

Humanists Perceptions and Engagement in Open Science

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Abstract

Open science is the practice of making science open and more accessible to the general community. This study examines how open science is related to humanities researchers' perceptions and behaviors towards open practices including open publishing, peer review, and preprint publication. It is important because the act of open science is crucial for enhancing transparency and collaboration in research, which is beneficial to society. The study includes our research team reaching out to interview humanities professors in the College of Arts and Sciences at FSU under the different departments of English, Religion, Philosophy, and Classics and asking them a set amount of questions of their perception and deep understanding of how they view open science practices. The team conducted interviews and transcribed the interview from recorded audio. Questions can vary from their familiarity with open science, involvement and engagement with open publication data sets, barriers and challenges in increasing participation in open science activities. The results included coding the interview transcripts in the software named NVivo using thematic analysis. The results of the research project are still ongoing and will be used to address the current concerns of a research divide about open science practices in underrepresented groups in previous literature. Next steps would be to reach out to different departments at FSU to be able to gain and view different perspectives of other faculty outside of the humanities.

Introduction

- Open science practices are all about making access to research more accessible, enhancing collaboration with the community, and making research more transparent, accessible, and reproducible by promoting practices such as open access publishing, open data and open methodologies.
- In fields such as science and medicine, open science practices have been adopted to improve research transparency and collaboration. Organizations like the Center for Open Science support researchers in sharing data, preregistrations, and research materials openly.
- Studies have shown the level of adoption for open science practices in fields like science and medicine, but the humanities are underrepresented in the existing literature.
- This study helps fill these gaps by centering humanities scholars' voices and examining their perspectives on open science practices within their own disciplinary contexts.
- The purpose of this study is to explore humanists' perceptions and attitudes toward open science practices and to better understand how open science principles align or conflict with humanities research norms. This research aims to identify key barriers, motivations, and opportunities for open science adoption within the humanities.

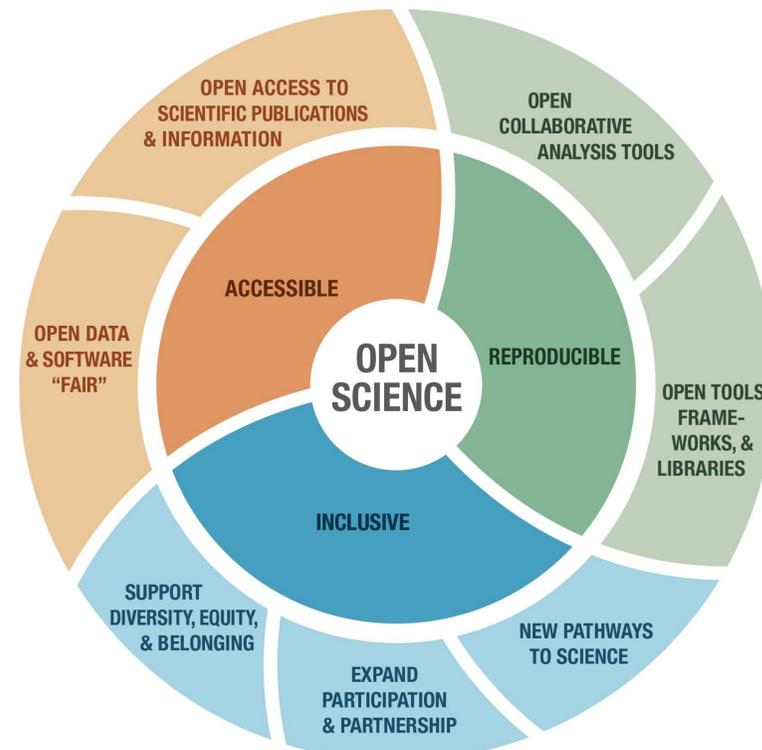


Figure 1 . [10.5281/ZENODO.13694510](https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.13694510)

Methods

- The subjects of the study are tenured or tenure-track humanities professors under the departments of English, Classics, Religion and Philosophy under the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Interviews will be conducted for approximately 1 hour and interviewer will have a list of questions and a consent agreement to ask the professor.
- Questions can vary from their familiarity with open science before or after the interview, involvement and engagement with open publication data sets, barriers and challenges in increasing participation in open science activities.
- At the start of interview, audio will be tested and transcription settings will be on.
- Transcription will be reviewed and edited by one team member and reviewed after by another team member
- Interview transcriptions will then be coded through the software called NVivo using thematic analysis.

Methods

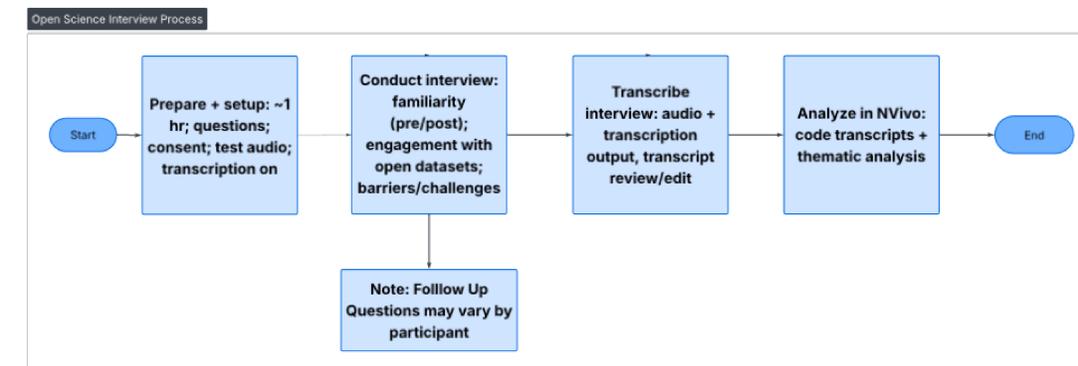


Figure 2

Conclusion

This ongoing study explores humanists' perceptions and attitudes toward open science practices to better understand how principles of openness, transparency, and accessibility align with humanities research cultures. As data collection and analysis are still in progress, preliminary work focuses on identifying key themes related to awareness, perceived benefits, and potential barriers to adoption.

The anticipated outcomes of this research aim to contribute to broader discussions on inclusive open science implementation by highlighting the needs and perspectives of humanities scholars. Ultimately, this study seeks to inform future strategies that support equitable participation in open science across disciplines.

References

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