Theoretical Issues in Global Digital Cultures
DR. ELISA OREGLIA

THE CLASS

WHEN: Fridays, 9:00 to 1.00 pm. **WHERE**: FG 01 (Faber Building)
COURSE SITE: http://ble.soas.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=8229

INSTRUCTOR

DR. ELISA OREGLIA
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Office Hours: Friday 2-4, room 587, Central Building

THE COURSE

The Internet and digital media are changing the way we learn, work, keep in touch with each other, produce and consume all types of content; and they are shaping many aspects of how society, politics, and the economy are organized. The nature of these changes, however, is still widely debated. Do they represent a dramatic break from the past, empowering new groups of people, and fundamentally changing the way we relate to each other and organize as a society, or are they a continuation—however fast and seemingly ground-breaking—of social shifts that began with Gutenberg's printing revolution and were impelled forward by the Enlightenment? Are digital technologies, which originated mostly in the United States and Europe, bringing Western socio-technical values to other cultures, are they being adapted to local circumstances, or are they creating a truly "global digital culture"?

This class provides an overview of the main theoretical debates around the impact of digital media in different arenas, and aims at understanding the nature of the changes we see around us. We begin by looking historically at the origins of the digital revolution and of the Information Society, and at how the infrastructure that supports them began and is evolving. We continue by focusing on three areas that are being profoundly changed by digital technologies: politics, the economy, and culture. We explore the relationship between the State and its citizens, from the perspectives of surveillance and resistance, and the way digital media are reshaping aspects of both production and consumption. An underlying thread of the course will be how digital technologies and the practices that are evolving around them are adapted, reconfigured, or rejected in different geographical areas.

At the end of the course, you will be able to:
- **Engage critically** with existing literatures on the digital environment;
- **Be conversant** with the origins of the digital revolution, and able to analyse its political, economic, and cultural impacts, with a particular focus on a non-Western country of their choice.
- **Create and deliver** different types of multimedia presentations
- **Participat**e in a range of online activities

STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENTS

The course consists of lectures and seminars. The seminars will be student-led, and consist of presentations and discussions on the readings. They will include a digital element, to be agreed upon on the first class.

1. **One essay** (80% of total mark), **DUE ON 4 JANUARY 2016** online.
2. **Seminar presentations** (10% of total mark). The student in charge of the seminar will prepare a short lecture on a topic that has been previously discussed with me, and lead the discussion on the readings. Student <u>must</u> meet me the week before they present.
3. **Digital practice** (10% of total mark), which consists of four short thematic assignments (see below), and participation to digital projects that we will carry on as a class. The assignments are designed to let you explore the practical implications of what we are studying, and will require you to reflect on your digital environment:

a) **Theme 1** (**foundations**): calculate the amount of information that surrounds you in your daily life, with complete freedom as to what you count as information and how you count it. To be presented and discussed in class. **Due on Friday, 9 October**.

b) **Theme 2** (**politics**): document over the course of a day your digital trail, whether actively created by you (e.g. through the use of ATM/credit cards, Oyster cards, mobile phones, computers on public wi-fi, etc) or beyond your direct control (e.g. CCTV cameras, etc). You can do this as a social media project, i.e. posting your trail on your social media account, or as a commented photo essay, to be discussed in class. **Due on Friday, 23 October**, in class.

c) **Theme 3** (**economy**): do a rough cost/benefit analysis of an "old" and "new" (i.e. sharing) economy service (e.g. black/mini cabs versus Uber, bed & breakfast versus airbnb.com) paying particular attention to the burden of externalities, that is the costs or benefits of the service that are incurred by people who are not directly involved with the service. **Due on Friday, 20 November**.

d) **Theme 4** (**culture**): pick one of the four categories discussed in the *New York Times* article ""The Creative Apocalypse That Wasn't" (music, tv, film, books) and document your digital vs non-digital engagement over a weekend. Prepare a multi-media presentation with snippets of content to discuss in class. **Due on Friday, 4 December**.

Other Assessments

Reading Responses: To help you reflect on the readings, and create lively class discussions, there will be ***mandatory weekly reading responses***: 300-word mini-essays in response to a question related to the readings. These responses should not be summaries of the readings, but rather your own perspective on the issue discussed, based on the readings.

Final Essay Work-in-Progress: *A topic proposal is <u>due in class on the Friday before reading week</u>*, and a one-page outline and initial bibliography are due on the last day of class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

"All work you submit for assessment at SOAS should be in your own words and incorporate your own ideas and judgments. If you fail to do this it could be seen as plagiarism. Plagiarism is an assessment offence, and could result in an allegation of cheating. (…)Plagiarism is when you present another person's thoughts or words as though they're your own."

From https://www.soas.ac.uk/exams/assessment-misconduct/

CLASS PLAN AND READINGS

Introduction
Theme 1: **Foundations**
Theme 2: **Politics**
Theme 3: **Economy**
Theme 4: **Culture**
Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

"What's New About New Media?" asked sociologist Roger Silverstone in 1999 in the inaugural issue of *New Media and Society*, a journal that has gone on to feature important research on new media. Before the Internet, there were the radio, television, and the printing press 'revolutions'. Are digital media an evolution of these tools, or do they represent a fundamental shift in the way we think, communicate, and organize socially? We begin the course by defining the key terms, concepts, and debates that we'll encounter in the next 10 weeks.

Week 1	**Friday, 2 October**	**Why Are We Here?**

READINGS

- Roger Silverstone. 1999. "What's New About New Media" Introduction to the first issue of *New Media and Society*, 1(1). http://nms.sagepub.com/content/1/1/10.full.pdf+html `HTML`

- Ilana Gershon and Joshua A. Bell. 2013. "Introduction: The Newness of New Media." *Culture, Theory and Critique*, 54(3): 259-264. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/14735784.2013.852732 `HTML`

- John Perry Barlow. 1996. A Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace. https://projects.eff.org/~barlow/Declaration-Final.html `HTML`

- John Seely Brown & Paul Duguid. 2000. "Introduction: Tunneling Ahead" in The Social Life of Information. (republished in First Monday 5(4 April). http://first-monday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/737/646 `HTML`

- Rich Ling & Heather Horst. 2011. "Mobile Communication in the Global South." *New Media and Society.* http://nms.sagepub.com/content/early/2011/03/30/1461444810393899.full.pdf `PDF`

ASSIGNMENT

DUE Friday, 9 October: Calculate the amount of information that surrounds you in your daily life, with complete freedom as to what you count as information and how you count it. Have a couple of slides ready for class discussion.

THEME 1: FOUNDATIONS

Having hopefully agreed on "why we are here," we now explore how we did get here. "Information Society" has become a short-hand expression to describe the world (of ever-increasing information, of instant communication, of ubiquitous computers) we live in. In this section we discuss the political, cultural, and technological origins of the Information Society; the infrastructure that at once creates and supports it; and the Western origins of such a concept and the implications of its global reach.

Week 2	**Friday, 9 October**	**Origins of the Information Society**

READINGS

- Frank Webster. 2006. "What is an Information Society?," in *Theories of the Information Society*, 8-31. Routledge. (book available on short loan at the library) `BOOK`

- Robin Mansell. 2010. "The Life and Times of the Information Society." Prometheus, 28(2): 165-186. http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@lse/WhosWho/AcademicStaff/pdf/Mansell-Prometheus-Article-2010.pdf `PDF`

- Vannevar Bush. 1945. "As We May Think" *The Atlantic*. http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1945/07/as-we-may-think/303881/ `HTML`

- Grace Hopper. "Nanoseconds" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEpsKnWZ-rJ8 `VIDEO`

- Douglas C. Engelbart. 1968. "Engelbart and the Dawn of Interactive Computer" (aka "The Mother of All Demos") https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xptc6f3D-aoo&index=2&list=PLCGFadV4FqU2yAqCzKaxnKKXgnJBUrKTE `VIDEO`

Week 2	**_Continued_**	

- _Optional_: James R. Beniger. 1986. "Introduction," in _The Control Revolution: Technological And Economic Origins of the Information Society_, 1-28. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. BOOK

- _Optional_: Ronald E. Day (2001). "European Documentation: Paul Otlet and Suzanne Briet," in _The Modern Invention of Information: Discourse, History, and Power_, 7-37. Southern Illinois University. http://site.ebrary.com/lib/soas/detail.action?docID=10695251 HTML

- _Optional_: Paul Duguid (2015). "The Ageing of Information: From Particular to Particulate." _Journal of the History of Ideas_, 76(3): 247-368. https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_history_of_ideas/v076/76.3.duguid.html HTML

Week 3   **Friday, 16 October**   **Infrastructures & Digital Divides**

READINGS

- Janet Abbate. 1999. «White Heat and Cold War: The Origins and Meanings of Packet Switching,» in _Inventing the Internet. Cambridge_, MA: MIT Press. http://site.ebrary.com/lib/soas/detail.action?docID=10225299 HTML

- Ben Mendelsohn. 2012. "Bundled, Buried & Behind Closed Doors." https://vimeo.com/30642376 VIDEO

- U.S. Department of Commerce & National Telecommunication and Information Administration. 1999. "Falling through the Net: Defining the Digital Divide" http://www.ntia.doc.gov/legacy/ntiahome/fttn99/contents.html (read the Executive Summary and browse the report.) HTML

- Mark Graham. 2014. "Inequitable Distributions in Internet Geographies: The Global South is Gaining Access, but Lags in Local Content." _Innovations_, 9(3-4): 3-19. http://www.mitpressjournals.org/page/INOV_special_issues_news. Note that the issue is Open Access, so you need to download the entire issue at this url. Feel free to browse the rest of the articles, all dedicated to digital inclusion. PDF

- Kurt Heimerl et al. 2015. "A Longitudinal Study of Local, Sustainable, Small-scale Cellular Networks." [ICTD2013 Special Issue]. _Information Technologies & International Development_, 11(1): 1–19. http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1359 HTML

- Klint Finley. 2015. "Here's The Real Way to Get Internet to the Next 4 Billion People." _Wired_, 9 September 2015. http://www.wired.com/2015/09/heres-real-way-get-internet-next-4-billion-people/ HTML

- _Optional:_ Steven J. Jackson, Paul N. Edwards, Geoffrey Bowker, and Cory P. Knobel. 2007. "Understanding Infrastructure: History, Heuristics, and Cyberinfrastructure Policy." _First Monday_, 12(6) http://journals.uic.edu/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/1904/1786 HTML

- _Optional:_ Special Issue of First Monday on Cyber Infrastructure, 2007 http://firstmonday.org/issue/view/240. Especially Brett M. Frischmann. 2007. "infrastructure Commons in Economic Perspective." _First Monday_, 12(6) http://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/1901/1783 HTML

- _Optional:_ Fred Turner. 2010. "Where the Counterculture Met the New Economy: The WELL and the Origins of Virtual Community," _Technology & Culture_ 46(3): 485-512.

- _Optional:_ "Underwater Cable Laying" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JLVFKHJcBMM VIDEO

OTHER RESOURCES

- https://internet.org/ HTML

Week 3   ***Continued***

ASSIGNMENT   **DUE Friday, 23 October**: Document over the course of a day your digital trail, whether actively created by you (e.g. through the use of ATM/credit cards, Oyster cards, mobile phones, computers on public wi-fi, etc) or beyond your direct control (e.g. CCTV cameras, etc). You can do this as a social media project, i.e. posting your trail on your social media account, or as a commented photo essay, to be discussed in class next Friday.

THEME 2: POLITICS

In 2000, Bill Clinton famously said: "In the new century, liberty will spread by cell phone and cable modem… We know how much the Internet has changed America… Imagine how much it could change China… [The Beijing regime] has been trying to crack down on the Internet–good luck. That's sort of like trying to nail Jello to the wall." Following years have shown a more nuanced role of the Internet in the political life of both democracies and other political regimes, with every freedom gained by citizens through the Internet matched by an increase in surveillance and other powers by the State. In this section, we look at the role that the Internet and networked technologies play in the relationship between the State and its citizens in different contexts, and discuss whether 'nailing Jello to the wall' is really as hard as Clinton believed it to be.

Week 4   **Friday, 23 October**   **Digital Media and State Surveillance in a post-Snowden World**

READINGS
- Langdon Winner. 1980. "Do Artifacts Have Politics?" *Daedalus*, 109 (1): 121-136. http://innovate.ucsb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/Winner-Do-Artifacts-Have-Politics-1980.pdf `PDF`
- Helen Nissenbaum. 2001. "How Computer Systems Embody Values." *Computer* 34(3): 117-119. http://www.nyu.edu/projects/nissenbaum/papers/embodyvalues.pdf `PDF`
- Ronald J. Deibert (2003). "Black Code: Censorship, Surveillance, and the Militarisation of Cyberspace." *Millennium – Journal of International Studies* 32. http://mil.sagepub.com/content/32/3/501.full.pdf+html `HTML`
- Charles Duhigg (2012). "How Companies Learn Your Secrets" *The New York Times*, 16 February 2012. http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/19/magazine/shopping-habits.html `HTML`
- John Oliver interview with Edward Snowden (starts at 4:55): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEVlyP4_11M `VIDEO`
- John Oliver interview with General Keith Alexander, former director of the US National Security Agency (NSA): http://www.hbo.com/last-week-tonight-with-john-oliver/episodes/01/01-april-27-2014/video/general-keith-alexander-extended-interview.html `HTML`
- *Optional*: Poitras, Laura. 2014. *Citizen Four*. `VIDEO`
- *Optional*: "What You Need to Know About the NSA's Surveillance Programs." ProPublica, http://www.propublica.org/article/nsa-data-collection-faq `HTML`
- *Optional*: Kadhim Shubber. 2013. "A Simple Guide to GCHQ's Internet Surveillance Program Tempora." *Wired*. http://www.wired.co.uk/news/archive/2013-06/24/gchq-tempora-101 `HTML`
- *Optional*: Kieran Healy (2013). "Using Metadata to Find Paul Revere." http://kieranhealy.org/blog/archives/2013/06/09/using-metadata-to-find-paul-revere/ `HTML`
- *Optional*: Peter Maass (2015). "The Philosopher of Surveillance: What Happens when a Failed Writer Becomes a Loyal Spy?" *The Intercept*, Aug 11, 2015. https://firstlook.org/theintercept/2015/08/11/surveillance-philosopher-nsa/ `HTML`

Week 4	*Continued*	- *Optional*: "Surveillance and Security Intelligence after Snowden" Themed issue of the journal *Surveillance & Society*, Vol 13 No 2 (2015) http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/surveillance-and-society/issue/view/Intelligence/showToc `HTML`
		- *Optional*: "Surveillance on the Silver Screen: Fact or Fiction?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8EYPaxtkho `VIDEO`
	OTHER RESOURCES	- *Surveillance Studies* Network: http://www.surveillance-studies.net/ `HTML`
		- *Floodwatch*: http://floodwatch.o-c-r.org/ `HTML`
		- Https Everywhere: https://www.eff.org/Https-everywhere `HTML`
	ASSIGNMENT	**DUE Friday, 30 October**: Write a 1 paragraph proposal for the final essay. Make sure you include a title, what you want to write about, what you will likely argue, and what is the connection with the course. Due at the beginning of class.

Week 5	**Friday, 30 October**	**The Other Side of State Surveillance: Digital Media and Resistance**
	READINGS	- Biekart and Fowler. 2013. "Transforming Activism 2010+: Exploring Ways and Waves." *Development and Change* 44(3): 527-546. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dech.12032/abstract `HTML`
		- Blake Hounshell. 2011. "The Revolution Will Be Tweeted: Life in the Vanguard of the new Twitter Proletariat." *Foreign Policy* 20 June 2011. http://foreignpolicy.com/2011/06/20/the-revolution-will-be-tweeted/ `HTML`
		- Jon B. Alterman. 2011. "The Revolution Will Not Be Tweeted." *The Washington Quarterly* 34(4): 103-116. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07393148.2014.913841 `HTML`
		- Gilad Lotan et al. 2011. "The Revolutions Were Tweeted: Information Flows During the 2011 Tunisian and Egyptian Revolutions." *International Journal of Communication* 5: 1375-1405. http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/download/1246/643 `HTML`
		- The Mentor. 1986. "The Conscience of a Hacker." *Phrack*, 1(7) Phile 3 of 10. http://phrack.org/issues/7/3.html `HTML`
		- *Optional*: Malcolm Gladwell. 2010. "Small Change: Why the revolution will not be tweeted." *The New Yorker*. http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic980025.files/Wk%2011_Nov%2011th/Gladwell_2010_Small_Change.pdf `PDF`
		- *Optional*: Rajesh Veeraraghavan. 2013. "Dealing with the Digital Panopticon: The Use and Subversion of ICT in an Indian Bureaucracy." *Proceedings of the 2013 International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development* (ICTD): 248-255 https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2516631 `HTML`
		- *Optional*: Koebel Price. 2014. "ICTs and Democratization: What Works and Why?" *Liberation Technology Seminar Series*. http://cddrl.fsi.stanford.edu/libtech/multimedia/icts-and-democratization-what-works-why `HTML`
	OTHER RESOURCES	- Global Digital Voices https://globalvoicesonline.org/-/topics/digital-activism/ `HTML`
		- Gil Heron-Scott. 1970. "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised." https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sV3Y6rInV7E `VIDEO`

2 to 6 November : READING WEEK

| Week 6 | **Friday, 13 November** | **New Forms of Digital Economy: Flexibility versus Exploitation** |

READINGS

- Kevin Kelly. 1997. "New Rules for the New Economy: Twelve Dependable Principles for Thriving in a Turbulent World," *Wired*, 5(09). http://archive.wired.com/wired/archive/5.09/newrules_pr.html `HTML`

- Ellen Cushing. 2013. "Amazon Mechanical Turk: The Digital Sweatshop." *Utne Reader* http://www.utne.com/science-and-technology/amazon-mechanical-turk-zm0z13jfzlin.aspx `HTML`

- Yochai Benkler. 2006. *Wealth of Networks: How Social Production Transforms Markets and Freedom*. Yale University Press. Read the Introduction. http://site.ebrary.com/lib/soas/detail.action?docID=10170022 `HTML`

- Carla Ilten. 2014. "Thoughts on Peer Economy Platforms: A New Iron Cage?" *Culture Digitally*. October 16, 2014. http://culturedigitally.org/2014/10/thoughts-on-peer-economy-platforms-a-new-iron-cage/ `HTML`

- *Optional*: Nicole M. Aschoff. 2015. "The Smartphone Society." *Jacobin*, 17. https://www.jacobinmag.com/2015/03/smartphone-usage-technology-aschoff `HTML`

- *Optional*: Lilly Irany. 2013. "The Cultural Work of Microwork" in *New Media & Society* http://nms.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/11/19/1461444813511926.abstract `HTML`

- *Optional*: Alex Hern. 2015. "Facebook Is Making More and More Money from You. Should You Be Paid for It?" *The Guardian*, 25 September 2015. http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/sep/25/facebook-money-advertising-revenue-should-you-be-paid `HTML`

OTHER RESOURCES

- Ethical crowd-sourcing: https://www.mobileworks.com/ `HTML`

- *Turkopticon*: https://turkopticon.ucsd.edu/ `HTML`

ASSIGNMENT

DUE Friday, 20 November: Do a rough cost/benefit analysis of an "old" and "new" (i.e. sharing) economy service (e.g. black/mini cabs versus Uber, bed & breakfast versus airbnb.com) paying particular attention to the burden of externalities, that is the costs or benefits of the service that are incurred by people who are not directly involved with the service.

| Week 7 | **Friday, 20 November** | **Digital Economy in the Developing World: Bursting the Bubble?** |

READINGS

- Jenny C. Aker and Isaac M. Mbiti. 2010. "Mobile Phones and Economic Development in Africa." *Center for Global Development Working Paper* 211. https://www.aeaweb.org/atypon.php?return_to=/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.24.3.207 `HTML`

- Robert Jensen (2007). "The Digital Provide: Information (Technology), Market Performance, and Welfare in the South Indian Fisheries Sector." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122(3): 879-924. http://qje.oxfordjournals.org/content/122/3/879.abstract `HTML`

- Janaki Srinivasan and Jenna Burrell. 2015. "On the Importance of Price Information to Fishers and to Economists: Revisiting Mobile Phone Use Among Fishers in Kerala" *Information Technologies and International Development* 11(1): 57-70 http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1362/510 `HTML`

- Paul Duguid. 2014. "Information and Liberation," *Liberation Technology Seminar Series*. http://cddrl.fsi.stanford.edu/libtech/multimedia/information-and-liberation `VIDEO`

Week 7	**Continued**	- *Optional*: Paul Romer. 1993. "Idea Gaps and Object Gaps in Economic Development." *Journal of Monetary Economics* 32: 543-573. https://econ171ucb.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/romer_ideasgap.pdf `PDF`

- *Optional*: Jenna Burrell and Elisa Oreglia. 2015. "The myth of market price information: mobile phones and the application of economic knowledge in ICTD" *Economy and Society* 44(2): 271-292.http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/03085147.2015.1013742#.VglRO7RViko `HTML`

- *Optional*: Blumenstock, J.E., Callen, M., Ghani, T., and Koepke, L. 2015. "Promises and Pitfalls of Mobile Money in Afghanistan: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial." The 7th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD '15), Singapore. http://www.jblumenstock.com/files/papers/jblumenstock_ictd2015.pdf `PDF`

- *Optional*: Oxford Internet Institute. 2015. Internet Connectivity in East Africa – Reports (1. The Internet and Business Process Outsourcing in East Africa. 2. Connectivity and the Tea Sector in Rwanda. 3. The Internet and Tourism in Rwanda) http://cii.oii.ox.ac.uk/2015/03/02/internet-connectivity-in-east-africa-reports/ `HTML`

OTHER RESOURCES

- Beyond Market Prices: Mobile Phones in Trade and Livelihood Activities http://markets.ischool.berkeley.edu/ `HTML`

- *Institute for Money, Technology & Financial Inclusion* (IMTFI) http://www.imtfi.uci.edu/ `HTML`

- GSMA Mobile for Development http://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/ `HTML`

- London ICT4D Group http://www.meetup.com/London-ICT4D/ `HTML`

THEME 4: CULTURE

Digital technologies have brought profound changes in the way "culture" is produced, distributed, and consumed, and have further challenged the idea of who is an author. In this section, we examine the theoretical debates about digital cultures' impact on cultural production, but also emerging cultural practices in the West and in the Global South.

Week 8 Friday, 27 November   **Practices of Digital Production**

READINGS

- Raymond Williams. 1976. "Culture." In Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society. *Fourth Estate*. http://pubpages.unh.edu/~dml3/880williams.htm `HTML`

- Benkler, Yochai. *Wealth of Networks: How Social Production Transforms Markets and Freedom*. New Haven, CT, USA: Yale University Press, 2006. Re-read the Introduction and Ch. 3, "Peer Production and Sharing." http://site.ebrary.com/lib/soas/detail.action?docID=10170022 `HTML`

- Jaron Lanier. 2006. "Digital Maoism: The Hazards of the New Online Collectivism." *Edge* 29 May 2006. Read both the essay and the responses below it: http://edge.org/conversation/digital-maoism-the-hazards-of-the-new-online-collectivism `HTML`

- Steven Johnson. 2015. "The Creative Apocalypse That Wasn't." *New York Times* 19 August. http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/23/magazine/the-creative-apocalypse-that-wasnt.html `HTML`

- Re-read: Mark Graham (2014). "Inequitable Distributions in Internet Geographies: The Global South is Gaining Access, but Lags in Local Content." *Innovations*, 9(3-4) p3-19. http://www.mitpressjournals.org/page/INOV_special_issues_news `HTML`

- Re-read: The Mentor. 1986. "The Conscience of a Hacker." *Phrack*, 1(7) Phile 3 of 10. http://phrack.org/issues/7/3.html `HTML`

Week 8   *Continued*   - Susan P. Wyche. 2013. ""Facebook Is a Luxury:" An Exploratory Study of Social Media Use in Rural Kenya." *Proceedings of the 2013 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work* (CSCW): 33-44. http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2441783 `HTML`

- Henry Jenkins. 2006. ""Worship at the Altar of Convergence:" A New Paradigm for Understanding Media Change." In *Convergence Culture: Where Old and New Media Collide*. New York University Press. http://www.nyupress.org/webchapters/0814742815intro.pdf `PDF`

- Brian Knappenberger. 2014. "The Internet's Own Boy" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXr-2hwTk58 `VIDEO`

OTHER RESOURCES   - *Zooniverse* – People's Powered Research: https://www.zooniverse.org/ `HTML`

- *Project Gutenberg*: https://www.gutenberg.org/ `HTML`

ASSIGNMENT   **DUE Friday, 4 December**: Pick one of the four categories discussed in the *New York Times* article ""The Creative Apocalypse That Wasn't" (music, tv, film, books) and document your digital vs non-digital engagement over a weekend. Prepare a multi-media presentation with snippets of content to discuss in class.

Week 9   **Friday, 4 December**   **Cultural Production from the Global South**

READINGS   - Huatong Sun. 2006. "The Triumph of Users: Achieving Cultural Usability Goals With User Localization." *Technical Communication Quarterly*, 15(4): 457-481, http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1207/s15427625tcq1504_3 `HTML`

- Payal Arora and Nimmi Rangaswamy. 2013. "Digital Leisure for Development: Reframing New Media Practice in the Global South." Media, *Culture & Society* 35(7): 898-905. http://www.payalarora.com/MediaCultureSociety-2014Digital%20Leisure.pdf `PDF`

Pick ONE of following articles:

- Araba Sey and Peppino Ortoleva. 2014. "All Work and No Play? Judging the Uses of Mobile Phones in Developing Countries." Special Issue of *Information Technologies & International Development* on ICTs for Leisure in Development 10(3) http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1280 `HTML`

OR

- Elisa Oreglia. 2014. "ICT and (Personal) Development in Rural China." Special Issue of *Information Technologies & International Development* on ICTs for Leisure in Development 10(3) http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1281 `HTML`

OR

- Radhika Gajjala and Dinah Tetteh. 2014. "Relax, You've Got M-PESA: Leisure as Empowerment." Special Issue of *Information Technologies & International Development* on ICTs for Leisure in Development 10(3) http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1282 `HTML`

OR

- Beth E. Kolko and Robert Racadio. 2014. "The Value of Non-Instrumental Computer Use: A Study of Skills Acquisition and Performance in Brazil." Special Issue of *Information Technologies & International Development* on ICTs for Leisure in Development 10(3) http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1283 `HTML`

Week 9   *Continued*   OR

- Melissa Tully and Brian Ekdale. 2014. "Sites of Playful Engagement: Twitter Hashtags as Spaces of Leisure and Development in Kenya." Special Issue of *Information Technologies & International Development* on ICTs for Leisure in Development 10(3) http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1284 [HTML]

OR

- Neha Kumar. 2014. "Facebook for Self-Empowerment? A Study of Facebook Adoption in Urban India." *New Media & Society* 16(7): 1122-1137. http://nms.sagepub.com/content/16/7/1122 [HTML]

- *Optional*: Samira Shackle. 2015. "Can Non-Europeans Think? An Interview with Hamid Dabashi." New Humanist 29th July 2015. https://newhumanist.org.uk/articles/4912/can-non-europeans-think-an-interview-with-hamid-dabashi [HTML]

- *Optional*: Lars Eckstein and Anja Schwarz. 2014. *Postcolonial Piracy: Media Distribution and Cultural Production in the Global South*. Bloomsbury. [BOOK]

ASSIGNMENT   **DUE Friday, 11 December**: A one-page outline of your essay, accompanied by a bibliography of at least 4 titles. Due at the beginning of class.

CONCLUSION

We conclude the term by looking back at the themes we have discussed, and looking forward at the directions that they might take. Is the Internet as we knew it dead? Has it already been dead for years, perhaps? How will the future look? Do we, as individuals, have any control over it, as nations, corporations and international organizations compete to define and control our digital environment? How does the Global South fit in these debates?

Week 10   Friday, 11 December   **Wrap-Up**

READINGS

- Re-read: John Perry Barlow, 1996. *A Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace*. https://projects.eff.org/~barlow/Declaration-Final.html [HTML]

- Re-watch: Paul Duguid. 2014. "Information and Liberation" Liberation Technology Seminar Series. http://cddrl.fsi.stanford.edu/libtech/multimedia/information-and-liberation [VIDEO]

- Granick, 2015. *The End of the Internet Dream*. https://medium.com/backchannel/the-end-of-the-internet-dream-ba060b17da61 **OR** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tjvw5fz_GuA [HTML] [VIDEO]

- David E. Nye. 2004. "Technological Prediction: A Promethean Problem." In Marita Sturken, Douglas Thomas, Sandra Ball-Rokeach (eds.) *Technological Visions: The Hopes and Fears that Shape New Technologies*. Temple University Press. [BOOK]

- *Optional*: Garrett Hardin. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons," *Science* 162: 1243-1248. http://www.sciencemag.org/content/162/3859/1243.full [HTML]

- *Optional*: Elinor Ostrom. 2011. "Reflections on the Commons," pp. 1-27 in *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. New York: Cambridge University Press. [BOOK]

REMEMBER: **Your essay** (80% of total mark), **IS DUE ON 4 JANUARY 2016** online.