
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPTuuli

Title: Military Men: Masculinities of Neo-Assyrian Military Personnel

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Project abstract:

Military Men aims to understand how military identities impacted the masculinities of soldiers from the Neo-Assyrian period (c. 934-612 BCE). This period saw rapid military expansion from northern Iraq, and at their height the Assyrian kings controlled territory from the Zagros Mountains to Egypt. A large number of texts, written in the dead language Akkadian, have been preserved from this period, and they describe a highly structured military hierarchy. In combination with visual depictions of military personnel which decorated the palace walls on stone slabs (called Assyrian palace reliefs), *Military Men* will first ask how applicable current models of military masculinities are to this ancient culture. It will then ask how the professional status of different personnel impacted their military masculinities. Finally, it will specifically outline the similarities and differences between three case studies: the commander-in-chief, chariot crews, and general infantry. *Military Men* will utilize a novel combination of digital methods and close reading. Corpus linguistics assess whether masculinities was a part of the semantic domains of the three case studies. Space Syntax Analysis and Visibility Graph Analysis, in combination with a visually-annotated, linked open database of Assyrian palace reliefs will assess which of the case studies were most visible in an example Assyrian palace. Social Network Analysis will explore how military masculinities impacted the daily lives of chariot drivers. All results will be analyzed in combination with close reading of original Akkadian texts and analysis of palace reliefs. The results will demonstrate that military masculinities differed within the Assyrian military complex, ranging from the more administrative military masculinities of the commander-in-chief to the more physically violent military masculinities of the general infantry. *Military Men* will be a significant contribution to ancient Near Eastern gender studies, as despite recent advancements in Neo-Assyrian masculinities studies, there has been no research into Neo-Assyrian military masculinities. *Military Men* will challenge the modern, Western biases in current theoretical models of military masculinities. All military masculinities studies are important to inform future policies in countries like Finland, which have mandatory military service, to mitigate the long-lasting harmful effects of military masculinities.

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Copyright information:

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Military Men: Masculinities of Neo-Assyrian Military Personnel

1. General description of data

1.1 What kinds of data is your research based on? What data will be collected, produced or reused? What file formats will the data be in? Additionally, give a rough estimate of the size of the data produced/collected.

Data item	File type	Approximate size
Richly annotated Akkadian text corpus from Open Richly Annotated Cuneiform Corpus (Oracc).	.txt, .csv, JSON	5000KB
Images of Assyrian palace reliefs	.jpg, .png, .tiff	60GB
Relational database	.xlsx, .rdf	1GB
Image database	.rdf, .accdp	70GB

1.2 How will the consistency and quality of data be controlled?

- Akkadian text corpus
 - adhere to Oracc standards of annotation
 - careful cleaning with thorough documentation that is carefully explained
 - all versions will include a date in the file name
- Images
 - high-resolution images will be taken from museum websites (when copyright allows)
 - when no high-resolution image is available, a museum visit will be carried out to take physical pictures with a DSLR camera
 - Light angles will be standardised
- Image database
 - formal vocabulary to be used in image annotations
 - metadata based on external projects to ensure interoperability
 - adherence to linked open data standards
- relational database
 - formal vocabulary
 - data manually entered from published volume of Akkadian texts
- all decisions in above will be documented and explained in README files accompanying the data

2. Ethical and legal compliance

2.1 What legal issues are related to your data management? (For example, GDPR and other legislation affecting data processing.)

Subjects of the research died 2,500 years ago. However, the published editions and images I will be

using are subject to copyright of both the publishers and museums that hold the objects. I will ensure I understand these policies and adhere to them in my research.

Several of the items are likely to also be unprovenanced, which has ethical implications in terms of their use for historical research fuelling black markets, criminal organisations, and even terrorism in the Middle East. Assyriology as a field does not have a blanket policy, and this is even less so for digital Assyriology. As I am using unprovenanced material as part of a corpus, I will take a first step and simply ensure that all unprovenanced material is declared as part of any publication resulting from this research - including a statistic of how much of the text corpus is unprovenanced.

2.2 How will you manage the rights of the data you use, produce and share?

I will make careful note of the copyright assigned to the data item. For the relational databases, this will include both a citation to where the object was published, but also an entry for the copyright law associated with them. I will then be able to filter out items that cannot be shared due to copyright restrictions. For the text corpus, I will ensure I adhere to the share-alike copyright of Oracc, and ensure future versions of the data adhere to that license.

3. Documentation and metadata

3. How will you document your data in order to make the data findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable for you and others? What kind of metadata standards, README files or other documentation will you use to help others to understand and use your data?

- README files (.txt format) will accompany every dataset. It will describe:
 - when the dataset was created
 - where the data was taken
 - relevant vocabularies
 - important notes on metadata
 - decisions made in the cleaning and processing of the data
- Datasets will be interoperable through the following measures:
 - adherence to other large projects' annotation vocabularies (e.g. KISHIB)
 - metadata categories found in other large projects (e.g. CDLI)
 - ID numbers of texts used by CDLI
 - when possible, non-proprietary file formats will be used

4. Storage and backup during the research project

4.1 Where will your data be stored, and how will the data be backed up?

The data will primarily be stored on an external hard drive, and backed up on the UH Home folder and cloud services as appropriate.

4.2 Who will be responsible for controlling access to your data, and how will secured access be controlled?

I (Ellie Bennett) will be responsible for controlling access to the data. Very little of the data has secured or restricted access, but I will simply not share those items that are restricted by copyright. This will include not including restricted images (and potentially only include the metadata and annotations of the object) in the final databases to be shared in repositories.

5. Opening, publishing and archiving the data after the research project

5.1 What part of the data can be made openly available or published? Where and when will the data, or its metadata, be made available?

Data	What part?	Where	When
Akkadian text corpus	Data, metadata	Zenodo repository	Once it has been cleaned and processed for the project (in year 2).
Image database	metadata, some images (according to copyright)	Zenodo repository	Once the database has been completed (approximately in the middle of year 2)
Relational database	data, metadata	Zenodo repository	Once the database has been completed (approximately in the beginning of year 3)

5.2 Where will data with long-term value be archived, and for how long?

The versions of the data uploaded to the Zenodo repositories will remain for as long as Zenodo is active. All data will also be archived on a dedicated hard drive bought for the project. Access to the archived material will be through an email request to me.

6. Data management responsibilities and resources

6.1 Who (for example role, position, and institution) will be responsible for data management?

I (Ellie Bennett, PI), will be responsible for data management. This includes data capture, metadata production, data quality, storage and backup, data archiving, and data sharing. I will review the DMP annually in case of a need for updates. I will be responsible for the data after the lifespan of the project.

6.2 What resources will be required for your data management procedures to ensure that

the data can be opened and preserved according to FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable)?

Data	Time	Research Visits	Costs
Akkadian text corpus	1 month	None	None
Image database	18 months	• Berlin, York (2 weeks at a time) for learning about infrastructures and interoperable vocabularies. • Museum visits (London, Berlin) for photographing objects	• travel costs (please see budget) • SD card for DSLR camera (please see budget)
Relational database	3 weeks	None	None