

COGR 275: Feminist Dialogues on Technology (Spring 2013)

Spring 2013, W 9-11:50, Comm 201, UCSD

Course website: <http://thiscourse.com/ucsd/cogr275/sp13/>

Jump to: [Books](#) - [Details and Policies](#) - [Schedule](#) - [Links](#) - [Bottom](#)

Recent Announcements

Feminist Infrastructures and Technologies Assembly
A meeting of the UCHRI Feminist and Technology Working Group
April 18-20 2013, Cymer Conference Center, SME Building, UCSD
www.feministit.ucsd.edu (Tue Feb 05, 12:30 p.m.)

Instructors

Lisa Cartwright (Professor)
lisac@ucsd.edu / phone: 858-822-6295
<http://communication.ucsd.edu/people/faculty/lisa-cartwright.html>
Office Hours: W 2-3 in Comm 124B

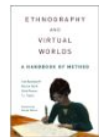
Elizabeth Losh (Professor)
lizlosh@ucsd.edu / phone: (858) 822-1666
<http://losh.ucsd.edu/>
Office Hours: M 12-1 in PCYN 249

Course Description

This graduate seminar on feminism and technology is part of a larger distributed online collaborative course (DOCC) initiative described at <http://fembotcollective.org/femtechnet/>. It provides an overview of major feminist technology theory and practice through consideration of posthumanism, cyborg culture, bioinformatics, reproductive technovisions, disability, gendered and racialized digital labor, and feminist game design and critical sci-art with attention to questions of embodiment, agency, mediation, and difference. Peer to peer teaching and learning, institutional intersectionality, and critical mediation and practice are explored reflexively through projects that feature opportunities for collaborative writing, interpretation, design, media production, and other forms of distributed activity.

Books

Required



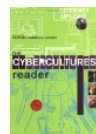
Ethnography and Virtual Worlds: A Handbook of Method
Tom Boellstorff & Bonnie Nardi & Celia Pearce & T. L. Taylor (2012)
[Amazon](#)



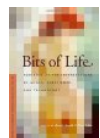
Tactical Biopolitics: Art, Activism, and Technoscience (Leonardo Book Series)
Beatriz da Costa (2010)
[Amazon](#)



How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics
N. Katherine Hayles (1999)
[Amazon](#)



The Cybercultures Reader
Barbara M. Kennedy (2000)
[Amazon](#)



Bits of Life: Feminism at the Intersections of Media, Bioscience, and Technology
Anneke Smelik (2008)
[Amazon](#)



Human-Machine Reconfigurations: Plans and Situated Actions (Learning in Doing: Social, Cognitive and Computational Perspectives)
Lucy Suchman (2006)
[Amazon](#)

Suggested



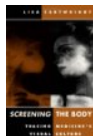
Stacy Alaimo (2008)
[Amazon](#)



Women
Anne Balsamo (1995)
[Amazon](#)



Designing Culture: The Technological Imagination at Work
Anne Balsamo (2011)
[Amazon](#)



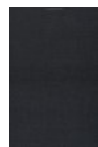
Screening The Body: Tracing Medicine's Visual Culture
Lisa Cartwright (1995)
[Amazon](#)



The Right Tools for the Job
Adele E. Clarke (1992)
[Amazon](#)



Biomedicalization: Technoscience, Health, and Illness in the U.S.
Adele E. Clarke (2010)
[Amazon](#)



Revisioning Women, Health and Healing: Feminist, Cultural and Technoscience Perspectives
Adele E. Clarke & Virginia Olesen (1998)
[Amazon](#)



Control and Freedom: Power and Paranoia in the Age of Fiber Optics
Wendy Hui Kyong Chun (2008)
[Amazon](#)



Hello Avatar
B. Coleman (2011)
[Amazon](#)



Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era
Melinda Cooper (2008)
[Amazon](#)



Critical Play: Radical Game Design
Mary Flanagan (2013)
[Amazon](#)



How We Think: Digital Media and Contemporary Technogenesis
N. Katherine Hayles (2012)
[Amazon](#)



Women of Vision: Histories in Feminist Film and Video
Alexandra Juhasz Juhasz (2001)
[Amazon](#)



Life after New Media: Mediation as a Vital Process
Sarah Kember & Joanna Zylinska (2012)
[Amazon](#)



Feminist Technology (Women Gender and Technology)
Linda Layne (2010)
[Amazon](#)



Virtualpolitik: An Electronic History of Government Media-Making in a Time of War, Scandal, Disaster, Miscommunication, and Mistakes
Elizabeth Losh (2009)
[Amazon](#)



Materializing New Media: Embodiment in Information Aesthetics (Interfaces: Studies in Visual Culture)
Anna Munster (2006)
[Amazon](#)



The Secret War Between Downloading and Uploading: Tales of the Computer as Culture Machine
Peter Lunefeld (2011)
[Amazon](#)



Seizing the Means of Reproduction: Entanglements of Feminism, Health, and Technoscience (Experimental Futures)
Michelle Murphy (2012)
[Amazon](#)



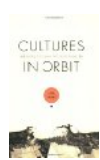
Cybertypes: Race, Ethnicity, and Identity on the Internet
Lisa Nakamura (2002)
[Amazon](#)



Lisa Nakamura (2011)
[Amazon](#)



Yeon Ju Oh & Radhika Gajjala (2012)
[Amazon](#)



**Cultures in Orbit: Satellites and the Televisual
(Console-ing Passions)**
Lisa Parks (2005)
[Amazon](#)



**Communities of Play: Emergent Cultures in
Multiplayer Games and Virtual Worlds**
Celia Pearce (2011)
[Amazon](#)



**The Third Eye: Race, Cinema, and Ethnographic
Spectacle**
Fatimah Tobing Rony (1996)
[Amazon](#)



**Liminal Lives: Imagining the Human at the Frontiers
of Biomedicine**
Susan Merrill Squier (2004)
[Amazon](#)



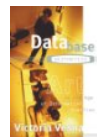
**White Victims, Black Villains: Gender, Race, and
Crime News in US Culture**
Carol A. Stabile (2006)
[Amazon](#)



The Transgender Studies Reader
Susan Stryker (2006)
[Amazon](#)



Space, Site, Intervention: Situating Installation Art
Erika Suderburg & Editor, Erika Suderburg (2000)
[Amazon](#)



**Database Aesthetics: Art in the Age of Information
Overflow (Electronic Mediations)**
(2007)
[Amazon](#)



TechnoFeminism
Judy Wajcman (2004)
[Amazon](#)



**Tissue Economies: Blood, Organs, and Cell Lines in
Late Capitalism (a John Hope Franklin Center Book)**
Catherine Waldby & Robert Mitchell (2006)
[Amazon](#)



**Avatar Bodies: A Tantra For Posthumanism
(Electronic Mediations)**
Ann Weinstone (2004)
[Amazon](#)



**The Body and the Screen: Theories of Internet
Spectatorship**
Michele White (2006)
[Amazon](#)

Course Details and Policies

ADA statement

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, it is the intention of the professors to support the full participation of all students in the teaching and learning process of this class. Situations may occur in which the physical or mental needs or learning styles of individual students are not met by the instructional climate. It is the expectation of the professors that students who require specific or additional support to participate in class, to acquire the course content, or to demonstrate their achievement of course objectives will inform the professors of their needs immediately so accommodations can be arranged. All requests will be treated with respect and confidentiality.

UCSD disability services

To get services from the Office for Students with Disabilities you must apply to this office directly. Please note that ADD/ADHD, psychological, and learning disabilities are among those categories included in the OSD assessment guidelines and documentation categories. To start this process you may go online to the OSD website at <http://osd.ucsd.edu/> and click on "how to apply for services"; call (858)534-4382 (Voice/TDD); or go in person to the OSD office in Building 985 behind Center Hall on Gilman Drive between Library Walk and Myers Drive (call first for appointment and for on-site designated parking space information and driving directions).

Physical Address: University Center 202

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm

Website:

<http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>

858.534.4382 (Voice)

858.534.4650 (Fax)

858.534.9709 (TTY) - Reserved for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

Email:

osd@ucsd.edu (general email)

deaf-hohrequest@ucsd.edu (requests for deaf/hard of hearing services)

altformat@ucsd.edu (requests for formats other than standard print)

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments
1	Wed Apr 03	Tools and ethics of teaching and learning	Ethnography and Virtual Worlds: A Handbook of Merthod (paperback edition available); AoIR Ethics Guide	IRB training
2	Wed Apr 10	Posthumanism	Hayles; Whitehead and Wesch; Barad	
3	Wed Apr 17	Body, Life	Bits of Life selections; Kember "Cyberlife's Creatures" (CR)	
	Thu Apr 18	Feminist IT conference: Screening and performance - 6 PM -10 PM		
	Fri Apr 19	Feminist IT conference: Panel interviews and presentations & Cluster conversations 8 am - 6 pm		
	Sat Apr 20	Feminist IT conference: Panel presentations and closing reception - 9.30 AM - 4 PM		
4	Wed Apr 24	Sexuality, Ability	Cartwright	
5	Wed May 01	Mediation, Apparatus	Haraway, "Cyborg Manifesto"(CR), Licklider, http://www.materialworldblog.com/2008/02/visibility-and-disability/	
6	Wed May 08	Labor, the Political	Chapter 9 and 10 of Virtualpolitik, Sassen, "Digital Networks and the State"(CR)	
7	Wed May 15	Machines, Assemblages	Suchman	
8	Wed May 22	Race, Classification	Nakamura, "Race In/For Cyberspace" (CR)	
9	Wed May 29	Systems, Information	Ludica	
10	Wed Jun 05	Archives, Objects	Bush, "As We May Think"	

Course Links

Whitehead and Wesch, Introduction to Human No More: Digital Subjectivities, Unhuman Subjects . . . : <http://www.upcolorado.com>

[Haidy Geismar on Linda Layne's Feminist Technology book, Material World blog](http://www.materialworldblog.com/2011/03/feminist-technologies-are-assistive-technologies-what-the-feminist-technology-movement-can-learn-from-the-disability-rights-movement/): <http://www.materialworldblog.com/2011/03/feminist-technologies-are-assistive-technologies-what-the-feminist-technology-movement-can-learn-from-the-disability-rights-movement/>

[Haidy Geismar on Faye Ginsburg, Material World blog](http://www.materialworldblog.com/2008/02/visibility-and-disability/): <http://www.materialworldblog.com/2008/02/visibility-and-disability/>

[subRosa art collective website](http://www.cyberfeminism.net/): <http://www.cyberfeminism.net/>

[Lucy Suchman - The End of Innovation \(As we knew it\): A contribution to critical innovation studies.](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pljBjmPfe-E): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pljBjmPfe-E>

[Licklider, J.C.R. "Man-Computer Symbiosis" and "The Computer as a Communication Device"](http://memex.org/licklider.pdf) : <http://memex.org/licklider.pdf>

[Barad, Karen. "Posthumanist Performativity: Toward an Understanding of How Matter Comes to Matter"](http://uspace.shef.ac.uk/servlet/JiveServlet/previewBody/66890-102-1-128601/signsbarad.pdf): <http://uspace.shef.ac.uk/servlet/JiveServlet/previewBody/66890-102-1-128601/signsbarad.pdf>

[Ludica, "The Hegemony of Play"](http://lmc.gatech.edu/~cpearce3/PearcePubs/HegemonyOfPlayFINAL.pdf): <http://lmc.gatech.edu/~cpearce3/PearcePubs/HegemonyOfPlayFINAL.pdf>

[AOIR Research Guide](http://aoir.org/documents/ethics-guide/): <http://aoir.org/documents/ethics-guide/>

[Bush, Vannevar. "As We May Think."](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1945/07/as-we-may-think/303881/): <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1945/07/as-we-may-think/303881/>