



rMA and PhD training program Research School Political History

Advanced Training Workshop Data Management and analysis for historical research in Nodegoat

Date: 26 November 2025 | **Time:** 13:00 – 17:00

Location: Oost-Indisch Huis (Oude Hoogstraat 24, Amsterdam). Room A0.03

Credits: 1 ECTS

Registration deadline: 12 November 2025

Please register by sending an email to:

bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl

Speakers

Pim van Bree – LAB1100

Geert Kessels – LAB1100

Please find the full program and course description below

Schedule

13:00	Introduction to Nodegoat
13:45	Who are you and what is your research question?
14:00	Learn how to enter geographical data into Nodegoat
15:00	Break
15:15	Learn how to enter relational data into Nodegoat
15:45	Learn how to conceptualize a data model
16:15	Learn how to implement a data model in Nodegoat
16:30	Q&A
17:00	Drinks

Course description

How do you organize, structure, and preserve your sources and data? Data management has become an essential part of doing research in the humanities, whether you work with archival materials, oral histories, or born-digital sources. This workshop introduces participants to key principles of data management: how to store, connect, and analyze data in ways that make your research both sustainable and transparent.

As a practical case, we will work with *Nodegoat*, a web-based research environment designed specifically for the humanities and widely used by an international research community. Nodegoat allows scholars to build customized datasets and offers relational, spatial, and chronological modes of analysis.

The workshop, given by Nodegoat developers Pim van Bree and Geert Kessels, combines broader discussions on data management in the humanities with hands-on training. Participants will learn how to set up, analyze, and visualize their own data in Nodegoat, and reflect on how digital tools can enhance their research practices.

We welcome all PhD candidates and ReMA students interested in the challenges and opportunities of data management in the humanities, whether you are new to digital research tools, curious about how to organize your sources, or already working with Nodegoat.

Please bring your own laptop.

Learning aims and outcomes

- Become familiar with key principles of data management in the humanities.
- Reflect on the broader challenges and opportunities of data management in humanities research.
- Learn how to analyze and visualize your data.
- Learn how to design and create your own data model and database.
- Gain an understanding of the possibilities and limitations of Nodegoat for historical and humanities research.
- Discuss your own data challenges with the Nodegoat developers.

Assignments

In order to prepare for the module, we ask you to:

- Request a nodegoat account (<https://nodegoat.net/requestaccount>)
- Get acquainted with the way in which Nodegoat might help your project by following the online guides (<https://nodegoat.net/guides>)
 - Create a project
 - Create your first object type
 - Enter your first data
- Develop a general sense of the research environment and how you want to use it for your project. Explore how Nodegoat has been used by others (<https://nodegoat.net/usecases>).
- Read the articles from the literature list (see below).
- Prepare a top three of topics and/or questions you wish to explore during the workshop and send these to the workshop organizers in advance (to bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl) . Also state to what extent you are already acquainted with Nodegoat in your e-mail.

Readings

- Bree, Pim van, and Geert Kessels, 'Traiblazing, Object-Oriented Navigation in nodegoat'.
- Vugt, Ingeborg van, 'Using Multi-Layered Networks to Disclose Books in the Republic of letters', *Journal of Historical Network Research* (2017): 25-51.