2023 Book Jam Participants
BLACK NETWORKED RESISTANCE

Tues 23rd Marie Mount (MMH) 1400 4pm
Wed 24th Skinner 3115 12-1pm

23RD AND 24TH APRIL

Black Networked Resistance explores the creative range of Black digital users and their responses to varying forms of oppression, utilizing cultural, communicative, political, and technological threads both on and offline. Raven Maragh-Lloyd demonstrates how Black users strategically rearticulate their responses to oppression in ways that highlight Black publics’ historically rich traditions and reveal the shifting nature of both dominance and resistance, particularly in the digital age.

Raven Maragh-Lloyd is Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and Film and Media Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Her work primarily highlights the ways that Black and African-American publics tap into long existing media channels of communication toward the goals of community and visibility. Her scholarship and teaching centers critical race and gender studies in investigating the social and cultural tools used to challenge established institutions and narratives.
TRANSFORMING VIDEOGAMES
SPEEDRUNNING, TRANS DESIRE, & EMBODIED GLITCHES
WITH DR. MADISON SCHMALZER

NOVEMBER 22, 2022
4:00PM — 5:30PM EST

Videogames are powerful tools for imagining new futures. In this talk, Madison Schmalzer explores the potential for articulating and embodying trans subjectivities through “trans play,” in particular focusing on speedrunning: the practice of playing videogames as fast as possible. She will show how the communal and individual labor that produces speedrunning also indexes desires and orientations towards technology that center social and technological glitches which have the power to short circuit the technologies around us, allowing for new technological subjectivities to unfold.
Feeling Digital

Winter 2023
DIGITAL 258
Jeff Nagy
M/W 10:00 - 11:30 am

We’re used to thinking about digital technologies in terms of data and information. But digital systems also measure, police, and monetize our feelings and how we give them voice. In this class, we’ll look at digital technologies not just as information systems but as emotional ones. We’ll investigate how they became a home for age-old feelings like joy, sadness, and shame — and we’ll explore how they might be prompting new ones.

Please email Sarah Torsch
dsi-studentservices@umich.edu
with any questions
Accessing Disability Culture 2024
This roundtable conversation considers what it means to write, make, and do (or not!) on crip time. Universities and other institutions typically represent disability through the logics of cost-burden models, which position disability as antithetical to collegiality, punctuality, responsibility, and, often, life. How might we work against, crip, and ultimately dismantle these systems? How might bed rest, deferrals, stims, stutters, and other embodied insights help us generate tactics for survival? How might we think about digital activism and disabled collectivity online in ways that provide us respite rather than distress? How might we collectively reimagine the temporalities of labor, care, and composing?
Thank you to our co-sponsors!

Center for Ethics, Society, and Computing
Center for Racial Justice
Computer Science and Engineering
Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
Department of American Culture
Department of Communication and Media
Department of English Literature and Language
Department of Film, Television, and Media
Department of History
Department of History of Art

Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies
Institute for Research on Women & Gender
School of Information
Science, Technology, and Public Policy
Science, Technology, and Society Program
Spectrum Center
Marsal Family School of Education Office of Diversity, Inclusion, Justice, and Equity
Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs
University of Michigan Initiative on Disability Studies
2023 Book Jam
FROM THERE TO HERE

This panel will be a conversation with the Principal Investigators (PIs) of the DISCO Network as they reflect on their most well-known publications, and their influence on their current research. They will also reflect on how these seminal works shaped their academic careers, and the relationships these works continue to make within the DISCO Network.

Thursday
May 2nd,
5:00 – 6:30pm ET

Edward St. John Learning and Teaching Center: Room 2009 (EJ/2009)

Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

BCoT Lab
bcallab.org
@BCoT_DISCO

Zoom Registration
2022 Book Jam
THE SOLES OF BLACK FOLKS

A Symposium on Sneakers, Blackness, & Community

Wednesday, March 29, 5:00-7:00pm
Honors Hall
HCRN 1066
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Are you a disabled, Deaf, neurodivergent, or chronically ill U-M student? Submit an essay or piece of art to the Accessing Disability Culture digital anthology by December 1, 2023. Accepted submissions will be compensated with $100.

Email digitalaftab@umich.edu with questions.

Sponsored by UMinDS

Accessing Disability Culture Anthology
Celebrating Jessica Hill Riggs winning the Kay Beattie Outstanding Individual Employee LSA Staff Recognition Award
BULLSHIT & Digital Rhetoric

M/W 11:30 - 1:00 pm
Remi Vergeau
Fall 2023 Digital 258

Trolling. Disinformation campaigns. Ad hominem attacks. Gaslighting. Obfuscation and pedantry. These things, and more, are modes of address that have come to typify popular representations of social media discourse. In this class, we’ll examine the theory and practice of bullshit as it relates to digital rhetoric and online circulation. Among other questions, we’ll consider how and where manipulation, truth, and ethos mediate what we popularly describe or understand as bullshit. We’ll think together about how complex appeals to lived experience and alternative data circulate among certain communities of practice online, with particular attention paid to anti-vaccination discourse. We’ll not only examine what it means to argue on the interwebs, but we’ll also ask what it means to imagine digital rhetorical practices that center on questions of ethics, justice, and power. Please email Sarah Torsch at studentservices@umich.edu with any questions.
2023 Book Jam
NICE WHITE LADIES IN THE TECH WORLD & BEYOND
with Jessie Daniels

March 29, 2023 2:00 PM
Hybrid Event
TSRB Auditorium 118
Register here

The talk will connect the work of Daniels’ most recent book Nice White Ladies: The Truth about White Supremacy, Our Role in It, and How We Can Help Dismantle It with the issues and concerns of equity and access addressed by the PREACH Lab.
DISCO Network Graduate Scholars

Brienne Adams
S. Nisa Asgarali-Hoffman
Jasmine Banks
Briana Barner
Casidy Campbell
Melvin Earl Villaver, Jr.
Jasmine Ehrhardt
Raquel Escobar
Judy Fisher
Janelle Grant
Sarah Hughes
pruneah Kim

Kyle Lindsey
Hagar Masoud
Tynesha McCullers
Parker Miles
Elise Nagy
Austin Peete
Ria Rajan
Jessica Rucker
Ariel Smith
David Tortolini
Pratiksha Thangam Menon
Josie Williams
Diana Zhu
ACCESS ADVOCACY: A CRIP MENTORING ROUNDTABLE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 12:00 - 1:30PM EST

How do we advocate for access in environments that are hostile to life and living? Where can we find community and fellow accomplices as we undertake this work? Please join us as we think-together about access labor, access intimacy, disability justice, and digital crip/mad life in the time of COVID.

CART will be provided.
Loki, honorary co-author of Technoskepticism
BLACK SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, THE INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA

PRESENTED BY THE PREAMO LAB

The objective of this course is to engage with conceptual and empirical understandings of the interaction between new media and social change. We will explore cases from the last twenty years – primarily focusing on African American culture and cyberactivism – using the public sphere and third spaces as a conceptual framework. We will explore the integration of new media tools within these movements and governmental and institutional responses to these developments.

LMC 3455
SPRING 2023
KEVIN WINSTEAD
Discriminating Data:
Wendy Chun in Conversation with Lisa Nakamura

Monday, Dec. 6, 2021
12:00pm to 1:30pm EST

In Discriminating Data, Chun reveals how polarization is a goal—not an error—within big data and machine learning. These methods, she argues, encode segregation, eugenics, and identify politics through their default assumptions and conditions.

CART and ASL will be provided.

Digital Studies Institute + DISCO Network Book Talk
2022 Disabili-TEA and Neurodiversi-TEA Party
Asian futures, without Asians

in-person performance

November 15, 2023
6:00 - 7:30pm
Stern Auditorium
525 S. State St.

What does it mean when so many white filmmakers envision futures inflected by Asian culture, but devoid of actual Asian people? Astria Suparak's live multimedia performance examines over half a century of science fiction cinema.

Astria Suparak is an artist, writer, and curator based in Oakland, California. Her cross-disciplinary projects address complex and urgent issues like institutionalized racism, feminisms and gender, and colonialism, made accessible through a popular culture lens, such as sci-fi movies, rock music, and sports.

ARTS INITIATIVE
DIGITAL STUDIES INSTITUTE
DISCO SUMMIT 2024
Stephanie Dinkins 2021 STAMPS Exhibit
In this course we walk through the long history of Black folks use of technology—starting with oral cultures and landing on social media. We'll consider how digital media can serve as a site of oppression and freedom. For more information email cksteeln@umd.edu

WINTER TERM COMM 498A/AASP498Q
OPEN TO UNDERGRADUATES AND GRAD STUDENTS
GRAD STUDENTS EARN CREDIT TOWARDS THE DSAH CERTIFICATE

Black Discourse in
Out Now!

Stephanie Dinkins: 
On Love & Data
Edited by Srimoyee Mitra

Subjects: Media Studies, New Media, American Studies, Class Studies, Michigan and the Great Lakes, Art and Culture, Urban Studies
Rather a Jinn than a Cyborg: a Conversation with Morehshin Allahyari

May 16, 2024
4:00 - 6:00pm

From 3D-printed replicas of sculptures destroyed by ISIS, to interactive installations that infuse medieval fable with contemporary gender politics, to purpose-built generative AI aimed at recovering lost queer traditions in Persian art, Morehshin Allahyari’s work leverages storytelling, archival research, and new technology as tools to push back against Western colonialism. Join us on May 16th for a conversation with Morehshin led by Pedram Baldari, an interdisciplinary artist and scholar in UM’s Stamps School of Art & Design, and Öğuz Kayr, doctoral student in Film, Television, and Media and Graduate Curator of Search Engines.
Presented by the Humanities & Technoscience Lab

MAPPING THE ASSAULT ON CRITICAL RACE THEORY (CRT)
with Taifha Natalee Alexander

MARCH 23, 2023
4:00PM – 5:30PM EST

Zoom link: bit.ly/3Yaa6y3

Critical Race Theory (CRT) seeks to understand why inequality persists in a society that has explicitly condemned racism and has repeatedly adopted laws and policies intended to eliminate it. Drawing on research in history, social sciences, and the humanities, CRT demonstrates how laws and policies can reproduce racial inequality—even when they are adopted without explicit racial bias. CRT is thus an important tool to support our nation’s ongoing efforts to achieve a robust multiracial democracy.

Over the past year, CRT has been a source of discussion everywhere—in the media, in school board meetings, in classrooms—and has generated many questions. During this session, Taifha Alexander, UCLA Law CRT Forward Project Director, will discuss CRT, its founding, and contributions, and the recent assault on the theory. Audience Q&A will follow.

CART will be provided.
Demystifying the NSF

NOVEMBER 10, 2022
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm EST

Applying for funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) can be difficult at best. In this workshop, geared toward graduate students and researchers, we will demystify the NSF by discussing the various types of funding opportunities, the format and structure of the application, the internal review process, and the meanings and interpretations of intellectual merit and broader impact. After the workshop you should have a comfortable working understanding of how to most effectively apply for NSF funding.

CART will be provided.

Ray Fouché
Director, NSF’s Social and Economic Sciences Division

HaT
Humanities & Technoscience Lab

Humanities and Technoscience Lab
Purdue University
Surprise sweater vest coordination among DISCO staff
QUEER SILENCE:
Rhetorical Quieting and An Erotics of Absence
Logan Smilges in Conversation with Remi Yergeau and David Adelman

JANUARY 25, 2023
12:00 - 1:30PM EST

The value of visibility is contingent on a variable, embodyminded social currency. Being seen tends to benefit most the people whose bodies and minds adhere closest to norms structured by whiteness, cisnormativity, and abledness. In their interactive talk, J. Logan Smilges shows how queer and otherwise marginalized populations navigate the risks that subvert their precarious visibility. Centering their analysis on the dating app Grindr, Smilges introduces profile pictures as a digital site for rhetorical quieting—a strategy whereby users regulate how their bodies/minds signify to people around them. As part of their talk, Smilges will offer an opportunity for attendees to evaluate how their own social media use is situated within a political matrix of presence and absence.
BCaT Collab presents at Critical Approaches to Black Media Culture conference at Tulane University
LIGHTNING TALKS

10:00am — 12:00pm ET

Sarah Hughes + Lise Loo
Crip Time Travel: Reflections on Technocracy and the Academy
10:10 am - 10:24 am

Judy Fisher
German Indigenization and Settler Colonialism: “Indians” in Germany
10:24 am - 10:31 am

Brienne Adams
“We Needed This,” Black Digital Fandom Expression
10:31 am - 10:38 am

Cosidy Campbell
The Black Digital Record and Sakhis “Bounded Frame of Identity”
10:38 am - 10:45 am

Pi Response (Lisa Nakamura, Catherine Knight Steele, Remi Yergeau) 10:45am - 11:05 am

11:05am—11:10 Break

Jonelle Grant
Dark Surveillance at School: Black High Schoolers Using Social Media to Address Racism
11:15 am - 11:22 am

Austin Peete
Across Time, Mobile Applications of Civil Rights Education
11:22 am - 11:29 am

Parker Miles
Embodied Digital Literacy Practices: Framework for a Dissertation
11:29 am - 11:36 am

Ariel Smith
Redefining What It Means to Be Black Owned
11:36 am - 11:43 am

Pi Response (André Brock, Rayvon Fouché, Stephanie Dinkins) 11:43pm - 12:00 pm
Thank you to the DISCO staff who organized the summit!

Cherice Chan  
Maddie Agne  
Ann Smith  
Veronica Thomas  
Raquel Escobar  
Giselle Mills
Networked Disability Cultures

M/W 4:00 - 5:30 pm
David Adelman
Winter 2023 - DIGITAL 458

What is disability culture online? Who gets to produce it? How does it get produced? What are its impacts across culture and technology? This course presents a theoretical survey of disability culture online—alongside a breadth of theoretical scholarship ranging from critical accessibility studies to media studies, feminist histories of care and beyond, and we will cover a wide variety of networked media—from podcasts and documentary film to social media platforms and digital zines.

Please email Sarah Torsch (dsi-student.services@umich.edu) with any questions.
BCAT SPRING SHOWCASE

Wednesday 1st May 1 - 4PM
BCAT Lab Skinner 3115

- Learn about our collaborative project
- Eat good food
- Hear snippets from our brand new podcast
- Meet the DISCO P!S

And more!

BCATLAB.ORG
SKINNER 3115
WHAT DOES AI NEED FROM YOU?
WHAT DOES AI NEED FROM YOU?
WHAT DOES AI NEED FROM YOU?
Disabili-TEA & Neurodiversi-TEA Party

Thursday, November 10, 1-2pm
Mason Hall G333

- Meet other disabled or neurodivergent undergraduates
- Learn about disability resources, classes, and events on campus
- Ramp Access: Power doors are located at the northeast entrance.
- Elevator Access: Continue through the double doors and the elevator will be on the righting

*in collaboration with Disability Nursing Association

RSVP
Writing the Book Manuscript

This BCaT applies session helps attendees think through the process of preparing their first manuscript for publication. This session is geared toward early career scholars whose research focuses on Digital Studies, Communication, Race, and/or Black studies.

Dr. Kishonna Gray
(Akshonnagray) Associate Professor in Writing, Rhetoric & Digital Studies and African Studies at the University of Kentucky and author of Intersectional Tech: Black Users in Digital Gaming (I.SU Press, 2020), Race, Gender, & Deviance in Xbox Live (Routledge, 2014), and co-editor of Feminism in Play (Palgrave- Macmillan, 2019) and Woke Gaming (University of Washington Press, 2019)

Dr. Raven Maragh
(Aravenmaragh) Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and American Studies and Film and Media Studies at Washington University in St. Louis and author of forthcoming book Reshaping Black Resistance: Strategic Rearticulations in the Digital Age (University of California Press)

Caitlin Tyler-Richards.
(ajkcrents) Acquisitions editor at Michigan State University Press, where she handles print and born-digital projects in African, African American, and Diaspora studies, as well as in DH, digital studies, and environmental justice. You can find her on the MSU Press website (msupress.org)

Date: November 9, 2022
Time: 1-2:30pm EST
Location: BCaT Lab Skinner 3115 and via Zoom

Register Here
https://go.umd.edu/BCaTApplies
2024 DISCO Road Show at Stony Brook University
FROM PRISMS TO PANTONE: COLOR, RACE, & TECHNOLOGY

WINTER 2023
TU/TH 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
DIGITAL 357
LIDA ZEITLIN-WU

In this class, we will take a deep dive into the rich, fascinating, and sometimes overwhelming topic of color as it is mediated by technology, culture, and politics. By doing so, we'll open up a larger conversation about how technology shapes our perception of the world and ourselves. A major conceptual thread running throughout the course will be around the complex relationship between color and race. Throughout the semester, we'll look critically at the ways in which color technologies from photography to biometrics have historically been calibrated in a way that privileges whiteness and perpetuates racial bias. Please email Sarah Torsch (dsi-studentservices@umich.edu) with any questions.
Gaming Blockchain and the Asiatic Forms of Web3

Big Bad Feelings: AI Depression Diagnosis and the Technopolitics of Disability

Un/Just Care: Imagining the History (and Future) of Disability, Technology, and Care

#RIP Twitter: The Conditions of Black Social Media Platform Migration

Meditation Apps and the Unbearable Whiteness of Wellness

Just Tech Field Reviews
BCaT at the UMD Department of Communication First Look Fair
“Meanwhile blackness means to render unanswerable the question of how to govern the thing that loses and finds itself to be what it is not.” — Harney & Moten, The Undercommons

Beth Coleman’s argument in this project is to make AI more wild, not less. By wild, she indicates generative possibility for the technology in opposition to the reproduction of the same. The prompt for this line of inquiry is the call for transparency and accountability as an "ethics" in AI design. Another prompt is the “alien encounters” described in Octavia Butler’s Xenogenesis series of speculative fiction. This talk wonders if advocacy toward a corrective can produce the ends sought: less harmful bias and more equitable opportunity. What if—outside of the frame of the ethical corrective—one reorients AI application and ontology?

Beth Coleman in Conversation with Lisa Nakamura and André Brock
Thank you to our collaborators and vendors!

Jean Steppe and Molly Lipham, Steppe Solutions
Brian Hunter, Weiser Hall Facilities
Lisa Pettit and Julie Esch, Digital Studies Institute Finance Office
Jesse Miller, LSA Technology Services
Katherine Leclaire, Photographer
Q&A Reporting
Collegiate Travel Planners
El Harissa Market Cafe
Angel Food Catering
Cappuccino Man
The Graduate Hotel Ann Arbor
BCaT Learns! Tableau, Jay-Z samples and data storytelling with Dr. Kenton Rambsy
FUTURES OF RACE, GENDER, DISABILITY, & TECHNOLOGY

1:00pm — 2:00pm ET

Super Panel

Lisa Nakamura
1:00 pm - 1:08 pm

Rayvon Fouché
1:08 pm - 1:16 pm

Stephanie Dinkins
1:16 pm - 1:24 pm

André Brock
1:24 pm - 1:32 pm

Remi Yergeau
1:32 pm - 1:40 pm

Catherine Knight Steele
1:40 pm - 1:48 pm

Q & A | 1:48 pm - 2:00 pm
2024 DISCO Road Show at Northwestern University
Lydia X. Z. Brown
Algorithmic Ableism at the Intersections: Disability, Race, Gender, and New Technologies

Tuesday, February 7
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM ET

CART will be provided. If you have any questions or need event accommodations, please reach out to the DISCO Network at disconetwork@umich.edu.

Join Lydia X.Z. Brown in conversation with Remi Vergeau and David Adelman. Lydia X. Z. Brown’s work focuses on unearthing, examining, and challenging the intersectional harms of algorithmic technologies on disabled people living at the margins of the margins.
Promoting DISCO Network Courses at the Digital Studies Institute
Technoskepticism: Between Possibility and Refusal will be published by Stanford University Press in February 2025.
DISCO Fellows 2022 Writing Retreat
Join four of our DISCO Network Fellows for short talks on keywords for the future of race, gender, disability, and technology, with Huan He (U-Michigan) on “myth,” Jeff Nagy (U-Michigan) on “emotion,” Rianna Walcott (U-Maryland) on “ritual,” and Kevin Winstead (Georgia Tech) on “disinformation.”

Nov 17 4:00PM - 5:30 EST

CART will be provided. For more information www.discanetwork.org/disco-events
Michigan Hub Fellows Orientation
# LIGHTNING TALKS

**DISCO NETWORK GRADUATE SCHOLAR RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

**APRIL 18TH 2024**

**4:00 - 6:00 PM ET**

**ZOOM**

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<td>담배 (nikeokgak) asmr: Recipes as Ritual in the Computational Present</td>
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<td>ELISE NAGY</td>
<td>The arms are as long as printed exclamation marks!!'</td>
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<td>S. N SABABALI-HOFFMAN</td>
<td>Ambiguously Brown: Resisting the Myth of Racial Authenticity in Genetic Ancestry Testing</td>
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*THE DISCO NETWORK GRADUATE SCHOLAR PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK ABOUT THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, CULTURE, RACE, DISABILITY, GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND LIBERATION. OUR GRADUATE SCHOLARS CONDUCT RESEARCH IN COLLABORATION WITH OUR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS.*
DISCO Network Research Affiliates

Anuli Akanegbu
Oliver Banner
Dev K. Bose
Lydia X.Z. Brown
Emily (Em) Doffing
Jina DuVernay
Yvonne M. Eadon

Val Elefante
Wilfredo Flores
Timotheus “T.J.” Gordon Jr.
Kimberly Hassel
Petra Molnar
Sharon Pearl
Maurika Smutherman
The DISCO Network is a collaborative, intergenerational research group of scholars dedicated to analyzing digital technology, race, disability, sexuality, and gender.

This panel will be a conversation with the Principal Investigators (PIs) of the DISCO Network. What can an equitable digital future look like? In our contemporary moment, is it possible to create transformative movements, rooted within humanistic inquiry, to address inequities, histories of exclusion, disability injustice, techno-ableism, and digital racial politics? Over the past few years, the DISCO Network began a portion of this work. The collective will reflect on its collaborative effort and explore the tensions between digital optimism and technoskepticism.
Exploring the Computer and Video Game Archive
Search History compliments DISCO’s programming initiative ‘Search Engines,’ which brings artists to Michigan’s Ann Arbor campus who are deeply invested in leveraging new media to create work that critiques existing social and political inequalities.

This zine is an invitation for playful uncertainty—a space for a software engineer to write a poem, a painter to code, a sociologist to write fiction. We welcome submissions from any University of Michigan student, not just artists or technologists, including those who have left or graduated in the last five years.

The speed at which the tech industry moves often leaves the consumer unsure of where their agency lies in an increasingly digital world. We are all profoundly impacted by our socio-technological landscape, and we hope to show that we need diverse voices meditating on the implications of technology.

CALL FOR ZINE SUBMISSIONS!
Hostile Legislation, Digital Activism, & TransCrip Stories

Virtual roundtable discussion + workshop
Tuesday, November 28, 4:00-6:00pm EST

This roundtable stories in/access and crip feelings in the wake of anti-trans and anti-critical race theory legislation, as well as the rollback of COVID-19 protections and policies. In the midst of this onslaught, how do we survive, much less maintain optimism? This roundtable and workshop considers digital storytelling as a means for maintaining and amplifying community.
BCaT Applies: Book Manuscript Workshop
Thank you to the Digital Studies Institute staff and students!

Jennifer Eshelman
Jessica Hill Riggs
Eric Mancini
Sarah Torsch

Student Employees: Riley Hughes, Alex Bahena, Atticus Spicer, Kerri Graham, Kaitlyn Gastineau
The Evolution of A Collective
5 pm, February 29, 2024
Future Histories Studio
Room 4222, Staller Center for the Arts, Stony Brook University

An open conversation with the Primary Investigators of the DISCO Network examining our digital worlds, scholarship and adventures in knowledge dissemination.

FHS is part of the DISCO Network, a Mellon supported consortium across five universities supporting a national network of scholars working on topics of racial equity, histories of exclusion, disability justice and technoabolism.
2024 Northwestern University Graduate Student Lunch
SOCIAL MEDIA SCRAPING FOR THE TECH-HEISITANT

WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL 1-3PM

THIS WORKSHOP OFFERS A USER-FRIENDLY DATA SCRAPING METHOD, FOR THE RESEARCHER WHO - LIKE ME - IS NOT PARTICULARLY TECH-SAVVY.

THE TOOL WE WILL BE DISCUSSING IS ZEECSCHUIMER, WHICH CAN CAPTURE DATA FROM TIKTOK, INSTAGRAM, TWITTER AND MORE BY 'LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER' AS YOU SCROLL THROUGH THEM, AS WELL AS THE 4CAT INTERFACE, WHICH OFFERS A TOOLKIT TO PROCESS AND ANALYSE YOUR RAW DATA.
DISCO Fellows 2022 Writing Retreat
DISCO Network Lecture Series

Racial Replication

Michelle N. Huang in Conversation with Lisa Nakamura and Huan He

Thursday, October 20, 2022
4:00 pm to 5:30 pm ET

Zoom Registration: https://bit.ly/3CeqgFL
In Person Registration: https://bit.ly/39255bG
CART will be provided
Thank you to all DISCO staff past and present!

Cherice Chan  Veronica Thomas  Maddie Agne  Ann Smith  Giselle Mills

Jessica Hill Riggs  Eric Mancini  Kristin Waterbury  Evan Hoye
BCAT LAB OCTOBER LUNCH & LEARNS

RESEARCHING CHANGING SOCIAL MEDIA LANDSCAPES

WEDNESDAY’S 12-1PM

Bring your lunch and join us in the lab, or via Zoom! We will be joined by discussants from the DISCO Network and addressing topics including:

- Big data and quantifying lived experience
- Social Media Platform histories
- Adaptive methods of data collection
- Ethical considerations in social media research
- Restricted API access across social media platforms including X, TikTok, and Facebook

bcatlab.org
disconetwork.org
bcat.umd.edu
SKINNER 311S
Race and the Technological Imagination

Winter 2023
Huan He - Digital 357
M/W 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Please email Sarah Torsch (dsi-student-services@umich.edu) with any questions.

*Robot is Nam June Paik’s Uncle (1986)

In our digital world, we are constantly engaging in acts of the imagination—from the gamer we assume to be on the other side of the screen, to the personification of AI algorithms, to myths of innovation progress and technological benevolence, to who is included in utopic and dystopic visions of technological futures. Through literature, art, and theory, this course explores how technologies and technological worlds are produced through imaginative techniques, usually with real-world consequences. We will look at how ideas of race and social difference (including gender, sexuality, and disability) reflect how we imagine information technologies, shaping how technical systems are embedded within human worlds.
DISCO Network Labs
Catherine Knight-Steele

CO-SPONSORED WITH BLACK BEYOND DATA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, 12PM TO 1:30PM EST
DSLPROJECTS.ORG/EVENTS
Thank you to the Mellon Foundation!

Maria Sachiko Cecire, Mellon Foundation Program Officer
Mary Bates, Mellon Foundation Program Associate
LUNCH AND LEARN:
CRITICAL TECHNOCULTURAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

BCaT Lab Presents

6TH DECEMBER
12.00 - 1PM WORKSHOP
SKINNER 3115

In this lunch and learn we have the privilege of being joined by André Brock, Associate Professor of Black Digital Studies and Media in the Department of Literature, Media and Communication at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is a leading academic in Black Cyberculture and the study of racial representations in social media, including groundbreaking research on Black Twitter.

We'll be discussing CTDA, an internet research method that takes a discourse-analytic approach to digital objects and phenomena and is framed by cultural theory.

bcatlab.org
bcat.umd.edu
2023 Book Jam
Promoting the DISCO Network at the University of Michigan campus
Futures of Race, Gender, Disability, & Technology

Monday, May 23, 2022
1:00 pm — 2:00 pm EST
Dinner at the 2022 Book Jam
How is morality understood in the marketplace? Why do brands speak out about certain issues of injustice and not others? And what is influencer culture’s role in social and political activism? Big Brands Are Watching You investigates corporate culture, from the branding of companies and nations to television portrayals of big business and the workplace. Francesca Sobande analyzes media, interviews, survey responses, and ephemera from the history of advertising as well as exhibitions in London, brand stores in Amsterdam, a music festival in Las Vegas, and archives in Washington, DC, to illuminate the world of branding.

Francesca Sobande is Senior Lecturer in Digital Media Studies at Cardiff University, author of ‘The Digital Lives of Black Women in Britain’ and ‘Consuming Crisis: Commodifying Care and COVID-19’, and coauthor of ‘Black Oot Here: Black Lives in Scotland’.
BCaT Lab mixer symposium on ‘sustaining community collaborations’
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, & RACE

LMC 3306 SS2
kevin Winstead

What is the role of race in science and technology? How does race shape the design and social impact of scientific inquiry and technological innovation, such as AI-based facial recognition, black-box credit models in credit and finance, and applicant tracking systems in recruitment and hiring? Can the deployment of computerized technology transcend and address racial inequalities in areas such as public health, migration, labor, and reproductive rights? Our course will analyze these questions from an interdisciplinary perspective, emphasizing the legacies and realities of racism and colonialism within scientific inquiry and technological development that continue to expand and inhibit life chances. We will engage with a wide range of intellectual and creative works, such as "Ex Machina" and "Gattaca".
Join four of our DISCO Network Fellows for short talks on the future of race, gender, disability, and technology with David Adelman (U-Michigan) on “desire”, Aaron Dial (Purdue University) on “alg (rhy) thm”, Lida Zeitlin-Wu (U-Michigan) on “color”, and Coleman Collins (Stonybrook University) on “debt”.

Feb 23 4:00PM - 5:30 EST
CART will be provided. For more information www.disconetwork.org/disco-events
DISCO Network Fellows and Faculty Affiliates

Kevin Winstead
Aaron Dial
Jeff Nagy
Lida Zeitlin-Wu
David Adelman
Huan He
Coleman Collins
Rianna Walcott
Brandy Pettijohn
DISCO NETWORK PRESENTS

Digital Methodology Workshop: Exploring CTDA

CDTA is designed for researchers interested in minority groups and digital practice as it foregrounds critical cultural theories while examining digital technology, grounded in user perspectives and real-world practices.

André Brock is an Associate Professor of Media Studies at Georgia Tech. He writes on Western technoculture, Black technoculture, and digital media. His first book, titled Distributed Blackness: African American Cybercultures, was published with NYU Press in 2020 and theorizes Black everyday lives mediated by networked technologies.

**Workshop 1**
Friday, April 8 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm EST

**Workshop 2**
Friday, May 13 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm EST
COMM4491: STUDYING DIGITAL HUMANITIES

How we study something can be just as important as what we study. This course introduces a variety of methods and approaches to collecting and interpreting digital materials.

By drawing on different case studies and platforms – from hashtag mapping on audiovisual platforms such as TikTok or Instagram, to narrative analysis on YouTube, to discourse analysis on X – this course challenges students to think critically about forming research questions, issues of access and ethics in data collection, and organising and presenting research.

This course takes a hands-on approach to research methods. Expect to experiment with methods and digital tools through workshops and group projects, and to apply materials from class to your own interests!

Spring 2024 | Dr. Rianna Walcott | Tu/Thu 3:30 - 4:45
GRADUATE SCHOLAR LIGHTNING TALKS

Thursday, APRIL 20th, 4:00 - 5:30pm ET

Kyle Lindsey - Black YouTubers; So-called “Cancel Culture”, and Enduring Racist Content

Briana Barner - The Function of Black Podcasts


Diana Zhu - The Mediated Body: Pornographic, Racialized Embodiment as Feminist Praxis in Painting, Performance, Video Art and Multimedia Installation

Raquel Escobar - One Log Entry at a Time: Constructing and Treating the Eating Disordered Self
February 8, 2024 | 4:00 - 5:30pm ET on Zoom

Search Engines hosts Lauren Lee McCarthy for an interactive, Zoom-based presentation entitled “What do you want me to say?” McCarthy’s practice—spanning performance, software, electronics, internet, film, photography, and installation—examines social relationships in the midst of surveillance, automation, and algorithmic living.

As she writes, “I am captivated by the ways we are taught to interact with algorithms, and how this shapes the way we interact with each other. What are the rules, what happens when we introduce glitches? I invite participants to remote control my dates. To be followed. To welcome me in as their human smart home. To attend a party hosted by artificial intelligence. Each work feels like an attempt to hack my way out of myself and into closeness with others. I am embodying machines, trying to understand that distance between the algorithm and myself, the distance between others and me. In the midst of always on networked interfaces, what does it mean to be truly present?”

“What do you want me to say?” invites the audience to explore these questions together. The presentation will be followed by an audience Q&A, moderated by Jeff Nagy.

Register
2022 Book Jam
Writing (or not) on CRIP TIME

A Crip Mentoring Roundtable
Friday, January 19 from 12:00-1:30pm ET

This roundtable conversation considers what it means to write, make, and do (or not) on crip time. Universities and other institutions typically represent disability through the logics of cost-burden models, which position disability as antithetical to collegiality, punctuality, responsibility, and, often, life. How might we work against, crip, and ultimately dismantle these systems? How might bed rest, deferrals, stims, stutters, and other embodied insights help us generate tactics for survival? How might we think about digital activism and disabled collectivity online in ways that provide us respite rather than distress? How might we collectively reimagine the temporalities of labor, care, and composing?
RESURRECTING THE BLACK BODY
26TH AND 27TH MARCH

Tues 26th Marie Mount (MMH) 1400 Talk 4pm
Wed 27th Skinner 311S Lunch & Learn 12-1pm

TONIA SUTHERLAND

In Resurrecting the Black Body, Tonia Sutherland considers the consequences of digitally raising the dead. Attending to the violent deaths of Black Americans—and the records that document them—from slavery through the social media age, Sutherland explores media evidence, digital acts of remembering, and the right and desire to be forgotten.

Tonia Sutherland is Assistant Professor of Information Studies at UCLA. Global in scope, Sutherland’s research focuses on the critical and liberatory in archival studies, digital studies, and science and technology studies, emphasizing the often-messy entanglements of memory, community, and technology.
2024 DISCO Road Show at BCaT University of Maryland