

Alie Lassche

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Summary

I am a computational humanities researcher with a PhD in History from Leiden University. In my work, I use computational, quantitative and statistical methods to trace the dissemination of information, primarily in early modern European societies. My work pays particular attention to communities that were historically marginalized or considered peripheral, whether for political, social, religious, or geographical reasons.

Work Experience

Antwerp Center for Digital Humanities and Literary Criticism, University of Antwerp

Antwerp, Belgium

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

June 2026–present

- In my project *Tracing Early Modern Echo Chambers and Filter Bubbles: A Quantitative Analysis of Information Spread through Low Countries' Pamphlets (1500-1850)*, funded through an NWO Rubicon grant, I systematically analyze a large corpus of Low Countries pamphlets (1500-1850) to assess how information and opinion circulated through this medium.

Center for Humanities Computing, Aarhus University

Aarhus, Denmark

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Aug. 2024–May 2026

- I worked within the Carlsberg funded project *The Golden Array of Danish Cultural Heritage*, studying the extent to which the cultural experiences of 'non-elite' Danes in the nineteenth century were both shaped by but also differed from the cultural, literary, artistic, and theological values and practices traditionally associated with the Danish Golden Age.

Utrecht University

Utrecht, Netherlands

LECTURER

Feb. 2024–July 2024

- Teaching digital humanities courses to BA and MA students of Dutch language and literature and comparative literary studies, and supervising theses.

Utrecht University

Utrecht, Netherlands

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Nov. 2015–July 2019

- March–July 2019: Student assistant at the DH2019 conference.
- Sep. 2018–July 2019: Student assistant at the RMA Dutch literature and culture.
- Nov. 2015–Jan. 2017: Student assistant at the Early Modern Literature section. Methodical innovation of bachelor course "Vroegmoderne tijd"; teaching a research tutorial in the same course; cooperating in project *Annotating History: Managing Digitized Heritage Interactively* of Prof. Dr. Arnoud Visser.
- Sep. 2017–July 2019: Research assistant on Dr. Nina Geerdink's NWO Veni-project *Poets & Profits. A New History of Dutch Literary Authorship (1550–1750)*.

Education

Leiden University

Leiden, Netherlands

PHD CANDIDATE

Sep. 2019–Nov. 2023

- Dissertation title: "Information Dynamics in Low Countries' Chronicles (1500–1860). A Computational Approach"
- Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Judith Pollmann, Dr. Erika Kuijpers and Dr. Roser Morante
- February–June 2022: visiting researcher at the Center for Humanities Computing at Aarhus University (Denmark)
- September 2023–February 2024: PhD fellow at the Leibniz Institute for European History in Mainz (Germany)

Utrecht University

Utrecht, Netherlands

RMA DUTCH LITERATURE AND CULTURE (CUM LAUDE)

Sep. 2017–July 2019

- September 2018–January 2019: intern at the KNAW Meertens Institute (Amsterdam)
- Thesis title: "Cultural Evolution in Dutch Early Modern Songs. Topical Fluctuations in the Dutch Song Database (1550-1750)"

Utrecht University

Utrecht, Netherlands

BA DUTCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Sep. 2014–July 2017

- February–July 2017: intern at the BA *filologia niderlandzka* at Adam Mickiewicz University (Poznań, Poland)
- Thesis title: "De *Palamedes* als cultural memory. Onderzoek naar geannoteerde exemplaren van Vondels *Palamedes*"

Teaching and Supervising

TEACHING

2024	Distant Reading. Digital Tools and Textual Analysis , Lecturer	Utrecht University
	Corpora and Tools in Dutch Language and Culture , Lecturer	Utrecht University
2021	Nederlandse Geschiedenis (Dutch History) , Working group teacher	Leiden University
2020	Nederlandse Geschiedenis (Dutch History) , Working group teacher	Leiden University
2019	Programming in R , Working group teacher	Utrecht University
2017	Dutch and Flemish literary and cultural history , Lecturer	Adam Mickiewicz University

SUPERVISING

2024	Master/Apprentice program , Digital Text Analysis: Early Modern Theatre	Utrecht University
2021	Network Institute , Horizons of Interest. The Geographical Scope of Knowledge in Early Modern Chronicles (1500–1850)	Vrije Universiteit
2020	Network Institute , The Cycle of News in Chronicles from Eighteenth Century Holland. A Stylometric Approach	Vrije Universiteit
	Humanities Research Traineeship Programme , Tracking the Reception of New Knowledge in Low Countries' Chronicles (1500–1850)	Leiden University

Grants

2026	Rubicon grant (two years) , Dutch Research Council (NWO)	€ 158,324
2023	PhD Fellowship (six months) , Leibniz Institute for European History (Mainz, Germany)	
2022	Research grant , Stichting Fonds Doctor Catharine van Tussenbroek	
	Research grant , Stichting de Fundatie van de Vrijvrouwe van Renswoude te 's-Gravenhage	

Academic Service

BOARDS AND COUNCILS

- '24–now **Vice-President**, Computational Humanities Research
- '22–'23 **Editor 'Seventeenth Century'**, Literatuurgeschiedenis.org
- '20–'23 **Coordinator PhD-ReMa council**, Huizinga Institute, Research and Graduate School of Cultural History

CONFERENCES COMMITTEES

'25–now	Programme Committee Member , Digital Humanities in Nordic and Baltic Countries Conference	DHNB
'22–now	Programme Committee Member , Digital Humanities Benelux Conference	DHBenelux
'22–now	Programme Committee Member , Computational Humanities Research Conference	CHR
2026	Programme Chair , Digital Humanities Benelux Conference	DHBenelux2026
2022	Programme Chair , Computational Humanities Research Conference	CHR2022

JOURNAL REVIEWER

- Humanities & Social Sciences Communications, Nature Communications, International Journal of Digital Humanities, Computational Humanities Research, Journal of European Periodical Studies, Tijdschrift voor Nederlandse Taal- en Letterkunde

Additional Information

Languages	Dutch (native), English, German (B2), Danish (B1)
Programming	Python, Jupyter Notebooks, Git, HuggingFace, Markdown, HTML, \LaTeX
Tools	Gephi, Transkribus

Publications

MONOGRAPHS

Lassche, Alie, *Information Dynamics in Low Countries' Chronicles (1500–1860). A Computational Approach*, PhD Dissertation, Leiden 2024.

PAPER IN CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (PEER REVIEWED)

Lassche, Alie, Pascale Feldkamp, Yuri Bizzoni, Katrine Baunvig, Kristoffer Nielbo & Johan Heinsen, “Evaluating Embedding Models on Danish Historical Newspapers: A Corpus and Benchmark Resource”, *Proceedings of the 2026 International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC)*, Palma, Mallorca, May 11-16, 2026.

Lassche, Alie, Rie Schmidt Eriksen, Pascale Feldkamp, Johan Heinsen, Katrine Baunvig & Kristoffer Nielbo, “Reading Beyond the Center. Modeling Book Encounters in the Danish Periphery (1800-1850)”, *Proceedings of the Computational Humanities Research Conference 2025*, Luxembourg, Luxembourg, December 9–12, 2025.

Hansen, Louise Brix Pilegaard, Rie Schmidt Eriksen, Pascale Feldkamp, **Alie Lassche**, Kristoffer Laigaard Nielbo, Katrine Frøkjær Baunvig & Yuri Bizzoni, “Framing the Canon: A Computational Study of Canonicity in Danish Golden Age Paintings (1750-1870)”, *Proceedings of the Computational Humanities Research Conference 2025*, Luxembourg, Luxembourg, December 9–12, 2025.

Feldkamp, Pascale, **Alie Lassche**, Katrine Baunvig, Kristoffer Nielbo & Yuri Bizzoni, “Fact from Fiction: Finding Serialized Novels in Newspapers”, *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 4: Student Research Workshop)*, Vienna, Austria, July, 2025.

Lassche, Alie, Pascale Feldkamp, Yuri Bizzoni, Katrine Baunvig & Kristoffer Nielbo, “Why Novels (Don't) Break Through: Dynamics of Canonicity in the Danish Modern Breakthrough (1870-1900)”, *Proceedings of the 9th Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature*, Albuquerque, USA, May 4, 2025.

Feldkamp, Pascale, **Alie Lassche**, Jan Kostkan, Martón Kardos, Kenneth Enevoldsen, Katrine Baunvig & Kristoffer Nielbo, “Canonical Status and Literary Influence: A Comparative Study of Danish Novels from the Modern Breakthrough (1870–1900)”, *Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Natural Language Processing for Digital Humanities*, Miami, USA, November 16, 2024.

Dekker, Theo, Erika Kuijpers, **Alie Lassche**, Carolina Lenarduzzi, Roser Morante & Judith Pollmann, “The Kronieken Corpus: an Annotated Collection of Dutch/Flemish Chronicles from 1500-1850”, *Proceedings of the 8th Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature*, St. Julian's, Malta, March 22, 2024.

Lassche, Alie, Ruben Ros & Joris Veerbeek, “(De)constructing Binarism in Journalism: Automatic Antonym Detection in Dutch Newspaper Articles”, *Proceedings of the Computational Humanities Research Conference 2023*, Paris, France, December 6–8, 2023.

Lassche, Alie, Jan Kostkan & Kristoffer Nielbo, “Chronicling Crises. Event Detection in Early Modern Chronicles from the Low Countries”, *Proceedings of the Computational Humanities Research Conference 2022*, Antwerp, Belgium, December 12–14, 2022.

Lassche, Alie & Kristoffer Nielbo, “Preface”, *Proceedings of the Computational Humanities Research Conference 2022*, Antwerp, Belgium, December 12–14, 2022.

Smith, Eleanor, Lianne Wilhelmus, **Alie Lassche**, Erika Kuijpers & Roser Morante, “Identifying Copied Fragments in an 18th Century Dutch Chronicle”, *Proceedings of the 2022 International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation*, Marseille.

Lassche, Alie & Roser Morante, “The Early Modern Dutch Mediascape. Detecting Media Mentions in Chronicles Using Word Embeddings and CRF”, *Proceedings of the 5th Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature* (2021) 1–10.

ARTICLE IN JOURNAL (PEER REVIEWED)

Deijl, Lucas van der & **Alie Lassche**. “Performing Gender Through Dialogue: A Computational Approach to Male and Female Speech in Dutch Drama (1600-1800)”, *Early Modern Low Countries* 9 (2025) 2.

Kuijpers, Erika, Carolina Lenarduzzi, Judith Pollmann, Theo Dekker & **Alie Lassche**, “Profiling Local Chroniclers in the Early Modern Low Countries”, *Urban History* (2024): 1-26.

Nielbo, Kristoffer L., Folgert Karsdorp, Melvin Wevers, **Alie Lassche**, Rebekah B. Baglini, Mike Kestemont & Nina Tahmasebi, “Quantitative Text Analysis”, *Nature Reviews Methods Primers*, 4 (2024) 1.

Lassche, Alie, “Popular Song Topics in the Dutch Republic. A Data-Driven Study into Topical Fluctuations in the Dutch Song Database (1550–1750)”, *Early Modern Low Countries* 6 (2022) 2: 253–277. <https://doi.org/10.51750/emlc10908>.

Šeĵa, Artjoms, Petr Plecháč & **Alie Lassche**, “Semantics of European poetry is shaped by conservative forces: The relationship between poetic meter and meaning in accentual-syllabic verse”, *PLoS ONE* 17 (2022) 4: e0266556. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0266556>.

Dekker, Theo & **Alie Lassche**, “Chronicling Novelty. Nieuws! Lokale kronieken, 1500–1850”, *De Zeventiende Eeuw. Cultuur in de Nederlanden in Interdisciplinair Perspectief* (2020) 147-150.

Geerdink, Nina & **Alie Lassche**, “Social and Economic Imperatives for the Production of Wedding Poetry in the Dutch Republic. A Data-Driven Analysis”, *Quaerendo* 50 (2020) 1: 81–108.

Lassche, Alie & Arnaud Visser, “Lezers in de marges van Vondels *Palamedes*. Een census van zeventiende-eeuwse edities”, *Nederlandse Letterkunde* 24 (2019) 1: 35–63.

BOOK REVIEWS

Lassche, Alie & Carmen Verhoeven, “Drie nieuwe producten, twee oude eeuwen, één nieuwe weg”, *Vooy* 36 (2018) 3: 73–77.

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS (PEER REVIEWED)

Lassche, Alie, Mika Kipke, Rie Eriksen, Katrine Baunvig & Kristoffer Nielbo, “*Corsaren*: Multimodal Storytelling in Nineteenth Century Danish Satire”, *DH Benelux* 2026.

Lassche, Alie, Rie Eriksen, Kristoffer L. Nielbo & Katrine L. Baunvig, “News Circulation in Denmark–Norway (1770–1805): Preserving Content Diversity through Topic-Vector Representations”, *DHNB* 2026.

Lassche, Alie, Pascale Feldkamp, Yuri Bizzoni & Katrine Baunvig, “Why Novels (Don’t) Break Through: Dynamics of Canonicity in the Danish Modern Breakthrough (1870–1900)”, *DH Benelux* 2025.

Deijl, Lucas van der, Milan van Lange, **Alie Lassche**, Ruben Ros & Kim Smeenk, “Pursuing a PhD in DH: Challenges, Opportunities, and Best Practices”, *DH Benelux* 2025.

Lassche, Alie & Lucas van der Deijl, “Performing Gender on the Early Modern Stage: a Computational and Cross-lingual Approach to Male and Female Speech in European Drama”, *DH Benelux* 2025.

Lassche, Alie, “Early Modern Information Dynamics. Modelling Information Landscapes of Chroniclers from the Low Countries (1500–1860)”, *Research Colloquium IEG*, Mainz, November 2023.

Lassche, Alie & Ruben Ros, “Innovators of the Past: Modelling Novelty in Dutch Historical Language Records”, *ADHO Digital Humanities Conference (DH2023)*, Graz, July 2023.

Lassche, Alie, “Reconstructing the early modern mediascape. A computer-assisted approach to source detection in chronicles from the Netherlands (1550–1850)”, *PhD Conference Huizinga Institute*, Huissen, November 2022.

Lassche, Alie, “Semantic halo in European poetry: the relationship between poetic meter and meaning”, *Sound Matters: An Exploratory Workshop into Sound and Digital Humanities*, Leiden, August 2022.

Lassche, Alie, “Changing mediascapes and the collection of knowledge”, *PhD Symposium Institute for History*, Leiden, December 2021.

Lassche, Alie & Roser Morante, “The Mediascape of Dutch Chroniclers. Labeling media mentions in early modern chronicles using CRF”, *Digital Humanities Benelux Conference (DHBenelux)*, online, June 2021.

Lassche, Alie, “Using Digital Tools to Analyze the Mediascape of Netherlandish Chroniclers”, *Renaissance Society of America Conference (RSA)*, online, April 2021.

Lassche, Alie, Folgert Karsdorp & Els Stronks, “Repetition and Popularity in Early Modern Songs”, *ADHO Digital Humanities Conference (DH2019)*, Utrecht, July 2019.

BLOGPOSTS

Lassche, Alie, “Liedcultuur. Altijd en overal zingen”, www.literatuurgeschiedenis.org, February 2023.

Lassche, Alie, “Leescultuur in de Republiek. Sporen van lezers in boeken”, www.literatuurgeschiedenis.org, November 2022.

Lassche, Alie & Marringje Paijmans, “Gouden Eeuw? Grote welvaart voor een kleine groep”, www.literatuurgeschiedenis.org, November 2022.

Lassche, Alie, “Eventdetectie in vroegmoderne kronieken”, www.chroniclingnovelty.com, blog post, April 2022.

Lassche, Alie, “Een digitale toekomst voor oud nieuws: bekijk het filmpje over ons project!”, www.chroniclingnovelty.com, blog post, September 2020.

Lassche, Alie, “Ruim 34.000 scans: ons kronieken corpus is compleet! (Maar we hebben nog steeds hulp nodig)”, www.chroniclingnovelty.com, blog post, April 2020.

Lassche, Alie, “Geen mondkapjes maar een processie met ‘reliquien’: virusbestrijding in 1057”, www.chroniclingnovelty.com, blog post, March 2020.

Lassche, Alie, “Ons corpus is bijna compleet!”, www.chroniclingnovelty.com, blog post, December 2019.

GUEST LECTURES

“Computational Approaches to Early Modern Dutch Theater”, MA Digital Text Analysis, Antwerp University, May 2024.

“Het vroegmoderne medialandschap. Hoe *machine learning* kan helpen bij het lezen en analyseren van historische kronieken (1550–1850)”, Christelijk College Nassau Veluwe, Harderwijk, November 2022.

“Computational humanities en mediageschiedenis”, *Nascholingscursus voor docent-onderzoekers – Universiteit Utrecht & Taalunie*, Utrecht, August 2022.

Course Paleography, Utrecht University, March 2022.

Course Paleography, Utrecht University, February 2021.