

Theoretical Issues in Global Digital Cultures: Topics in Global Digital Cultures

DR. ELISA OREGLIA

THE CLASS

WHEN: Fridays, 10:00 to 12:30 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

In the first term, we discussed the history of digital technologies and infrastructures, and the main theoretical debates around the impact of these technologies in the areas of politics, economics, and culture. In this second term, we continue to explore the two main themes that ran through the first part of the course, namely the idea of change versus continuity, and the appropriation by the Global South of technologies that for the most part originated in the West. We take a series of deep dives into topics such as algorithms and big data, the quantified self, digital money, online bullying, maker culture, videogames, cultural production, digital life and death, and non-users, and we continue to look at where global digital trends start, and how they are adapted, reconfigured, or rejected in different geographical areas.

There will be a significant practical component in this term, with the dual goal of interrogating our theories through practice and understanding our practice through theory. Moreover, since there is still little research, or even simply information, about many local Internet cultures in the Global South, we will contribute to gathering and popularizing aspects of specific digital practices in different Global South countries through collaborative Twitter and Storify feeds, and Wikipedia edits.

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- **Engage critically** with digital technologies, and be able to evaluate claims regarding their potential with regard to their historical legacies and the political and economic context where they originate;
- **Analyze** the impact and trajectories of digital technologies in the Global South as a whole, and in specific countries that we will focus on;
- **Connect** the topics we discuss this term with the theories of the information society and of technological studies of society that we discussed in the first term;
- **Create** and deliver different types of multimedia presentations;
- **Participate** 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 AT THE END OF THE TERM** online.
2. **Seminar presentations** (10% of total mark). The student in charge of the seminar will prepare a series of questions related to the readings, based partly on the class reading responses posted on Moodle, and will lead the discussion.

3. **Digital practice** (10% of total mark), which consists of 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:
- Algorithms:** Take the IPIP-NEO test truthfully, paying attention to how the same questions are asked in different ways, and what they tell you about the test in general. Take the test a second time, trying to game it. *Due on Thursday, 14 January.*
 - Digital Money:** Drawing from existing online resources, use storify.com to create a story on the situation of digital money/digital payments/digital finance in a Global South country of your choice. *Due on Friday, 22 January.*
 - Quantified Self:** Over the course of the next few weeks, try to quantify and modify a specific behaviour of yours using digital technologies (e.g. always running late, having trouble concentrating, not eating enough greens, spending too much time on social networks, not exercising enough, etc.). You can download specific apps, if you want, or just record on a spreadsheet measurements related to the behaviour you want to change. At the end, write a two-page report on the experiment. *Due on Friday, 11 March.*
 - Wikipedia:** Find a topic you are interested in that is related to an expression of digital culture in a specific Global South country. Read up a few Wikipedia entries about it, and note how they can be improved (or created altogether). Gather a few links and material that could be used to edit these pages during the Wikipedia edit day session. *Due on Friday, 26 February.*
 - Tweeting the Global South:** At the beginning of the term, we will create a Global Digital Cultures Twitter account, which will be updated by each of you on a rotation basis with stories about digital cultures and events in the Global South. *Ongoing.*

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. The reading responses should be posted to the forum section of Moodle on the Wednesday evening before class; students are encouraged to read and respond to each other's posts, before class discussion on Fridays.

Final Essay Work-in-Progress: *A topic proposal is due in class on the Friday before reading week.* A one-page outline and initial bibliography are due on *Friday 4 March*, 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

Week 1	Friday, 8 January	Intro: Algorithms and Big Data
	<i>READINGS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watch: Kevin Slevin. 2011. "How algorithms shape our world." <i>TedGlobal</i>, http://www.ted.com/talks/kevin_slavin_how_algorithms_shape_our_world/ VIDEO - Lucas D. Inrona, Helen Nissenbaum. 2000. "Shaping the Web: Why the Politics of Search Engines Matters." <i>The Information Society</i> 16(3), pp 169-185. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01972240050133634?instName=SOAS%2C+University+of+London HTML

Week 1

Continued

- danah boyd, Kate Crawford. 2012. "Critical Questions for Big Data: Provocations for a Cultural, Technological, and Scholarly Phenomenon." *Information, Communication & Society* 15(5) pp. 662-679. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1369118X.2012.678878> **HTML**
- Data & Society Research Institute. 2014 "Workshop Primer: Algorithmic Accountability" <http://www.datasociety.net/pubs/2014-0317/AlgorithmicAccountabilityPrimer.pdf> **PDF**
- *Optional:* Paul Baker, Amanda Potts. 2013. "Why do white people have thin lips? Google and the perpetuation of stereotypes via auto-complete search forms." *Critical Discourse Studies* 10(2). <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17405904.2012.744320> **HTML**
- *Optional:* Mike Powell, Tim Davies, and Keisha Candice Taylor. 2012. "ICT For or Against Development? An Introduction to the Ongoing Case of Web 3.0." *IKM Working Paper* 16. http://wiki.ikmemergent.net/files/1204-IKM-Working_Paper_16-WEB3-Mar_2012-2.pdf **PDF**
- *Optional:* John Quinn, Vanessa Frias-Martinez, Lakshminarayan Subramanian. 2014. "Computational Sustainability and Artificial Intelligence in the Developing World." *AI Magazine Special Issue on Computational Sustainability*. http://www.vanessafriasmartinez.org/uploads/Computational_Sustainability_and_Artificial_Intelligence_in_the_developing_world.pdf **PDF**
- *Optional:* Morten Jerven. 2013. "Facts, Assumptions, and Controversy: Lessons from the Datasets." In *Poor Numbers: How We Are Misled by African Development Statistics and What to Do About It*. Cornell University Press. https://books.google.co.uk/books?hl=en&lr=&id=cwljCCv50SIC&oi=fnd&pg=PR5&dq=morten+jerven&ots=Wf5Cym7aQR&sig=25RXCloekQdM_4r5Pu3yAlWTB-2w#v=onepage&q=facts%2C%20assumptions&f=false. **HTML** The book, highly recommended, is available in the SOAS library, <https://library.soas.ac.uk/Record/819771> **BOOK**
- *Optional:* Sergey Brin, Lawrence Page. 1998. "The anatomy of a large-scale hypertextual web search engine." *7th International World-Wide Web conference (WWW 1998)*, April 14-18, Brisbane, Australia. <http://ilpubs.stanford.edu:8090/361/> **HTML**
- *Optional:* Lawrence Page, Sergey Brin, Rajeev Motwani, and Terry Winograd. 1998. "The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web." *Technical Report*. Stanford InfoLab. <http://ilpubs.stanford.edu:8090/422/> **HTML**

OTHER RESOURCES

- Inside Search: How Search Works (Google page): <https://www.google.co.uk/insidesearch/howsearchworks/thestory/> **HTML**
- Data & Society Research Institute, <http://www.datasociety.net/> **HTML**
- Aid Data: Open Data for International Development, <http://aiddata.org/> **HTML**
- (fun) Pokemon or Big Data? <https://pixelastic.github.io/pokemonorbigdata/> **HTML**

ASSIGNMENT

Take the IPIP-NEO test (International Personality Item Pool: <http://ipip.ori.org/> and <http://www.personal.psu.edu/~j5j/IPIP/ipipneo120.htm>) truthfully, paying attention to how the same questions are asked in different ways, and what they tell you about the test in general. Take the test a second time, trying to game it. Write a one-page report of the experience, referring if appropriate to your experiences applying for jobs online.

Due on Moodle on 14 January, 9pm.

Week 2 **Friday, 15 January**

Big Data Continued: Quantified Self, Quantifiable Self

READINGS

- Re-read from last term: Langdon Winner. 1980. "Do Artifacts Have Politics?" *Daedalus*, 109(1) pp121-136. <http://innovate.ucsb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/Winner-Do-Artifacts-Have-Politics-1980.pdf> **PDF**
- Donna Haraway. 1991. "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century," in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. New York; Routledge. pp149-181. <http://faculty.georgetown.edu/irvinem/theory/Haraway-CyborgManifesto-1.pdf> **PDF** In the library, <https://library.soas.ac.uk/Record/321476> **HTML**
- Kate Crawford, Jessa Lingel, Tero Karppi. 2015. "Our Metrics, Ourselves: A Hundred Years of Self-Tracking from the Weight Scale to the Wrist Wearable Device." *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 18(4-5) pp479-496. <http://ecs.sagepub.com/content/18/4-5/479.abstract> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Tyler Reigeluth. 2014. "Why Data Is not Enough: Digital Traces as Control of Self and Self-Control." *Surveillance & Society* 12(2) pp243-354. <http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/surveillance-and-society/article/view/enough> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Rose Eveleth. 2014. "How Self-Tracking Apps Exclude Women." *The Atlantic*. <http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2014/12/how-self-tracking-apps-exclude-women/383673/> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Wu Youyou, Michael Kosinski, David Stillwell. 2015. "Computer-based personality judgments are more accurate than those made by humans." *PNAS* 112(4) pp1036-1040. <http://www.pnas.org/content/112/4/1036.full.pdf> **PDF**
- *Optional*: Alessandro Acquisti, Christina M. Fong. 2013/2015. "An Experiment in Hiring Discrimination via Online Social Networks." <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2031979> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Gordon Bell. 2010. "MyLifeBits." <https://vimeo.com/14282561> Video. (see also, from last term, Vannevar Bush. 1945. "As We May Think" *The Atlantic*. <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1945/07/as-we-may-think/303881/> **HTML**)
- *Optional*: MyLifeBits demos, <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/mylifebits/mylifebitsdemo.aspx> **HTML**

OTHER RESOURCES

- <https://www.rescuetime.com/dashboard> **HTML**
- <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/5-tools-to-track-how-you-spend-time-online/> **HTML**
- <http://quantifiedself.com/guide/> **HTML**
- Intel's Data Sense <https://makesenseofdata.com/> **HTML**

ASSIGNMENT

1. Digital Money (due on Moodle on Friday 22 January, 9am, to be presented in class)

Drawing from existing online resources, use storify.com to create a story on the situation of digital money/digital payments/ digital finance in a Global South country of your choice. You can sign up to Storify for free (<http://www.storify.com>). Post the link to your page on Moodle.

2. Quantified Self Experiment (due on 11 March, 9am)

Over the course of the next few weeks, try to quantify and modify a specific behaviour of yours using digital technologies (e.g. always running late, having trouble concentrating, not eating enough greens, spending too much time on social networks, not exercising enough, etc.). You can use the website <http://quantifiedself.com/> as a starting point, and <http://quantifiedself.com/self-experiment/> for inspiration on what kind of

Week 2 **Continued** quantification and modifications you can experiment with. You can download specific apps, if you want, or just record on a spreadsheet measurements related to the behaviour you want to change. At the end, write a two-page report on the experiment, focusing specifically on two aspects: 1. Has the ‘quantified self’ experience given you insights into your own behaviour that you could not have gained otherwise, and did it help change the targeted behaviour? 2. If you used a specific app, did you feel that the app was designed with ‘you’ in mind (male or female, of a certain age, race, etc)?

Week 3 **Friday, 22 January**

Digital Money: From Bitcoins to Mobile Money

READINGS

- Bill Maurer. 2006. “The Anthropology of Money.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 35 pp15-36. http://www.imtfti.uci.edu/files/articles/The_Anthropology_of_Money.pdf **PDF**
- Andres Guadamuz, Chris Marsden. 2015. “Blockchains and Bitcoin: Regulatory Responses to Cryptocurrencies.” *First Monday* 20(12). <http://journals.uic.edu/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/6198/5163> **HTML**
- Jake Kendall, Bill Maurer, Philip Machoka, Clara Veniard. 2012. “An Emerging Platform: From Money Transfer System to Mobile Money Ecosystem.” *innovations* 6(4). http://www.imtfti.uci.edu/files/docs/2012/innovations_6-4_final_kendall_maurer_machoka_veniard.pdf **PDF**
- Ignatio Mas, Olga Morawczynski. 2009. “Designing Mobile Money Services: Lessons from M-PESA.” *innovations* pp77-91. <http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1162/itgg.2009.4.2.77> **HTML**
- *Optional:* Satoshi Nakamoto. 2008. “Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System.” *White Paper*, <https://bitcoin.org/bitcoin.pdf> **PDF**
- *Optional:* Keith Breckenridge. 2010. “The World’s First Biometric Money: Ghana’s E-Zwich and the Contemporary Influence of South African Biometrics.” *Africa* 80(4) pp642-662. <http://www.imtfti.uci.edu/files/docs/2010/80.4.breckenridge.pdf> **PDF**
- *Optional:* William Jack, Tavneet Suri. 2011. “Mobile Money: The Economics of M-PESA” *NBER Working Paper* No. w16721, SSRN http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1749882 **HTML**
- *Optional:* GSMA. 2012. “What Makes a Successful Mobile Money Implementation? Learnings from M-PESA in Kenya and Tanzania.” *GSMA Mobile Money for the Unbanked*. <http://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/What-makes-a-successful-mobile-money-implementation.pdf> **PDF**
- *Optional:* Michael Callen, Joshua Blumenstock, Tarek Ghani. 2015. “Mobile-izing Savings with Defaults in Afghanistan: How ‘Nudges’ Can Help Us Save.” *Next Billion Financial Innovation*. <http://nextbillion.net/nexthought-monday-savings-defaults-in-afghanistan/> **HTML**

OTHER RESOURCES

- Institute for Money, Technology, and Financial Inclusion (IMTFTI) <http://www.imtfti.uci.edu/> **HTML**
- Mendeley’s IMTFTI Groups <https://www.mendeley.com/groups/search/?query=imtfti> **HTML**
- GSMA Mobile Money Site <http://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/programmes/mobile-money> **HTML**

Week 4 Friday, 29 January**The Dark Side of the Internet: Bullying and Online Harassing****READINGS**

- Sarah Jeong. 2015. "The Internet of Garbage." Talk at the Berkman Center for Internet and Society (video) <https://cyber.law.harvard.edu/events/luncheon/2015/10/Jeong> **HTML**
- Danielle Keats Citron. 2014. "Hate Crimes in Cyberspace: Introduction." In *Hate Crimes in Cyberspace*, Harvard University Press; University of Maryland Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2015-11. <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2616790> **HTML**
- Whitney Phillips. 2011. "LOLing at Tragedy: Facebook Trolls, Memorial Pages and Resistance to Grief Online." *First Monday* 16(12). <http://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/3168/3115> **HTML**
- Gabriele De Seta. 2013. "Spraying, Fishing, Looking for Trouble: The Chinese Internet and a Critical Perspective on the Concept of Trolling." *The Fibreculture Journal* 22. <http://twentytwo.fibreculturejournal.org/fcj-167-spraying-fishing-looking-for-trouble-the-chinese-internet-and-a-critical-perspective-on-the-concept-of-trolling/> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Fei-Yue Wang et al. 2010. "A Study of the Human Flesh Search Engine: Crowd-Powered Expansion of Online Knowledge." *Computer*. http://www.u.arizona.edu/~qpzhang/paper/HFS_Computer_2010.pdf **PDF**
- *Optional*: Jay Hathaway. 2014. "What Is Gamergate, and Why? An Explainer for Non-Geeks." *Gawker*. <http://gawker.com/what-is-gamergate-and-why-an-explainer-for-non-geeks-1642909080> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Jessica Valenti. 2015. "The Word 'Troll' Feels Too Childish. This is Abuse." *The Guardian*. <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/aug/29/anita-sarkeesian-gamergate-interview-jessica-valenti> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Debarati Halder, K. Jaishankar. 2011. "Cyber Gender Harassment and Secondary Victimization: A Comparative Analysis of the United States, the UK, and India." *Victims & Offenders: An International Journal of Evidence-based Research, Policy, and Practice* 6(4) pp386-398. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15564886.2011.607402> **HTML**

Week 5 Friday, 5 February**Maker Culture: Jugaad, Shanzhai, and Good-Enough Innovation****READINGS**

- Silvia Lindtner, Garnet Hertz, Paul Dourish. 2014. "Emerging Sites of HCI Innovation: Hackerspaces, Hardware Startups & Incubators" *Proceedings of the 2014 International Conference in Human-Computer Interaction (CHI'14)* http://static1.squarespace.com/static/52842f7de4b0b6141ccb7766/t/52f9c2b0e4b0c9832bf23316/1392100016798/emerginsitesofHCIinnovation_final_after-accept_01.07_SL.pdf **PDF**
- Ramendra Singh, Vaibhav Gupta, Akash Mondal. 2012. "Jugaad—From 'Making Do' and 'Quick Fix' to an Innovative, Sustainable and Low-Cost Survival Strategy at the Bottom of the Pyramid." *International Journal of Rural Management* 8(1&2) pp87–105. <http://irm.sagepub.com/content/8/1-2/87.abstract> **PDF**
- François Bar, Francis Pisani, Matthew Weber. 2007. "Mobile Technology Appropriation in a Distant Mirror: Baroque Infiltration, Creolization and Cannibalism". <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.184.5809&rep=rep1&type=pdf> **PDF**
- Brian David Johnson. 2014. "Carolina Ödman-Govender and Making in South Africa." *Computer*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sYMRCnUfzk> **VIDEO**

Week 5

Continued

- *Optional:* Thomas Birtchnell. 2010. "Jugaad as systemic risk and disruptive innovation in India." *Contemporary South Asia* 19(4) pp357-372. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09584935.2011.569702> **HTML**
 - *Optional:* Wachira Ndaiga. 2014. "Why the Maker Movement." <http://www.ihub.co.ke/blogs/19726> **HTML**
 - *Optional:* Silvia Lindtner, Anna Greenspan, David Li. 2014. "Shanzhai: China's Collaborative Electronics-Design Ecosystem." *The Atlantic*. <http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2014/05/chinas-mass-production-system/370898/> **HTML**
 - *Optional:* *Arduino: The Documentary*. 2010. <https://vimeo.com/18539129> **VIDEO**
- OTHER RESOURCES**
- Design for the Other 90%. <http://www.designother90.org/solutions?exhibition=12> **HTML**
 - Arduino, <https://www.arduino.cc/> **HTML**
 - Raspberry Pi, <https://www.raspberrypi.org/> **HTML**

ASSIGNMENT

One paragraph proposal of your final essay due today

8 to 12 February : READING WEEK

Week 6

Friday, 19 February

Games

READINGS

- Rebecca Carlson, Jonathan Corliss. 2011. "Imagined Commodities: Video Game Localization and Mythologies of Cultural Difference." *Games and Culture* 6(1) pp61-82. <http://gac.sagepub.com/content/6/1/61.abstract> **HTML**
- Revi Sundaram. 2007. "Other Networks: Media Urbanism and the Culture of Copy in South Asia." In Joe Karaganis (ed.) *Structures of Participation in Digital Culture*. New York: Social Science Research Council. http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images/crm/new_publication_3/%7B6a130b0a-234a-de11-afac-001cc477e-c70%7D.pdf **PDF**
- Alex Golub, Kate Lingley. 2008. "'Just like the Qing Empire:' Internet Addiction, MMOGs, and Moral Crisis in Contemporary China." *Games and Culture* 3(1), pp59-75. <http://gac.sagepub.com/content/3/1/59.abstract> **HTML**
- Colin Agur. 2015. "Second-order Networks, Gambling, and Corruption on Indian Mobile Phone Networks." *Media, Culture & Society* 37(5) pp768-783. <http://mcs.sagepub.com/content/37/5/768.full> **HTML**
- *Optional:* Krish Raghav. 2014. "Piracy and Games in Asia." *e:\>_ Asia gaming histories e-zine* 1. http://krishcat.com/edrive/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/EdriveZine_Issue1_August2014.pdf **PDF**
- *Optional:* Chi-Ying Chen. 2013. "Is the Video Game a Cultural Vehicle?" *Games and Culture* 8(6) pp408-427. <http://gac.sagepub.com/content/8/6/408.abstract> **HTML**

ASSIGNMENT

Find a topic you are interested in that is related to an expression of digital culture in a specific Global South country. Read up a few Wikipedia entries about it, and note how they can be improved (or created altogether). Gather a few links and material that could be used to edit these pages during the Wikipedia edit day session. ***Due in class on 26 February.***

Week 7 **Friday, 26 February**

Wikipedia Edit Day

Guest lecturer: Jon Davies. *Please bring your laptop!*

READINGS

- Loviisa Mellin. 2015. "Wikipedia, an Introduction" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0p8wFdnPfvw> **VIDEO**
- Dan O'Sullivan. 2011. "What Is an Encyclopedia? A Brief Historical Overview from Pliny to Wikipedia." In Geert Lovink and Nathaniel Tkacz (eds), *Critical Point of View: A Wikipedia Reader*. Amsterdam: Institute of Network Cultures. pp34-49. <http://networkcultures.org/blog/publication/critical-point-of-view-a-wikipedia-reader/> **HTML** (You can download the entire book at the bottom of this page).
- Achal R. Prabhala. 2012. "People Are Knowledge." <https://vimeo.com/26469276> **VIDEO**
- Prasad Krishna. 2011. "People Are Knowledge: Experimenting with Oral Citations on Wikipedia." The Centre for Internet & Society. <http://cis-india.org/openness/blog-old/people-are-knowledge> **HTML**
- Heather Ford. 2011. "The Missing Wikipedians." In Geert Lovink and Nathaniel Tkacz (eds), *Critical Point of View: A Wikipedia Reader*. Amsterdam: Institute of Network Cultures. pp258-270. <http://networkcultures.org/blog/publication/critical-point-of-view-a-wikipedia-reader/> **HTML** (You can download the entire book at the bottom of this page).
- *Optional*: Skim the following pages:
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Editing_policy **HTML**
 - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Tutorial/Editing> **HTML**
 - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:FAQ/Editing> **HTML**

Week 8

Friday, 4 March

The Poetics of Digital Cultural Production

READINGS

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Michel Hockx, SOAS Department of the Languages and Cultures of China and Inner Asia

- Michel Hockx. 2015. *Internet Literature in China*. New York: Columbia University Press. <https://library.soas.ac.uk/Record/861013> **HTML**
- Geremie Barmé, Sang Ye. 1997. "The Great Firewall of China." *Wired*. 5(6) http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/5.06/china_pr.html **HTML**
- David Kurt Herold. n.d. "Through the Looking Glass: Twenty Years of Research into the Chinese Internet," http://repository.lib.polyu.edu.hk/jspui/bitstream/10397/5789/1/Herold_Through_Looking_Glass.pdf **PDF**
- Rebecca MacKinnon. 2009. "China's Censorship 2.0: How Companies Censor Bloggers." *First Monday* 14(2) <http://journals.uic.edu/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/2378/2089> **HTML**
- Lokman Tsui. 2007. "An Inadequate Metaphor: The Great Firewall and Chinese Internet Censorship." *Global Dialogue* 9(102) <http://www.worlddialogue.org/content.php?id=400> **HTML**
- *Optional*: Jonathan Benney. 2014. "The Aesthetics of Chinese Microblogging: State and Market Control of Weibo." *Asiascape: Digital Asia* 3 pp169-200. <http://book-sandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/22142312-12340011j-sessionid=b3qo1lsg7ffi7.x-brill-live-02> **HTML**

Week 8

Continued

- Michael Rudin. 2011. "From Hemingway to Twitterature: The Short and Shorter of It." *The Journal of Electronic Publishing* 14(2) <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/j/jep/3336451.0014.213?view=text;rgn=main> [HTML](#)
- Blake Hallinan, Ted Striphas. 2016. "Recommended for You: The Netflix Prize and the Production of Algorithmic Culture." *New Media & Society* 18(1) pp117-137. <http://nms.sagepub.com/content/18/1/117> [HTML](#)
- Norimitsu Onishi. 2008. "Thumbs Race as Japan's Best Sellers Go Cellular." *The New York Times* Jan 20. http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/20/world/asia/20japan.html?_r=0 [HTML](#)

ASSIGNMENT

A one-page outline and initial bibliography of your final essay are due today.

Week 9

Friday, 11 March

The Cycle of Digital Life: Digital Technologies from Birth to Death

READINGS

- Kevin Gaunt et al. 2014. "Baby Lucent: Pitfalls of Applying Quantified Self to Baby Products." In CHI '14 *Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI EA '14). ACM, New York, NY, USA, pp263-268. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/2559206.2580937> [HTML](#)
- Annika Pissin. 2015. "Growing Up in Mommy's Blog Raising Girls' Voices in China" *Asiascape: Digital Asia* 2 pp213-237. <http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/22142312-12340031> [HTML](#)
- Sonia Livingstone. 2008. "Taking risky opportunities in youthful content creation: teenagers' use of social networking sites for intimacy, privacy and self-expression." *New Media and Society* 10(3) pp393-411 <http://nms.sagepub.com/content/10/3/393.short> [HTML](#)
- Nicola Wright. 2014. "Death and the Internet: The Implications of the Digital Afterlife." *First Monday* 19(6). <http://journals.uic.edu/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/4998/4088> [HTML](#)
- Connor Graham, Martin Gibbs & Lanfranco Aceti. 2013. "Introduction to the Special Issue on the Death, Afterlife, and Immortality of Bodies and Data." *The Information Society* 29(3), pp133-141. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01972243.2013.777296> [HTML](#)
- *Optional:* Jed R. Brubaker, Gillian R. Hayes & Paul Dourish. 2013. "Beyond the Grave: Facebook as a Site for the Expansion of Death and Mourning." *The Information Society* 29(3) pp152-163. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01972243.2013.777300> [HTML](#)
- *Optional:* Jon Mooallem. 2015. "Death, Redesigned." *The California Sunday Magazine*. <https://stories.californiasunday.com/2015-04-05/death-redesigned> [HTML](#)
- *Optional:* Stephan Micklitz, Martin Ortlieb, Jessica Staddon. 2013. "'I Hereby Leave My Email To...': Data Usage Control and the Digital Estate." 2013 *IEEE Security and Privacy Workshops Position Paper*. <http://www.ieee-security.org/TC/SPW2013/papers/data/5017a042.pdf> [PDF](#)
- *Optional:* Genevieve Bell. 2006. "No More SMS from Jesus: UbiComp, Religion and Techno-spiritual Practices." In *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing* (UbiComp 2006), pp141-158. <https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2166292&CFID=569943968&CFTOKEN=20456833> or http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/11853565_9 [HTML](#)

OTHER RESOURCES

- Parenting for a Digital Future <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digitalfuture/around-the-world/> [HTML](#)

ASSIGNMENT

Remember that the Quantified Self Assignment is due today!

Week 10

Friday, 18 March

Off the Grid: Non-Users, Partial Users, Alternative Users**READINGS**

- Eric P.S. Baumer, Morgan G. Ames, Jenna Burrell, Jed R. Brubaker, Paul Dourish. 2015. "Why study technology non-use?" *First Monday*, 20(11) <http://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/6310/5137> **HTML**
- Howard Rheingold. 2001. "Look Who's Talking." *Wired Magazine*. http://archive.wired.com/wired/archive/7.01/amish_pr.html **HTML**
- Steven J. Jackson, Alex Pompe and Gabriel Krieshok. 2012. "Repair Worlds: Maintenance, Repair, and ICT for Development in Rural Namibia." *Proceedings of the 2012 Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW) Conference*, Seattle, Washington, Feb 11-15. [http://sjackson.infosci.cornell.edu/Jacksonetal_Repair-Worlds\(CSCW12\).pdf](http://sjackson.infosci.cornell.edu/Jacksonetal_Repair-Worlds(CSCW12).pdf) **PDF**
- Viktor Mayer-Schönberger. 2012. "'Delete:' The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age." Talk at the Oxford Internet Institute. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0b-RT42uDYI> **HTML**