

Using Vocabularies and Linked data:
#ConnectingArchaeology webinar

Speaking one language: how vocabularies can help organise information



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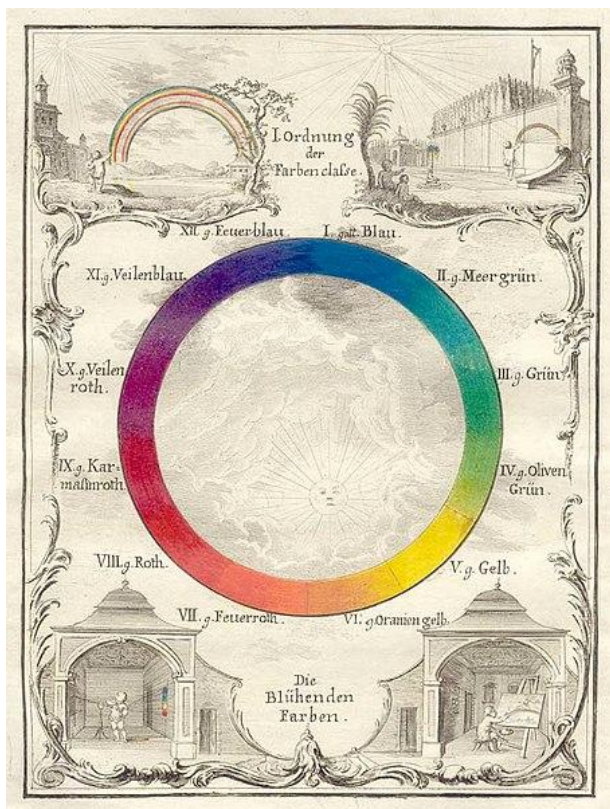
The Tower of Babel, Pieter Bruegel the Elder, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM



Structuring the “confusio linguarum”

Vocabularies

- List of standardised terms or codes
- Controlled
 - Process in place to agree on initial list
 - Process in place to agree on changes
- Authorised
- Available for use

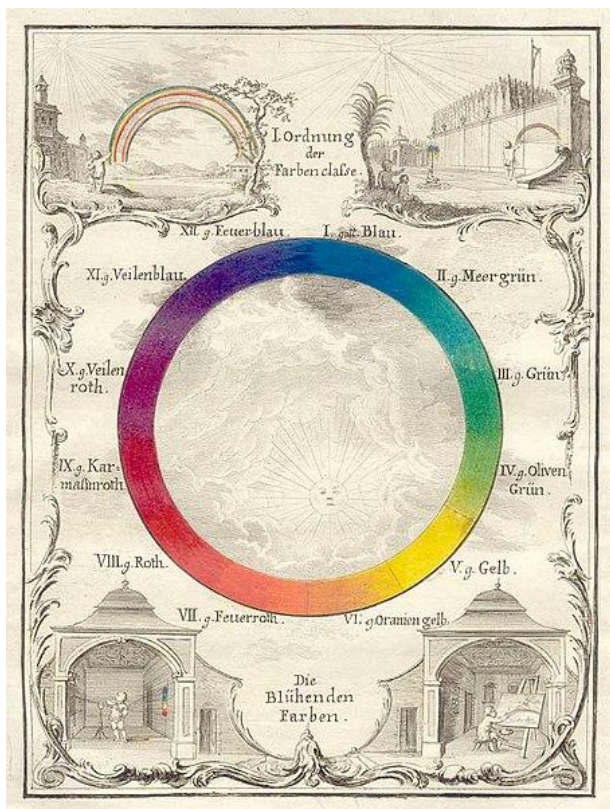


- Blue
- Sea green
- Green
- Olive green
- Yellow
- Indian yellow
- Flame red
- Red
- Crimson
- Violet red
- Violet
- Fire blue

Ignaz Schiffermüller, Versuch eines Farbensystems (Vienna, 1772), plate I (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Taxonomies

- Classification of terms from a controlled vocabulary
- Often organised hierarchically
 - Broader/narrower
 - Parent/child
- Can be polyhierarchical, i.e. one term appears under multiple broader terms

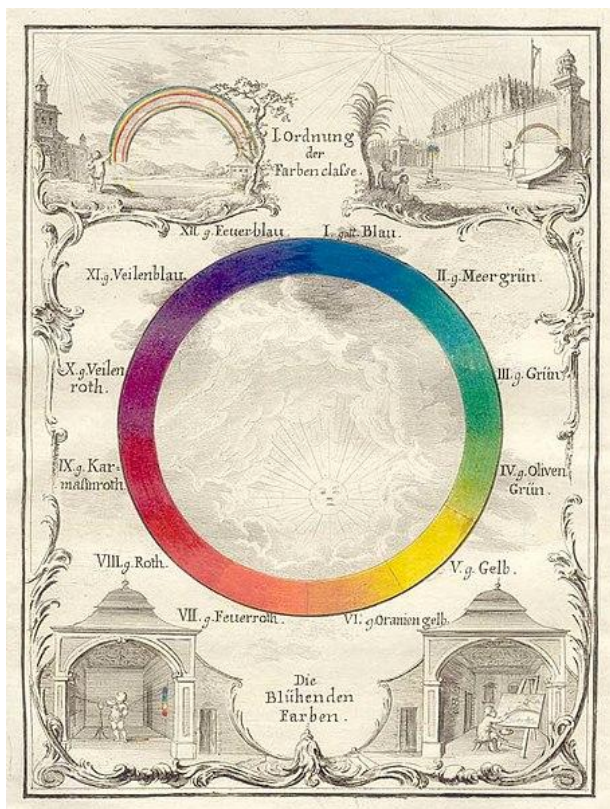


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Ignaz Schiffermüller, Versuch eines Farbensystems (Vienna, 1772), plate I (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Thesauri

- Add cross-references to hierarchical relationships
 - E.g. “see also”
- Include synonym, antonym, and variant relationships
 - E.g. “same as”
- May include explanations of the terms and their use in indexing
- May include information about a term’s history

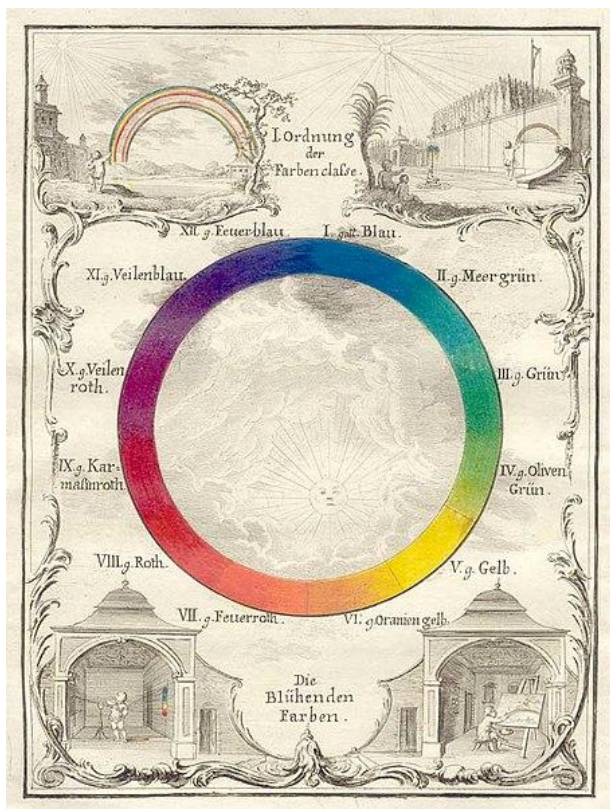


- Crimson
 - isNarrowerThan “red”
 - isRelatedTo “purple”
 - isUsedFor “slightly bluish-red colors that are between red and rose”
 - hasPreviousForm “*cremesin*”

Ignaz Schiffermüller, Versuch eines Farbensystems (Vienna, 1772), plate I (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Ontologies

- Add further relationship options
- Are more specific in the relationships used
 - E.g. isFatherOf instead of isRelatedTo
- Add relationships between different types of entities
 - E.g. isLocatedAt for a relationship between an organisation and a place or isMaintainedBy for a relationship between an object and an organisation
- Are often domain-specific



- **Crimson**
 - isDerivedFrom “purple”
 - isDerivedFrom “purple”
 - isUsedFor “slightly bluish-red colors that are between red and rose”
 - hasPreviousForm “cremesin”
 - isSimilarTo “carmine”
 - isUsedIn “dyes”
 - isUsedFor “textiles”
 - isUsedBy “dyers”
 - isProducedFrom “kermes”

Ignaz Schiffermüller, Versuch eines Farbensystems (Vienna, 1772), plate I (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM



Finding your way in the “confusio linguarum”

Languages, writing systems, spellings

Tiziano Vecellio

Titian

Тициан

טִיצְיָאן

Titien

提齊安諾·維伽略



Tiziano Vecelli

Τιτσιάνο

Tizian

Titiaan

تیتیان

ティツィアーノ・
ヴェチェッリオ

Tiziano Vecellio, Autorretrato, Museo del Prado, Madrid (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Localisation

Brötchen

Semmel

Weck

Schrippe



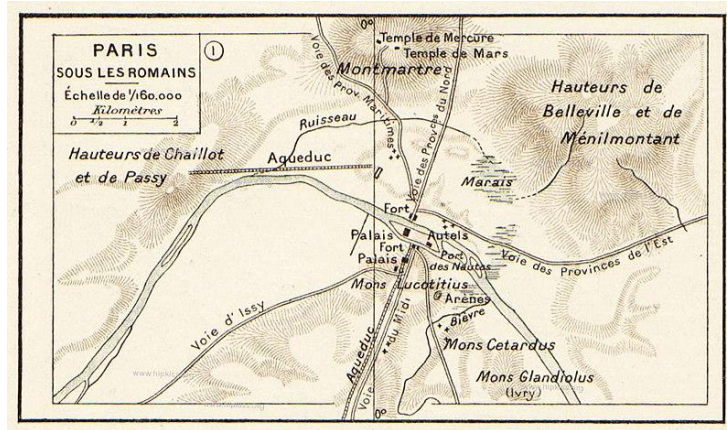
Rundstück

Bömmel

Stüttes

Ralf Roletschek / roletschek.at, Five different commercial buns from Vienna (via Wikimedia Commons), [Lizenz „Freie Kunst“](#)

Historical and contemporary terms



Lutetia



Paris

Paul Vidal de La Blache, Maps of Paris (Paris sous les Romains) from Atlas Général Histoire et Géographie (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM / Copernicus Sentinel-2 (ESA), Paris (via Wikimedia Commons), CC BY-SA

Culturally inappropriate terms



Original caption: “Korah **Hottentots** preparing to remove”. - Samuel Daniell, African Scenery and Animals, 1805. - The British Museum

Samuel Daniell, Korak-Khoekhoen dismantling their huts, preparing to move to new pastures (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Domain- or content-specific terms

Archivbestand 1 in den Abteilung XII mit abgeschlossenen Vorgängen der Vorgangsarten:

Beobachtungsvorgang , Einzelvorgang , Fahndungsvorgang , Geheimer Informator , Geheimer Mitarbeiter , Gesellschaftlicher Mitarbeiter für Sicherheit , Gruppenvorgang , Inoffizieller Mitarbeiter , Kontrollvorgang , Objektvorgang , Operative Personenkontrolle , Operativer Vorgang , Teilvorgang , Überprüfungsvorgang , Untersuchungsvorgang , Zentraler Operativer Vorgang , Zelleninformator , Feindobjektakte und Kontrollobjektakte und Arbeitsakten von Offizieren im besonderen Einsatz sowie nichtregistriertem Material ehemals KK-erfasster Personen und sonstigem Material mit Personenbezug.

Snapshot of the website of the archives of the Federal Commissioner for the Records of the State Security Service of the former German Democratic Republic
(<https://www.bstu.de/mfs-lexikon/detail/hauptablage-operative/>)



Making sense of the “confusio linguarum”

Retrieval



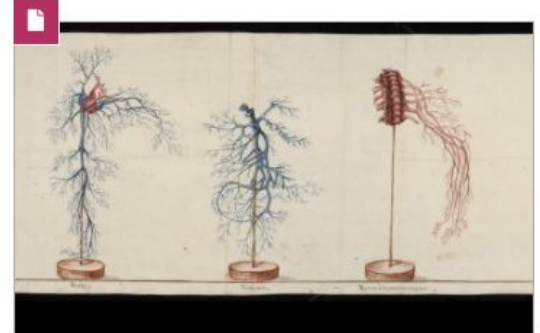
Leisure

Free time, public holidays, and town fairs



Maps

Geographical maps of different type



Medical sciences

Documents related to research and treaties on medicine

Using subject headings and concepts as entry point
(Upcoming redesign for [Archives Portal Europe](#), "Explore > Topics")

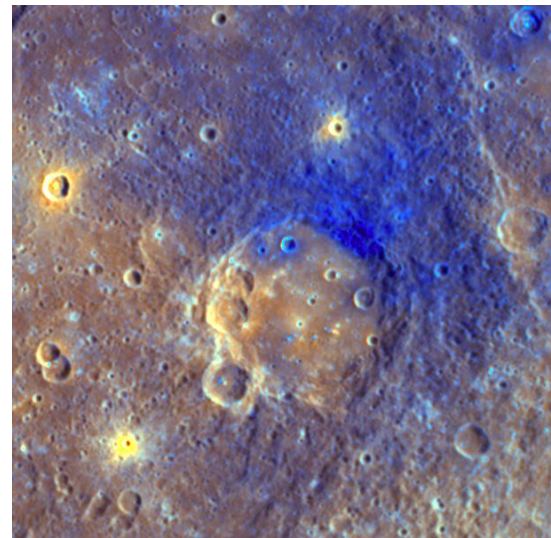
Disambiguation



Titian of Oderzo



Titian



Titian crater

Anonymous, Portrait of Titian of Oderzo, photograph by Didier Descouens (via Wikimedia Commons), CC BY-SA /
Tiziano Vecellio, Autorretrato, Museo del Prado, Madrid (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM / NASA, Titian crater (via Wikimedia Commons), PDM

Relations



onDisplayAt



paintedBy

locatedIn



livedIn





Tiziano Vecellio, Assumption of Mary, photograph by The Yorck Project, CC BY-SA / Didier Descouens, Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari, CC BY-SA / Tiziano Vecellio, Autorretrato, Museo del Prado, Madrid, PDM / NASA, Venice from the International Space Station, PDM - all via Wikimedia Commons

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Any questions?

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