



Oriental Institute, the Czech Academy of Sciences
invites you to a lecture on

Spatial Humanities and Historical Mapping of 17th-Century Dutch Formosa Manuscripts

The purpose of this presentation is to elaborate the process involved in applying digital software to 17th century Dutch handwritten manuscripts that document the presence of the Dutch community in Taiwan. Case study is the digitalized version of the Church Minutes (Kerckboek) of the manuscript *Kerckboek, Brievenboek van Formosa, 23 januari 1642-1644 maart*, covering the years 1642-1649. The introductory part will situate the project within the broader context of Taiwan Studies and historical research. This will be followed by a brief summary of the content of the Church Minutes as to highlight the main thematic points envisioned by its digital humanities (DH) exercise. These focus on dynamics of social mobility and ways to visualize the spatial demarcation and scope of geographical occupation of the Dutch United East India Company (VOC) personnel. In addition, data extraction on the whereabouts of the Dutch community and the daily activities of its actors from a grass root level, brings notions of temporal distances between Formosa, Batavia and the patria, letter post history and its relation to literacy practices to the foreground. The mapping process will be illustrated with a blue print of the model database.

Ann Heylen is Associate Professor at the Department of Taiwan Culture, Languages and Literature, National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), and Director of the International Taiwan Studies Center (ITSC). She holds a Ph.D. in Sinology (K. U. Leuven, Belgium) and works on 17th century Taiwan historical documents (Dutch Formosa). Her research and teaching expertise focuses on topics related to Taiwan history and Taiwan Studies. Her current research scope concerns the archival documentation of the history & relations between Taiwan and the Low Countries.

When: Thursday, 7 April 2016, 10:00-11:30

Where: Institute of Philosophy, the Czech Academy of Sciences,
Room 124a, Jilská 1, Praha 1



**Orientální
ústav**

Akademie věd
České republiky