

Laboratory Notebook

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Open Science (A.Y. 2023/2024)

Second Cycle Degree in Digital Humanities and Digital Knowledge

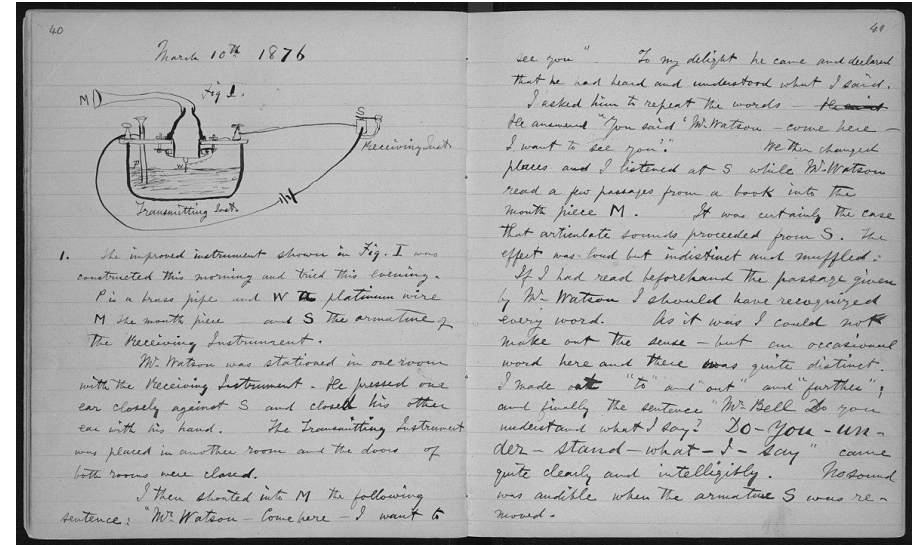
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What is a laboratory notebook

A laboratory notebook (also known as lab notebook) is a primary record of research, usually used in hard sciences laboratories (chemistry, biology, etc.)

It is where scholars document their research, and represents a sort of memory aid of the whole organisation of a research before publication in a research article



Two pages from a laboratory notebook by
Alexander Graham Bell

Project Jupyter

[Project Jupyter](#) is an open-source project that supports interactive data science and scientific computing across all programming languages – even if it has been originally conceived for Python

It allows one to create computational notebooks ([Jupyter Notebooks](#)) through a Web-based interface called [JupyterLab](#) – it can be [installed](#) with

```
pip install jupyterlab
```

Once installed, you can run it locally on your machine (starting from a folder of your preference) with

```
python -m jupyterlab
```

There are zillion of [introductory guides](#) for Jupyter Notebooks on the Web

Action item: each of you must maintain your personal Jupyter Notebook (being the notebook of your research done for the course project) on the folder of the GitHub repository reserved to your group, and you must to keep it up-to-date

Installing libraries from Jupyter Notebooks

Each Jupyter Notebook is organised in cells that, in the default configuration, may have one of the following types:

- Code, where you can specify a Python code to execute
- Markdown, which contains text formatted according to [Markdown](#)
- Raw, which contains raw text

In case you need to install a new library from a Jupyter Notebook, it is necessary to use the `pip` command in a Code cell preceded by the character `!` and then to run the code, e.g.:

```
!pip install networkx
```

GitHub and Jupyter Notebooks

You can [add your Jupyter Notebook in GitHub](#), and it will be rendered as a static HTML file

Of course, interactive features of the notebook, such as custom Javascript, do not work – e.g. see [example](#)

In case you want to render your Jupyter Notebook with Javascript content you need to use [nbviewer](#), by specifying the URL of the notebook to render – e.g. see the same example introduced before but [shown in nbviewer](#)

Making the notebook working well with GitHub is usually a wise choice, when possible

End

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