THOMAS N. HAIDER

Computational Humanities & Multilingual Computational Linguistics ◇ University of Passau
Dept. Language & Literature ◇ Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics, Frankfurt am Main
thomas.haider@uni-passau.de ◇ https://thomashaider.net ◇ Google Scholar

POSITIONS

University of Passau *2023–present*
Postdoctoral Researcher, Computational Humanities & Multilingual Computational Linguistics

University of Göttingen *2021–2023*
Researcher, Digital Humanities & Linguistics

Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics, Frankfurt am Main *2017–present*
Researcher, Dept. Language and Literature (Winfried Menninghaus), 2017–2021; affiliated on a contract/visiting basis since 2021

Earlier: Research assistant at Heidelberg University and the Leibniz Institute for the German Language, Mannheim (2012–2016)

EDUCATION

Dr. phil., University of Stuttgart *2018–2022*
Computational Linguistics & Digital Humanities Magna Cum Laude
A Computational Stylistics of Poetry: Distant Reading and Modeling of German and English Verse
Supervision: Jonas Kuhn, Winfried Menninghaus

M.A., Heidelberg University *2013–2016*
Computational Linguistics & Philosophy 1.3
Research stay: Eastern Michigan University, The Linguist List

B.A., Heidelberg University *2008–2012*
Computational Linguistics & Philosophy 1.9
Erasmus year: University of Groningen

Apprenticeship Diploma, Schott Electronic Packaging *2002–2005*
Physics Lab Assistant (Physiklaborant)

GRANTS

ECOFRAME, FTP Seed Funding, Forschungspool University of Passau (25k), PI *2026–2027*
Syllable Reduction in German Verse, DFG (500k), Collaboration Partner *2025–2029*
European Poetry: Distant Reading, Czech Academy of Sciences (200k), Co-Applicant *2023–2025*
DHd2024 Conference, DFG Conference Funding (28k), PI *2024*

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

33 publications in total; full list at https://thomashaider.net/cv.pdf

Computational Environmental Humanities

Haider, T. (under review). `Material Agency as Literary Verb Semantics`. Computational Humanities Research (CHR), Manchester.

Haider, T., Oberbichler, S., Burghardt, M., Schumacher, M., Rehbein, M., Gius, E. (under review). `Wen meinen wir, wenn wir von Natur sprechen? Offene Fragen in den Computational Environmental Humanities`. Panel, DHd2027, Marburg.

Teich, M., Cypionka, A., Haider, T., Rehbein, M. (2026). `Measuring Nuclear Democracy: A Large-Scale Analysis of German Nuclear Energy Discourse`. *Histories* (MDPI).

Trilcke, P., . . . , Haider, T., . . . (2026). `Introducing EcoCor: An Open Infrastructure for Digital Ecocriticism`. DH2026, Korea. Long Talk.

Haider, T. (2026). `Towards Affective Analysis of Animals in Poetry`. DHd2026, Vienna. Poster.

Haider, T., Perschl, T., Rehbein, M. (2025). `Quantification of Biodiversity from Historical Survey Text with LLM-based Best-Worst Scaling`. EcoNLP Workshop @ NoDaLiDa 2025.

Computational Literary Studies & Semantic Change

Haider, T., Ruiz Fabo, P., Baumann, T., Martinez Canton, C. (accepted). Enjambement as Syntactic Disruption in Historical and Contemporary German and Spanish Poetry. *Computational Humanities Research.*

Sela, A., Haider, T., Plecháč, P. (accepted). Mind the Meter: Systematic Language Variation in Poetry Corpora Confounds Computational Analysis. *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities.*

Gittel, B., Haider, T. (2025). The Ongoing Birth of the Narrator: Empirical Evidence for the Emergence of the Author-Narrator Distinction in Literary Criticism. *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities.*

Haider, T. (2024). A Large Annotated Reference Corpus of New High German Poetry. LREC-COLING 2024, Torino.

Haider, T. (2023). A Computational Stylistics of Poetry: Distant Reading and Modeling of German and English Verse. Doctoral Thesis, University of Stuttgart. doi:10.18419/opus-12721

Haider, T. (2021). Metrical Tagging in the Wild: Building and Annotating Poetry Corpora with Rhythmic Features. EACL 2021, Main Volume.

Thissen, B., Schlotz, W., Abel, C., Scharinger, M., Merrill, J., Haider, T., Menninghaus, W. (2021). At the Heart of Optimal Reading Experiences: Cardiovascular Activity and Flow Experiences in Fiction Reading. *Reading Research Quarterly.*

Rother, D., Haider, T., Eger, S. (2020). CMCE at SemEval-2020 Task 1: Clustering on Manifolds of Contextualized Embeddings to Detect Historical Meaning Shifts. SemEval @ COLING 2020.

Haider, T., Eger, S., Kim, E., Klinger, R., Menninghaus, W. (2020). PO-EMO: Conceptualization, Annotation, and Modeling of Aesthetic Emotions in German and English Poetry. LREC 2020, Marseille.

Haider, T., Eger, S. (2019). Semantic Change and Emerging Tropes in a Large Corpus of New High German Poetry. Historical Language Change Workshop @ ACL 2019, Florence.

Edited Volumes

Reiter, N., Haider, T., Kababgi, D., Buschmeier, H. (eds.) (2025). Book of Abstracts DHd2025. Under Construction. Bielefeld. doi:10.5281/zenodo.14887461

Weis, J., Haider, T., Bunout, E. (eds.) (2024). Book of Abstracts DHd2024. Quo Vadis DH? Passau. doi:10.5281/zenodo.10686565

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

Symbol vs. Context: Affect and Meaning of Animals in Poetry. Regensburg	*2026*
Animal-Centric Affective Analysis. CLS-SPP Conference, Würzburg	*2025*
Robust Quantification of Historical Biodiversity. UTN Nuremberg	*2025*
Two panels on Automatic Writing 2.0. International Literature Festival Berlin	*2019*

TEACHING

19 courses (BA–PhD) at Passau, Göttingen and TU Darmstadt since 2019, including:

Text Analysis: Digital Ecocriticism, Seminar/Lab (BA), Passau	*Winter 2026/27*
Introduction to Theory and Methods of Digital Humanities, Lecture (BA), Passau	*2024–2027*
Language and Emotion in Media Discourse, Seminar (BA), Passau	*Winter 2025/26*
Distant Reading of Literature, Lab (MA), Göttingen	*Winter 2021/22*

SERVICE

Head of Local Organization, DHd2024 Passau (ca. 500 participants); Vice Chair of Program Committee, DHd2025 Bielefeld; Program Committee, DHd2026 Vienna. Coordinator of the Methods Center for the Humanities (Methodikum), University of Passau; member of the DHd Working Group Theory. Reviewer for DH, DHd, ACL, EMNLP, LREC, CHR Journal, JCLS, European Commission.

LANGUAGES

German (native), English (C2), Dutch (B1), Spanish (A2), French (A2)