

DIGITAL LIVING: IDENTITIES AND COMPLEXITIES
SUMMER SCHOOL, BA LEVEL, 2014
 Sponsored by Department of Aesthetics & Communication, Aarhus University
 Professors Annette Markham and Claus Bossen

TENTATIVE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

Relevant Date	Topic	Assignments, readings, other information
Before Aug 1	Independent Book Reading: Culture of Connectivity (Jose van Dijck, Oxford University Press)	Read the book, using the assignments page to help guide your reading Complete and submit assignments before August 1 to receive credit (these will be posted June 21, 2014)
Before Aug 1	Independent Book Reading: Personal Connections in the Digital Age (Nancy K. Baym, Polity Press)	Read the book, using the assignments page to help guide your reading Complete and submit required assignments before August 1 to receive credit (these will be posted June 21, 2014)
Before Aug 1	Independent Book Reading: Net Smart (Howard Rheingold, MIT Press)	Read the book, using the assignment page to help guide your reading Complete and submit required assignments before August 1 to receive credit (these will be posted June 21, 2014)
Before Aug 1	Independent Article Reading: TBA by June 21	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Thinking about things differently." Chapter 1 of Ian Hodder's book Entangled 2. "Transgression today." Introduction by Ted Gornelios and David Gunkel to the book Transgressions 2.0. 3. "Smart mobs: the power of the mobile many". Chapter 7 from Howard Rheingold's 2002 (so it's a good history!) book: Smart Mobs: The new social revolution (Basic Books) 4. Online social networking as participatory surveillance. Anders Albrechtslund's 2008 article in First Monday, 13(3), http://firstmonday.org/article/view/2142/1949 5. "The quantified self movement: some sociological perspectives. Professor Deborah Lupton's (2013/14?) blog post. https://simplysociology.wordpress.com/2012/11/04/the-quantitative-self-movement-some-sociological-perspectives/ 6. View the series of videos and blogs posted on this bundlr about gamification (read at least three pieces): http://bundlr.com/b/gamification12 7. Scott, Brett. "Visions of a Techno-Leviathan: The Politics of the Bitcoin Blockchain" http://www.e-ir.info/2014/06/01/visions-of-a-techno-leviathan-the-politics-of-the-bitcoin-blockchain/ 8. Read/view the news/blog articles/videos on this bundlr about smart cities (read at least three pieces): http://bundlr.com/b/smart-cities-and-smart-technologies 9. View the news/blog articles/videos on this bundlr about advertising and marketing in the digital age (site will be provided by guest lecturer Jannek Sommer soon)

Aug 11-22, we meet daily, Monday-Friday (10 meetings total)

Location: Building 1325, room 140 (See a site map at: <http://www.au.dk/en/about/organisation/find-au/buildingmap/?b=1325>)

Planned schedule for each day:

- Start time: 9:15
- Break 10:30-10:45
- Session: 10:45-12:30
- Lunch: 12:30-2:00
- Session: 2:30-4:30

Note about content of the two week period: Because of the breadth of topics and concepts, we will treat each segment independently. We will not try to make this a coherent two week session, but a "Digital Living Festival" of sorts. Lots of experiences, lots of new ideas. A feeling of being overwhelmed. A suspicion of a lack of coherence. This may seem confusing, but on the last day, we'll try to tie things together.

Aug 11: In Class	Introductions, goals, and discussion of main themes. Review of daily activities, expectations for attendance and participation. Review details and dates for exercises so that these can be kickstarted. Pre-select working teams for the two week session	DRAFT Discussion: Expect that material from the three books will be discussed: To bring: Bring a laptop but also pen/paper to class Be prepared to share your assignments in class. Be prepared to work together in groups. Be prepared for outdoor fieldtrips during the week. Activities: Group workshop to develop your pitches for BOB: "Best of the Books" (teams of 5 find three top concepts from all the reading materials and build a sales pitch for each of them.) Activities: Begin "Archive the Self" exercise (Homework: continue at home overnight) (overall assignment will be due on Sunday at noon)
Aug 12	TOPIC: The self, identities, and relationships in the digital era:	DRAFT: Be prepared to: Pitch BOB with your group, using PPT or Posters or Banners or Theatrical performances. Bring to class: Bring tracking logs, video logs, and other material generated in the past day

		<p>Activities:</p> <p>Watch sales pitches. Vote. Use BOB to discuss concepts as a class.</p> <p>Discuss tracking logs in groups. Continue the "archiving the self" experiment.</p> <p>(homework, continue to archive the self)</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 1: upload your team's BOB pitch by 6 p.m. (if it's a live performance, such as a comedy sketch, you will upload recorded video of your presentation)</p>
Aug 13	<p>TOPIC: The self, identities, and relationships in the digital era</p> <p>***</p>	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>Discussion: Being net smart in matters of self, identity, and relationships. A critical comparison of Rheingold's and Baym's books. A critical discussion of key issues and concerns. presentations by individuals</p> <p>Discussion based on blogs and contributions prior to the August 1, perhaps</p> <p>Before lunch: Ethnography workshop: the Claus and Annette "intrepid ethnographers" show</p> <p>After lunch: students consider their own and others' materials via ethnography. work in teams</p>
Aug 14	<p>TOPIC: Privacy and Surveillance</p> <p>***</p>	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>9:15: Research teams present "ethnographic findings" of identity in digital era, using their archived self projects as foundation for their presentation</p> <p>SHIFT TO SURVEILLANCE</p> <p>To read/review before class: Privacy and Surveillance article by Anders Albrechtslund:</p> <p>Albrechtslund's article in First Monday (see above) Lupton's blog post (see above)</p> <p>Discussion: Privacy and surveillance in the digital age: Always on, intensive marketing, homophiilly, self tracking, and quantified self</p>

		<p>Activity: In teams, add evidence of surveillance to the archived self projects. (including both self surveillance and being surveilled)</p> <p>Interrupt group work: Each group will give a brief progress report on what they are adding.</p> <p>Resume group work</p> <p>To bring: Energy! Be prepared for a long day.</p>
<p>Aug 15</p>	<p>TOPIC: Gamification</p> <p>***</p> <p>TOPIC: Smart Mobs (in preparation for flash mob next week)</p>	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>MORNING: GAMES, GAMIFICATION</p> <p>To review/read before class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View the series of videos and blogs posted on this bundlr about gamification: http://bundlr.com/b/gamification12 • Scott, Brett. "Visions of a Techno-Leviathan: The Politics of the Bitcoin Blockchain" http://www.e-ir.info/2014/06/01/visions-of-a-techno-leviathan-the-politics-of-the-bitcoin-blockchain/ <p>Activity: Guest activity and lecture by John Carter McKnight, Ph.D. Lancaster University, UK</p> <p>Discussion: Gamification: How does this idea impact the way we design for the future?</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 3: Game development or equivalent.</p> <p>***</p> <p>4 P.M.: BRIEF DISCUSSION OF FLASH MOB EXPERIMENT</p> <p>Discussion: Mobility, Networked Sociality, and possibilities for social action. In preparation, please review before coming to class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility and collective action article from Transgressions 2.0 <p>Homework: continue group work to push forward the flash mob experiment.</p>

ASSIGNMENT 2 due Sunday at noon: submit (upload) presentation on "the self." produced as a PowerPoint presentation with AudioVisual components, youtube video, or movie from camtasia recording of a powerpoint presentation or other presentation on your screen. instructions will be given.)

Aug 18

TOPIC: Social and Organizational (business) structures in the 21st Century. Characteristics, challenges, and complexity

DRAFT

To review before class:

- Culture of Connectivity (CC)
- Ian Hodder (2012). An archaeology of the relationship between humans and things. Chapter 1: Thinking about things differently. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/v1ltyhvg09xiufh/Hodder%20entangled%20ch%201.pdf>
- articles and videos on the bundlr related to advertising and marketing in the digital era

Discussion on CC: Understanding different types of social media and connecting these to larger infrastructures and systems: A culture of connectivity.

Activity: Teaching each other concepts and important points from CC: in groups

Guest appearances by Jannek Sommer, Southern Denmark University and John Carter McKnight, Lancaster University, UK

Discussion: Technology, Humans, and advertising in digital habitats; Business models in the 21st Century: What and who are we "mere" humans in these larger systems and (infra) structures? How should we think about economics? How does gamification play a role in contemporary business structures?

How do we think about our near future? What is our relationship to our technologies? What role do algorithms, or self-learning/automated software programs have in our daily consumer/producer lives?

Be prepared to discuss van Dijck's and Rheingold's concepts and arguments on business models and structures.

Aug 19

TOPIC: What's a Smart City?

DRAFT:

		<p>to review/view before class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read/view the news/blog articles/videos on this bundlr about smart cities: http://bundlr.com/b/smart-cities-and-smart-technologies <p>To bring to class: smart phone or camera with uploading capabilities</p> <p>Discussion: What is a smart city? What are the relevant elements/ activities/ capacities to consider?</p> <p>Activity: Fieldwork individually or in teams: Locating the "smart" city: Using visual fieldwork, GPS tracking, and social networking sites (pinterest, tumblr, or other) to tell a story.</p> <p>Activity: Fieldwork in groups: Hearing the digital? Are some things unrepresentable? Using audio and sensory ethnography techniques to make sense of digital living and tell a story.</p> <p>Possible guest lecture by UK Professor Ann Light.</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 4: create pinterest or tumblr on evidence of "smart" in Aarhus. more details to be provided</p>
Aug 20	TOPIC: Flash Mobs. Smart Mobs. Mobility and Activism in the Smart City	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>Activity: Enacting and documenting the Flash Mob</p> <p>Discussion: Mobility, media, and activism in 'smart' environments</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 5: upload documentation of the flash mob to youtube</p>
Aug 21	TOPIC: Remix Theory, Remix Culture	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>To review before class: articles and videos listed on the bundlr related to remix theory, remix methods: http://bundlr.com/b/remix-theory-remix-methods</p> <p>Discussion: Remixing Culture: Remix theory</p>

		<p>Activity: Find and discuss examples of different types of remix</p> <p>Discussion: copyright, copywrongs, intellectual property debates</p> <p>Workshop: Building a remix on "Digital Living" for presenting on the final day</p>
Aug 22	TOPIC: Digital Living: Wrapping it up and next steps	<p>DRAFT</p> <p>Activity: Present group remixes</p> <p>Activity: Map theories and concepts from the course</p> <p>Discussion: How will you pursue/continue your study of digital living? What will you study next?</p> <p>Activity: Evaluate the course</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 6: upload group remixes by 6 p.m.</p>