructing maps and georeferenced projects. Based on this acquired knowledge - structuring the data and the acquisition of files in a specific format - the students were able to start building their first projects.

Photos of the course



Throughout the second day of the course students made use of datasets linked to literary texts, especially the excerpts that are part of the database of the *Atlas das Paisagens Literárias*, so that they were able to georeference them and create some visualizations related to texts and literature. The students also talked about their own projects and how they imagined applying the spatial analysis methodologies, like Qgis, to their own projects. In this case, a discussion was opened where the best practices for methodology application were advised.

During the Portuguese researchers' stay in Oslo the first face-to-face meeting of the initiative also took place, in which the project's planning and next activities were defined and analysed. In line of this, the contents for the first internship in Lisbon and the following workshop in February were also discussed.