Does our experience of a medieval manuscript change when we look at it in digital form? What happens when we can't see the rough edges of the parchment, feel the pages turn, see the ink change as light hits it?

This course is all about the relationship between the discipline of history and computing tools, and we’ll examine that relationship by looking at the history of Indiana University itself. In the first part of the course, we'll look at how technology changes our experience of the past, and how our experience of the past changes our approach to using technology. As the semester progresses, we'll work through a hands-on introduction of the digital tools that historians and other humanities scholars use in digital research projects: curation tools and blogs, text analysis and data mining tools, mapping and GIS. We’ll then use these tools to complete a digital portfolio piece—a digitally curated object, an augmented reality tour, etc.—that that will become part of a permanent collection visible to the public. No technical experience is necessary, and the use of laptops, smartphones and tablets will be encouraged.