

Scholarly XML. An Open Source Visual Studio Code Extension for TEI encoding

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TEI Members Meeting 2021

Poster submission

This poster will showcase “Scholarly XML” an open source extension for Visual Studio Code (VSCode) <https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=raffazizzi.sxml>.

While Oxygen XML Editor remains the most comprehensive choice for TEI encoding and editing, there are very few open source alternatives that provide sufficient functionality for even simple TEI encoding work, such as XML validation and schema-aware suggestions. While many extensible open source code editors (such as Atom and VSCode) have extensions for XML validation and encoding, they typically rely on external Java libraries. In my experience teaching workshops and entry-level classes, setting up and installing these libraries proves to be an obstacle and a source of frustration. Recently, DARIAH funded a TEI plugin for JEdit that, being Java-based, includes the necessary Java libraries, thus removing this obstacle. However, the editor has a relatively small user base (around 15,000 downloads from Sourceforge) versus the over 14 million users of VS Code (according to Microsoft). Based on this and, admittedly, on personal preference over the user experience between JEdit and VS Code, I have developed the Scholarly XML extension for VS Code. It includes a RELAX NG validator and autocomplete with features typically needed by academic encoding projects. Unlike most XML VSCode extensions, Scholarly XML does not require Java. The extension builds on a fork of Salve, a TypeScript RELAX NG implementation by Louis-Dominique Dubeau. This makes Scholarly XML easy to install for use with students, in workshops, and in minimal computing projects.