

**DE GRUYTER
BOOK ARCHIVE**

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Our Heritage

... in 1749, Georg Reimer founds a bookstore and publishing house that is still the foundation stone of the later De Gruyter publishing house

... original works of authors such as: The Brothers Grimm, Heinrich von Kleist, E.T.A. Hoffmann and Noam Chomsky as well as renowned translations such as the Schlegel & Tieck translation of Shakespeare's works

... in total, the book archive comprises over 50,000 titles

... up until 2017, 30,000 titles had not been digitized



The Project

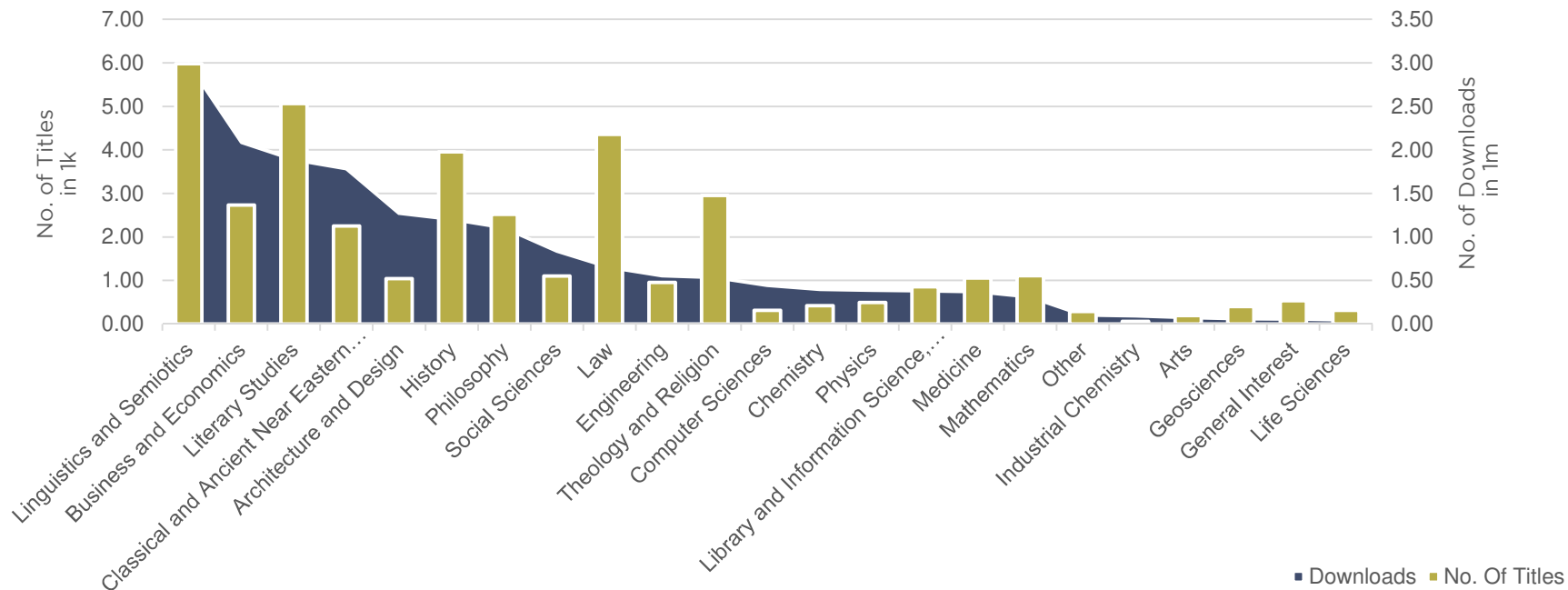
- ... digitization of approx. 30,000 books over a period of 5 years
- ... shipping to and scanning at Datagroup in Romania, additional books on loan through a cooperation with StaBi Berlin
- ... editing and OCR of all pages
- ... bibliographic maintenance and metadata enhancement of the books (ongoing)
- ... library rebuild of the oldest titles in the Berlin offices



KEY LESSONS LEARNED

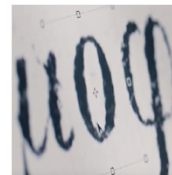
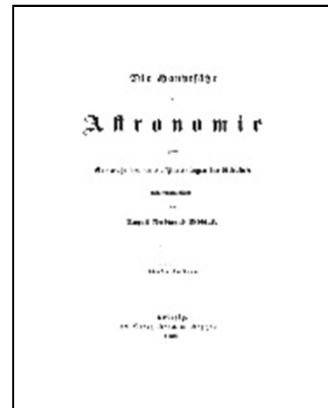
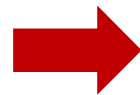
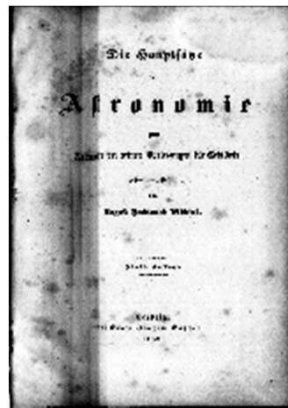
1. There is demand

Usage by subject area 2017-2020



2. Don't fear the investment

- Do an inventory in combination with a database clean up.
- Choose the right partner when it comes to quality.
- Invest in meta data. Your archive titles need discoverability.



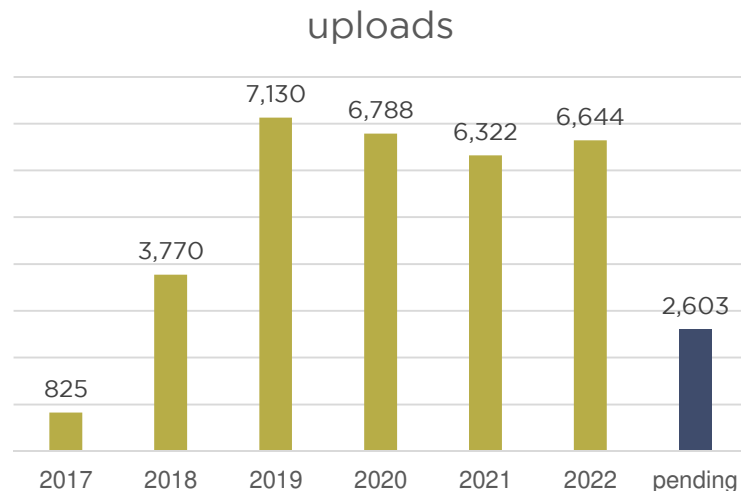
3. Expect the unexpected

- 15,000 additional titles added to the back catalogue, that had not been registered as part of the archive
- Partnership with StaBi allowed scan of additional titles that were identified as gaps in our own archive
- Estimated lower number of non-digitized older titles (estimated 30%, turned out 60%), hence also higher number of titles with gothic lettering and fragile titles
- Estimated overall number of titles lower than what was eventually digitized



4. Have a long breath

- An archive is a long-term commitment that needs ownership and a standing within the publishing house
- Things break and unexpected things happen
 - More old and fragile titles mean more time needed for scanning
 - A broken scanner needs weeks to get repaired
 - ... the pandemic
- Even now:
 - There will always be gaps in the archive or titles with missing parts
 - There will always be content where it needs to be evaluated whether we regard it as sensitive content



5. Plan for sensitive content

- Content published between 1933 and 1945 is regarded potentially sensitive content because of its political or ideological orientation
- Should not be sold, but access is granted free of charge to people with a research interest
- To identify sensitive content a working group was formed, and a history student hired:
 - Dr. Angelika Königseder (historian, specialized in antisemitism and NS history)
 - Dr. Martin Rethmeier (Editorial Director History at DG)
 - Marcel Haug (working student sensitive content on the DGBA Team)
 - DGBA Team

Die nationalsozialistische Revolution

bearbeitet von

Karl Baustaedt und Dr. Erich Chudzinski
Oberstudienrat in Göttingen Oberstudiendirektor in Berlin-Schöneberg

Genehmigt durch die Parteiamtliche Prüfungskommission zum
Schutze des NS. Schrifttums Nr. 1603 a Ew 3 vom 23. 12. 35



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Es ist dem Herrn Königl. Wirklichen Ge-
heimen Rath Herrn A. von Humboldt
freundlichst bekannt gegeben worden
dass dem Herrn Geheimer Medicinalrath
folgender Entwurf vorgelegt worden ist

S. i.

Der Liebhabende Herr Reimer überreicht
den Herrn und Damen einen kleinen
den Herrn Titel: