



University of
Zurich^{UZH}

Digital Society Initiative^{UZH}



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Call for Participants Workshop on Automated Image Analysis

November 5th, 2021

Instructor:

Andreu Casas (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

*organized by the Computational Methods Working Group (CMWG)
at the University of Zurich & ETH Zurich, Switzerland*

Social scientists have long argued that images play a crucial role in shaping and reflecting political life. This role is heightened by the bombardment of images that people experience today through many communications channels, from television to social media. Digitization has both increased the presence of images in daily life and made it easier for scholars to access and collect large quantities of pictures. However, using images collected in observational settings as data for social science inference is an arduous task. Fortunately, recent innovations in computer vision, the subfield of computer science concerned with automated image analysis, can reduce the costs of using images as data.

Therefore, the Computational Methods Working Group (CMWG) at the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich offers a one-day workshop on “Automated Image Analysis” with Andreu Casas (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and invites early career researchers from all social sciences fields to apply. Prior general programming experience is an asset. The tutorials will be in Python, and easy-to-follow Jupyter notebooks will be provided to the participants; yet those with (some) experience programming in Python will be able to get the most out of the tutorials.

The workshop aims to equip participants with the knowledge to apply Automated Image Analysis to their own research. The course covers (1) a theoretical introduction to deep learning, image processing, and a variety of computer vision techniques, and (2) practical tutorial sessions illustrating how to apply some of these techniques in your own work.

Date: The workshop will take place online (via Zoom) on November 5th, 2021.

Who can apply and how?

The workshop is aimed at early career researchers who work at the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich in the field of social sciences. We invite both PhD students and scholars who successfully defended their PhD within the last three years. However, the workshop is limited to 25 people, so PhD students will be given priority if necessary. Please fill in [this form](#) by August 31st, 2021, to apply. We are looking forward to your application!

Do I have to pay a participation fee?

No, there are no fees involved to take part in the workshop.

What do I need to participate?

You will need a computer, access to the internet, and a headset/webcam for the Zoom meeting. You won't need to install any software on your computer, as the tutorial sessions will rely on Jupyter notebooks hosted in Google Colab.

What happens after my application?

By mid-September, we will announce the selection outcome. Shortly thereafter, we will inform participants about the program in more detail. Ahead of the workshop, participants will receive study material of the relevant literature on the subject matter and further instructions. The Zoom link will be shared a few days before the workshop.

Contact information of the organizing team

Computational Methods Working Group (CMWG), University of Zurich & ETH Zurich; contact: cssmethods@ikmz.uzh.ch or <http://www.cssmethods.uzh.ch>. The workshop is supported through a grant by the Graduate School at the University of Zurich and a grant by the Digital Society Initiative at the University of Zurich.