

The Future Is Collaborative: Historical Psychology in Latin Texts

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The modern academy has long been defined by a separation between the humanities and sciences that divides research, bureaucracy, and even a sense of education's purpose. Already in the 1950s, C. P. Snow in his famous lecture, later an essay entitled "The Two Cultures," described the humanistic and scientific communities as tribes losing contact with one another. As we move into the age of AI, what we study and how we teach humanistic perspectives depends on these tribes reestablishing contact. In this direction, this paper offers a model for a new kind of intellectual cosmopolitanism, one which brings together a diverse team of researchers who believe that the study of historical psychology can suggest inclusive solutions to contemporary problems (Atari & Henrich 2023).

One such challenge, especially visible on social media and in the rise of political extremism, is hate. Focusing on this topic of ever-increasing concern for social scientists (e.g., Hoover et al. 2021), we will examine an influential line of research, which proposes that hate comprises multiple specific components that can manifest in different forms and contexts (Sternberg 2003). These components are, it has been argued, anger and a preoccupation with purity (Kennedy et al. 2022). Drawing on Moral Foundations Theory, which was created to understand why morality varies across cultures yet still shows recurrent themes (Graham et al. 2013; Haidt & Joseph 2004), we use Natural Language Processing (NLP methods to identify linguistic signatures of anger, purity and hate in Latin. In particular, we investigate the inter-relationships of these concepts by examining the co-localization of not only key terms (e.g., *ira*, *odium*) but also implicit markers of emotive contexts (e.g., affective phenomena, imagery, metaphor). Historical and philological analysis play a key role in interrogating the validity of the claim. We present this team-based model because it clearly demonstrates the value of humanistic study for the scientific study of contemporary issues.

Through application of computational methods to a premodern, non-Anglophone literary corpus vastly different from typical NLP benchmarks (Blasi et al 2022), we illustrate how literary applications can provide a stringent test of scientific methodologies that have heretofore tended to flow into the humanities rather than from them. In addition, we leverage these technical advances to demonstrate how tapping into data from "dead minds" can both improve our knowledge of the ancient world and produce a more capacious understanding of key psychological concepts. Beyond our specific claims, the broader significance of this integrative approach is to add temporal depth and cross-lingual nuance to psychology, a field which has traditionally seen itself as the science of universal human cognition and behavior (Muthukrishna et al. 2021).