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Module 1 Readings

Cornell University. *New Cornell study suggests that mental processing is continuous, not like a computer.* *Cornell University News Service.* 27 June 2005. Web. 2 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/june05/new.mind.model.ssl.html>>.

Amidst all of the silliness of people comparing brains to computers (and vice-versa), here's a nice piece on how the brain is deeply analogue, and what is more, it's very associational.

Fisch, Karl, and Scott McLeod. "Did you know?" Video. *Youtube.* 22 Jan. 2007. Web. 2 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMcfLYDm2U>>.

To give you a sense of the larger agenda we're addressing here, check out this video called, "Did You Know?"

Gould, Stephen J. "Humbled by the Genome's Mysteries." Editorial. *New York Times* 19 Feb. 2001. Web. 2 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/02/19/opinion/humbled-by-the-genome-s-mysteries.html>>.

Also, think of genome decoding as an information project; see Stephen Jay Gould on the Genome (RIP: we'll miss him).

Schiesel, Seth. "A Coach's Rise, Plotted at the Keyboard." *New York Times.* 5 Aug. 2004. Web. 2 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/08/05/technology/circuits/05coac.html>>.

With this year's Wolverine coaching dilemmas, let's try computing football (and this isn't Madden).

Van, Jon. "Work by 'brilliant thinker' may turn science on its ear." *Chicago Tribune.* 20 Mar. 2000. Web. 2 Nov. 2009.

An interview with Stephen Wolfram

Module 2 Reading

American Library Association and Association of American Publishers. *The Freedom to Read Statement*. 30 June 2004. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/statementspols/firststatement/freedomreadstatement.cfm>>.

Berger, Joseph. "In Library's Back Pages, a Vivid History Unfolds." *New York Times*. 11 May 2004. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/05/11/nyregion/11library.html>>.

As an nice adjunct to the notion of how good libraries adapt to their changing clientele, here's a piece on the social history of lower Manhattan, as seen by a branch library.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression. *IFLA Statement on Terrorism, the Internet and Free Access to Information*. IFLANET. 5 June 2003. Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <<http://archive.ifla.org/V/press/faife050603pr.htm>>.

IFLA statement on universal rights to access.

Jesella, Kara. "A Hipper Crowd of Shushers." *New York Times*. 8 July 2007. Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/08/fashion/08librarian.html>>. From a recent NY Times in the "Fashion and Style" section[!], an article on how librarianship is now a hip profession (check out the kewl ppl in the pics). BTW, the "Librarian Avengers" Web site is maintained by a former SI student, Erica Olsen.

Kranich, Nancy. "Libraries Create Social Capital." *Library Journal*. 15 Nov. 2001. Web. 2 Nov. 2009.

<<http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com/index.asp?layout=articlePrint&articleID=CA180511&publication=libraryjournal>>.

Molz, Redmond Kathleen, and Phyllis Dain. *Civic Space/Cyberspace The American Public Library in the Information Age*. New York: The MIT, 2001. Print.

Note well: this is a long reading, so budget your time and information access method accordingly.

Shapiro, Jeremy J., and Shelley K. Hughes. "Information Literacy as a Liberal Art." *Educom Review* 31.2 (1996). Web. 2 Nov. 2009. <<http://net.educause.edu/apps/er/review/reviewArticles/31231.html>>.

Module 3 Reading

Abbate, Janet. "Government, business, and the making of the internet." *Business History Review* 75.1 (2001): 147-76. *ProQuest*. Web. 5 Dec. 2001.

Berrett, Danelle, Boyd Fletcher, and Dave Huff. "Convincing the Military to Embrace Open Source." *Linux Insider*. 29 Dec. 2007. Web. 2 Jan. 2008.
<<http://www.linuxinsider.com/rsstory/60965.html>>.

Burrows, Peter. "How Apple Could Mess Up, Again." *BusinessWeek*. 9 Jan. 2006. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2006/tc20060109_432937.htm>.

Williams, Sam. "When machines breed." *Salon*. 12 Aug. 2004. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<http://www.salon.com/technology/feature/2004/08/12/evolvable_hardware/index.html>.

Module 4 Readings

Boynton, Robert S. "The Tyranny of Copyright?" *New York Times Magazine*. 25 Jan. 2004. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/01/25/magazine/25COPYRIGHT.html>>.

The best recent summary of major battles in the copyright wars. Make sure to read this article.

Center for Internet and Society. "A Fair(y) Use Tale." Video. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://cyberlaw.stanford.edu/documentary-film-program/film/a-fair-y-use-tale>>.

An entertaining and accessible explanation of copyright law comes as a mash-up video, "A Fair[y]-Use Tale."

Coleman, Mary S. "Riches We Must Share . . ." Editorial. *Washington Post* 22 Oct. 2005.

Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/10/21/AR2005102101451.html>>.

As the University of Michigan is perhaps ground-zero for the Google Print controversy, the university itself has taken some strong positions in defense of the project, especially on "fair-use" grounds. Please read a sharp defense of the project by UofM President Mary Sue Coleman, which appeared as an op-ed in the *Washington Post*.

De Sam Lazaro, Fred. "India Works to Shield Traditional Knowledge from Modern Patents." Video blog post. *PBS NewsHour*. Public Broadcasting Corporation, 21 May 2007. Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/asia/jan-june07/patents_05-21.html>.

"Traditional knowledge," the knowledge residing within "non-western" communities, is now subject to getting hijacked by foreign interests. With the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library, the Indian government is using a database to fight back.

Gillmor, Dan. "Paranoia, stupidity and greed ganging up on the public." *San Jose Mercury News*. 2 May 2002. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1G1-120412599.html>>.

For a perhaps over-the-top slam at how Big Media is using copyright law to pursue its own narrow interests, here's a biting piece by Dan Gillmor of Silicon Valley's top rag, the one the IT community reads over its coffee, the *San Jose Mercury-News*; I like the fact that copyright on the article is claimed for 2001, but it wasn't written until 2002!

Harris, Leslie E. "Did Google Boggle It Up?" *Information Outlook* Dec. 2005.

AllBusiness. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.

<<http://www.allbusiness.com/technology/internet-search-engines/1163531-1.html>>.

In the professional magazine for professional special librarians, Lesley Ellen Harris explains in a nice, readable fashion the legal implications of Google Print.

Poulsen, Kevin. "'Super-DMCA' fears suppress security research." *SecurityFocus*. 14 Apr. 2003. Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.securityfocus.com/news/3912>>.

The DMCA of 1998 has such stringent provisions that it has made it illegal for a UM grad student in EECS to publicize his dissertation.

Unintended Consequences: Ten Years under the DMCA. Rep. Electronic Frontier Foundation, Oct. 2008. Web. 1 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.eff.org/wp/unintended-consequences-ten-years-under-dmca>>.

According to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, how the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of 1998 has failed.

Module 5 Reading

Clines, Francis. "Wariness Yields to Motivation in Baltimore Free-Computer Experiment." *New York Times*. 24 May 2001. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/05/24/technology/24BALT.html>>.

One of the most exciting attempts to bridge the digital divide is an effort to put networked PCs in the projects.

Toward Equality of Access: The Role of Public Libraries in Addressing the Digital Divide. Rep. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<www.imls.gov/pdf/Equality.pdf>.

Here's a very smart report from the Pew Trust and Gates Foundation on how libraries and their service help bridge the digital divide.

Twist, Jo. "UN debut for \$100 laptop for poor." *BBC News*. British Broadcasting Corporation, 17 Nov. 2005. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/4445060.stm>>.

The techno-enthusiasts at the MIT Media Lab hope to rescue the Third World with a \$100 laptop; the necessary information literacy presumably will appear, somehow. FYI, here's the link to the Website of the makers of that \$100 laptop: www.laptop.org

University of Michigan. *Girls' interest in math is much lower than their performance*. *University of Michigan News and Information Services*. University of Michigan, 17 Apr. 2002. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<<http://web.archive.org/web/20050216043250/http://www.umich.edu/~newsinfo/Releases/2002/Apr02/r041702a.html>>.

Here's a summary of a UofM study that girls do pretty much as well as boys in math in grades 6-12 (they actually do slightly better), yet their interest is far lower, indicating a possible cause for the paucity of women in IT education (a recent book by Fischer and Margolis, *Inside the Clubhouse*, exhaustively documents how women's interest in computing majors declines through college as well).

Warschauer, Mark. "Reconceptualizing the Digital Divide." *First Monday* 7.7 (2002). Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<<http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/967/888>>

This article poses a damning critique of simple dichotomies of info "haves" and "have-nots," proposing that differences within groups (by class, race, or gender) are probably more important than those across groups, and that we need to recognize systematically that "technical fixes" won't work unless we understand underlying social dynamics.

Zachary, G. "The African Hacker." *IEEE Spectrum*. IEE, Aug. 2005. Web. 1 Nov. 2009.
<<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/computing/it/the-african-hacker>>.

Hermann Chinery-Hesse, a Nigerian software entrepreneur, has had considerable success in "negotiating" a solution between leading-edge technology and the local

conditions in West Africa. Here's his story.

Module 6 Reading

Berners-Lee, Tim, James Hendler, and Ora Lassila. "The Semantic Web." *Scientific American*. Mar. 2001. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=the-semantic-web>>.

Blumenfeld, Laura. "Http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&contentId=A23689-2003Jul7¬Found=true." *Washington Post*. 8 Jan. 2003. Web. 31 Oct. 2009.

Boase, Jeffrey, Jeff B. Horrigan, Barry Wellman, and Lee Rainie. *Strength of Internet Ties, The*. Rep. Pew Internet & American Life Project, 25 Jan. 2006. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2006/The-Strength-of-Internet-Ties.aspx?r=1>>.

The Pew Trust has sponsored a body of quality research on the impact of the internet on American life; here's a recent Pew report on Internet Social Networks. It's long, so feel free just to read the summary of findings if you lack sufficient time.

Cherry, Steven. "The Net Effect." *IEEE Spectrum*. IEEE, June 2005. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/computing/networks/the-net-effect>>.

Lest you believe that US businesses are fighting the good fight for free speech in China, see this piece.

"Mining biotech's data mother lode." *EHealthNews.eu*. 10 Jan. 2006. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/124/27/>>.

The power of grid computing, combined with networks of information sharing, has made possible a new "Bioinformatics Grid." There's a similar grid for climatologists, giving us all a better measure of global warming.

Morville, Peter. "UFOs (Ubiquitous Findable Objects)." *O'Reilly Network*. 17 Nov. 2005. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.oreillynet.com/network/2005/11/17/ubiquitous-findable-objects.html>>.

Peter Morville, a close ally of the School of Information, suggests that with ubiquitous connectivity, we can look for objects, informational and physical, in something he calls "Ubiquitous Findability."

Resnick, Paul, Richard Zeckhauser, Eric Friedman, and Ko Kuwabara. "Reputation Systems." *Communications of the ACM* 43.12 (2000): 45-48. Print.

"The Underground Web." *Business Week*. 2 Sept. 2002. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/02_35/b3797001.htm>.

For a sense of the fear and paranoia about the "dangerous" Web, try the eerily titled, "The Underground Web."

Wesch, Michael. "The Machine is Us/ing Us (Final Version)." *YouTube*. Google. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLIgopyXT_g>.

This video is embedded in this week's lecture, but you should take some time viewing it, as it offers a lot of info on what we're addressing this week.

Module 7 Readings

Gilbert, Alorie. "Business apps get bad marks in usability." *CNet News*. CNet, 13 Jan. 2003. Web. 29 Oct. 2009. <http://news.cnet.com/Business-apps-get-bad-marks-in-usability/2100-1022_3-980648.html>.

A good example of how poor interfaces inhibit business-process efficiency.

Norman, Don. "Emotion & Design: Attractive things work better." *Interactions Magazine* 2002. *Jnd.org*. Web. 29 Oct. 2009. <http://www.jnd.org/dn.mss/emotion_design.html>.

An easy intro to the ideas of HCI's top guru.

Sengers, Phoebe, Joseph Kaye, Kirsten Boehner, Jeremiah Fairbank, Geri Gay, Yevgeniy Medynskiy, and Susan Wyche. "Culturally Embedded Computing." *IEEE Pervasive Computing* (2004): n. pag. Jan.-Mar. 2004. Web. <<http://cemcom.infosci.cornell.edu/mainsite/uploads/pubs/Culturally%20Embedded%20Computing.pdf>>.

Some of us have criticized mainstream HCI for having its focus limited to what could be considered "cognitive ergonomics;" now that cultural studies people are looking at HCI, we can now think about "culturally embedded computing," as a research group at Cornell does.

Shneiderman, Ben. "Inspiration for the New Computing." *Leonardo's Laptop Human Needs and the New Computing Technologies*. New York: The MIT, 2003. *MIT Press*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Web. 29 Oct. 2009. <<http://mitpress.mit.edu/main/feature/leonardoslaptop/pdf/chapter1.pdf>>.

An elegant call for "seamless" interfaces.

Tognazzini, Bruce. "AskTog: First Principles of Interaction Design." *AskTog Home Page*. Web. 29 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.asktog.com/basics/firstPrinciples.html>>.

Once Apple's interface guru, Tog is now a top consultant and critic of UI design.

Module 9 Reading

Bates, Marcia J. "After the Dot-Bomb: Getting Web Information Retrieval Right This Time." *First Monday* 7.7 (2002). Web. 29 Oct. 2009.
<http://131.193.153.231/www/issues/issue7_7/bates/>.

Nunberg, Geoffrey. "Teaching Students to Swim in the Online Sea." *New York Times*. 13 Feb. 2005. Web. 29 Oct. 2009.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/13/weekinreview/13numb.html>>.

As a very useful primer on the need for students to get a better sense of searching on the Web.

Selingo, Jeffrey. "When a Search Engine Isn't Enough, Call a Librarian." *New York Times*. 5 Feb. 2004. Web. 29 Oct. 2009.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/02/05/technology/circuits/05libr.html>>.

Finally, lest you believe that reference librarians' role as the gold standard for answering questions of fact has been obviated by the Web, think again: reference librarians still have a vital role in the info world.

Silverthorne, Sean. "The Hidden Cost of Buying Information." *Harvard Business School Working Knowledge*. 8 Nov. 2004. Web. 29 Oct. 2009.
<<http://hbswk.hbs.edu/archive/4465.html>>.

Here's a fascinating research report on how information users pay more attention to purchased information than they do to free stuff, regardless of its actual usefulness.

Tenopir, Carol. "Online Databases-The Web: Searchable, Hidden, and Deceitful." *Library Journal*. 15 July 2002. Web. 15 Aug. 2002.
<<http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com/index.asp?layout=articlePrint&articleID=CA231641&publication=libraryjournal>>.

Module 10 Reading

Carr, Nicholas G. "IT Doesn't Matter." *Harvard Business Review* May 2003. Print.
A central set of issues this week involve the heated debate sparked by Nicholas Carr's article, "IT Doesn't Matter"

Darnton, Robert. "Google & the Future of Books." *The New York Review of Books*. 12 Feb. 2009. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/22281>>.
Robert Darnton of Harvard worries that the settlement between Google and the authors and publishers will give Google a monopoly, and what was once free will become metered, and for-pay.

Frost, Robert L. "Rearchitecting the music business: Mitigating music piracy by cutting out the record companies." *First Monday* 12.8 (2007). 6 Aug. 2007. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.
<<http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/1975/1850>>.

In his recent article on the music business, bob frost examines the promise of disintermediation.

Lanham, Richard A. "Stuff and Fluff." *The Economics of Attention Style and Substance in the Age of Information*. New York: University Of Chicago, 2007. 1-22.
Richard Lanham's book isn't really economics per se, but it provides a radical break in the way we think of value?here's Chapter 1.

MacGuire, James. "'IT Doesn't Matter' - Yeah, Right." *OsOpinion*. 5 June 2003. Web. 17 June 2003. <<http://www.osopinion.com/perl/printer/21672/>>.
Here's but one response to Carr's article (there are myriad others).

Markoff, John. "Ignore the Label, It's Flextronics Inside." *New York Times*. 15 Feb. 2001. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/02/15/technology/15FLEX.html>>.
A good example of a highly IT-oriented firm transforming manufacturing (under the rubric of "flexible production") is Flextronics. (It should be noted that UofM is a leader in research on reconfigurable manufacturing and even has a major facility dedicated to it - <http://erc.engin.umich.edu/>).

Module 11 Reading

Austen, Ian. "What's Next: Inside the Virtual Laboratory, Ideas Percolate Faster Than Rivalries." *New York Times*. 5 July 2001. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/07/05/technology/05NEXT.html>>.

Collaborative work over a distance is one of the new ways work is now done; here's a piece about SI's own Stephanie Teasley and her work in developing a "collaboratory"

Chapman, Rod. "Support system redefines group decision-making." *Information Highways* 23 Aug. 2003.

Intra-firm collaboration is often easier than one might think, and it goes a long way to reduce the "stovepiping" of an organization's knowledge; group decision support systems (GDSS) are one variety of useful tools maybe, but do they accurately map real-world social relations and cognitive processes?

Cringley, Robert X. "Why Moving to India Won't Really Help IT." Web log post. *I, Cringley*. Public Broadcasting Service, 7 Aug. 2003. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/2003/pulpit_20030807_000781.html>.

Another major issue centers on the question of IT outsourcing overseas; Robert Cringley (of PBS) defines the contours of the outsourcing issue; others worry about the national security implications of letting "foreigners" have access to mission-critical code.

Dreher, Christopher. "Be creative -- or die." *Salon*. 28 June 2002. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.salon.com/books/int/2002/06/06/florida/>>.

Here's an in-depth review of Richard Florida's book, *The Rise of the Creative Class*, on how IT is reshaping social geography.

May, Christopher. "Information Capital, Property and Labour." *The Information Society A Skeptical View*. New York: Polity, 2002. 49-80. *Google Books*. Google. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=3mlKehwSJLIC&pg=PA49&lpg=PA49&dq=the+information+society+sceptical+Information+Capital,+Property+and+Labour&source=bl&ots=psYYOpWa1J&sig=zHlowIrKL2Dj5CyV9eSwjyoZhwg&hl=en&ei=jm_oStbEE4PUNZ_A-aUI&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CBAQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=&f=false>.

This is a bit long, but Christopher May argues that work in the information economy might be even worse than it was in the industrial age.

Teasley, Stephanie, and Stephen Wolinsky. "Scientific collaboration at a distance." *Science* 292.5525 (2001): 2254-255.

And here's an article by Teasley herself.

Module 12 Reading

Brown, John S., and John Duguid. "The Social Life of Documents." *First Monday* 1.1 (1996). *FirstMonday.org*. 6 May 1996. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/466/387>>

A genuine "breakthrough" article by John Seeley Brown

O'Toole, James M. "Introduction and Chapter 1." *Understanding Archives and Manuscripts (Archival Fundamentals Series)*. New York: Society of American Archivists, 1990. 1-21. Print.

Raney, Rebecca F. "Jury is Out on Online Court Records." *Online Journalism Review*. 25 Jan. 2002. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.ojr.org/ojr/law/1015015443.php>>.

This article invites you to ponder the dilemma: where should public demands for open access to public documents end and concerns for citizen privacy begin?

Zeidberg, David S. "The Archival View of Technology: Resources for the Scholar of the Future." *Library Trends* (1999). *AccessMyLibrary*. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.accessmylibrary.com/article-1G1-55248857/archival-view-technology-resources.html>>.

A piece on the dilemmas of accessing and preserving electronic records.

Module 13 Reading

Chew, Monica, Dirk Balfanz, and Ben Laurie. "(Under)mining Privacy in Social Networks." N. pag. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.w2spconf.com/2008/papers/s3p2.pdf>>.

A team of researchers at Google, led by Monica Chew have done a fine investigation of constructive invasions of privacy in venues such as Facebook and Flickr. The article is to be presented at the Web 2.0 Security and Privacy 2009 conference

Johnson, Margaret L. "Biometrics and the Threat to Civil Liberties." *IEEE Computer* 37.4 (2004). Print.

Automated biometric threat identification systems - face recognition cameras and software, for example - pose deep civil liberties threats, according to Margaret L. Johnson.

Monmonier, Mark. "Maps That Watch." *Spying with Maps Surveillance Technologies and the Future of Privacy*. New York: University Of Chicago, 2004. *Barnes & Noble*. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Spying-with-Maps/Mark-Monmonier/e/9780226534275#CHP>>.

In Mark Monmonier's book, we are offered an analysis of how GIS and GPS, so powerful and useful for opening up new ways of making information, can be used to invade our privacy.

O'Neill, Sean. "A rare peek at Homeland Security's files on travelers." Web log post. *Budget Travel*. Newsweek Budget Travel, 22 Dec. 2008. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<http://current.newsweek.com/budgettravel/2008/12/whats_in_your_government_trave.html>.

Airline travel used to be relatively anonymous, but post-911, passengers might worry about how DHS accumulates and aggregates information. In Budget Travel, Sean O'Neill found what DHS has on him.

Schiesel, Seth. "Your Own Affair, More (VCR) or Less (MP3)." *New York Times*. 2 Oct. 2003. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/02/technology/circuits/02priv.html?>>.

A very nice, very recent piece on who has what powers to snoop on you; it has a nice table showing the odd and uneven power to snoop on private individuals. You'll be surprised (perhaps) to find that record companies looking for pirates have better access than do the cops looking for criminals!

Schwartz, John. "Giving Web a Memory Cost Its Users Privacy." *New York Times*. 4 Sept. 2001. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/04/business/giving-web-a-memory-cost-its-users-privacy.html>>.

A solid survey on the history and use of Web "cookies" to track users' browsing activities.

Module 14 Reading List

Cohen, Joyce. "On the Net, Love Really Is Blind." *New York Times*. 18 Jan. 2001. Web. <<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/01/18/technology/18DATE.html>>.

In this week's swamp of cyber-skepticist material, here's a somewhat-dated piece by Joyce Cohen that I find fascinating: we think of computing as an activity that raises the bar for precision, but as I've argued in my own work, humans seem to love ambiguity--it's the dynamic of the unsaid and suggestive--and email systems seem to serve our goals of "ambiguation" quite nicely, thank you.

"Introduction." *Personal, Portable, Pedestrian Mobile Phones in Japanese Life*. New York: The MIT, 2006. Print.

Mizuko ("Mimi") Ito is an emerging star in the world of networked sociability; here is the Introduction to a volume she edited with Daisuke Okabe and Misa Matsuda

"Mars and Venus, On the Net: Gender Stereotypes Prevail." *The New York Times*. 12 Oct. 2000. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2000/10/12/technology/12VOIC.html>>.

In a very important debate opened up 15 or more years ago by Donna Haraway, many of us debated whether the emergence of cyborgs--post-human syntheses of our own wetware and IT--signalled a profound redefinition of gender. Deborah Tannen was never convinced, and this article by Anne Eisenberg shows how humans cannot shake gendered ways of communication. You'll probably conclude the same after surfing the sites noted above.

Riordan, Teresa. "Idea for Online Networking Brings Two Entrepreneurs Together." *New York Times*. 1 Dec. 2003. Web. 28 Oct. 2009.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/12/01/technology/01patt.html>>.

You are probably more familiar with the myriad different "social networking" sites, but we invite you to visit and think about Friendster, facebook, and MySpace. Here's a piece by Teresa Riordan on how social networks can be leveraged (insidiously, I believe) to pursue viral marketing. If you're feeling bold, you might want to google for sites that offer sexual intimacy without guilt.

Sunstein, Cass R. *Republic.com*. New York: Princeton UP, 2002. *New York Times*. Web. 28 Oct. 2009. <<http://www.nytimes.com/books/first/s/sunstein-01republic.html>>.

An interesting piece by legal scholar Cass Sunstein on how the personalization of commerce in the electronic environment threatens to reinforce centrifugal tendencies in our civic culture, turning citizens into [narcissistic] consumers.