INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL MEDIA FOR HUMANITIES
ENGLISH 2036: 001
MW 3.00-4.15 PM HALE 236
PROFESSOR LORI EMERSON
CLASS BLOG: HTTP://INTRODIGITALMEDIA.WORDPRESS.COM/

Instructor Contact Information:

Office: Hellems 151B (walk through the main door for 151; my office is on the right)
Office Hours: Mondays 12-3pm or by appointment
E-Mail: Lori.Emerson@colorado.edu (this is the best way to reach me)
Mailbox: Hellems 101
Class Blog: http://introdigitalmedia.wordpress.com/

Required Texts:

All assigned readings will be available either online or as a pdf that I will email you and post on our class blog. Enjoy saving a little money!

Specific Course Description:

This course will serve as a *humanities-based* introduction to digital media structures such as the digital archive and reading/writing software that fundamentally affects what we ourselves are able to read/write; theories and methodologies for under-taking digital media scholarship in the humanities; and, finally, digital textualities ranging from text messaging, blogging, and games to digital fiction and poetry. Ideally, this course will give you the critical skills you need to understand and navigate a 21st century world in which digital media govern the storage, transmission and reception of a whole range of textual material. In short, then, English 2036 will give you a broad survey of what digital media can do in the area of language-based (or language-involving) art, covering the major genres and it will offer a range of critical perspectives on new media technology.

Course Requirements and Policies:

In addition to a class presentation on a writer or theorist, you will be required to contribute to online discussion forums on our class blog, write a research paper, and produce a group project. Please note: I would like our course to be entirely paperless, if possible; this means that you will not only need to check your email daily but also have a reliable internet connection to upload/download course materials from CULearn and also to listen to audio recordings online etc. **PLEASE DO BRING YOUR LAPTOP TO CLASS IF YOU HAVE ONE.** Of course, this means I expect you to use it appropriately.

Please also note: I will not accept late work. Work that is not submitted by the due date will automatically receive an F.

Also, keep in mind that I am always delighted to meet with students in my office—not only is it a pleasure to get to know you personally, but meeting individually is often the best way to have your individual questions/concerns about the class adequately addressed. I am also happy to look over drafts of your work but only during office hours (or by appointment); I cannot look over drafts over email.

You will also be required to contribute to class regularly. Participation begins with attendance. Both absences and tardiness will affect this portion of your grade. For this course, you are allowed three absences without penalty; these should be reserved for sickness, holidays, tiredness, laziness etc. A

fourth absence will result in the reduction of this portion of your grade by a full letter grade. A fifth absence will result in the reduction of this portion of your grade by two full letter grades. A sixth absence will result in the reduction of your final grade by one full letter grade. A seventh absence will result in the reduction of your final grade by two full letter grades. Arrival in class more than 15 minutes after it begins will be considered an absence. You are responsible for contacting me or a class member if you miss a class, and you are expected to be fully prepared for the next class session.

Your participation grade will also reflect the quality and thoughtfulness of your contribution in class, respect shown to class members, your attitude and role in small group exercises, and evidence of completion of reading assignments. Please remember, then, that ALL in-class discussions and exercises assume (and depend upon) you reading the assigned material. Review your syllabus frequently, and plan your workload accordingly.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:
- Two Online Discussion Forums: 15% (or 7.5% each)
- Essay (5-7 pages): 25%
- Individual Presentation: 20%
- Final Group Creative Project: 25%
- Participation: 15%

Please note there is no final exam for our class.

Incompletes:
An I is an incomplete grade. Use of the I is at the discretion of the course instructor. Students must ask for an incomplete grade. An I is given only when students, for reasons beyond their control (usually physical or mental illness), have been unable to complete course requirements; they should not be given when a student just disappears from a course. A substantial amount of work must have been satisfactorily completed before approval for such a grade is given. If an instructor grants a request for I, the instructor sets the conditions under which the course work can be completed; please note that work must be completed within a year otherwise you will receive an F.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:
As you know, plagiarism is using another person's words and ideas as though they were your own. It is easy to avoid plagiarism: simply put the material you have taken from someone else's writing in quotation marks and cite the person's name and publication in your paper. Plagiarism is a serious offense which can result in expulsion from the university. A paper which contains any plagiarized material at all will receive an F; two such plagiarized papers will result in the student receiving an F for the course. In terms of academic dishonesty more generally, the University of Colorado at Boulder Catalog states:

> A student-run Honor Code was instituted on the Boulder Campus in 2002. The intent of the Honor Code is to establish a community of trust where students do not plagiarize, cheat, or obtain unauthorized academic materials. An honor code council collaborates with the colleges and schools in addressing allegations and instances of academic dishonesty and in assisting to educate all members of the university community on academic integrity issues. Breaches of academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, and the unauthorized possession of examinations, papers, computer programs, as well as other class materials specifically released by the faculty. A student accused of academic dishonesty will either accept the accusation made by a faculty member or request a hearing before a student panel, who will make a decision on

the accusation of academic dishonesty. In addition to academic sanctions imposed by the faculty, students found responsible for academic dishonesty also face consequences from the honor code council ranging from probation, including attending a mandatory class in ethics to expulsion from the campus. More information about CU-Boulder's Honor Code may be found at http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode.

It is department policy that all instances of academic dishonesty should be reported to the Assoc Chair-UGS who will then notify the Honor Council.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

Our class will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, or political beliefs. Anyone who does engage in any of these forms of discrimination will be asked to leave the class.

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://www.colorado.edu/odh

Disability Notice:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Student Classroom/Course Related Behavior:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html - student_code

Student E-mail Policy:

All CU students receive an e-mail account from the university that is an official means of sending information to students. Students are responsible for maintaining this CU e-mail address. **Please check your email daily!** The official e-mail address can be used by professors to contact students and provide course-related information. For more information on the student e-mail policy, visit http://www.colorado.edu/its/officialemail.

Religious Observances:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, simply come see me in my office hours to inform me of your circumstances. See full details at
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

DAILY SCHEDULE

NOTE: This is a tentative schedule. It may change as we progress based on the speed with which we cover the material. New written directions from me take precedence over this schedule. Please check CULearn and/or your email frequently.

DETAILED DAILY SCHEDULE

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WEEK 1: BRIEF HISTORY OF COMPUTING

Wednesday Jan. 18th	**Homework for next class:** • Read "The Modern History of Computing" http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/computing-history/ • Read "The History of Humanities Computing" http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405103213/9781405103213.xml&chunk.id=ss1-2-1&toc.depth=1&toc.id=ss1-2-1&brand=9781405103213_brand • Read "How the Computer Works" http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405103213/9781405103213.xml&chunk.id=ss1-3-1&toc.depth=1&toc.id=ss1-3-1&brand=9781405103213_brand

WEEK 2: WHAT ARE "MEDIA" AND "DIGITAL MEDIA"?

Monday Jan. 23	**Homework for next class:** continued •
Wednesday Jan. 25	**Homework for next class:** • Read excerpt from Friedrich Kittler *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter* • Read excerpt from Marshall McLuhan *Understanding Media*

WEEK 3: HOW DIGITAL MEDIA STRUCTURE DISCOURSE

Monday Jan. 30	**Homework for next class:** • continued
Wednesday Feb. 1	**PRESENTATION 1:** **Homework for next class:** • Read excerpt from Jay Bolter and Richard Grusin's *Remediation*

WEEK 4: HOW DIGITAL MEDIA STRUCTURE DISCOURSE CONT.

Monday Feb. 6	**ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM #1 ON CLASS BLOG DUE by 11:59pm** **PRESENTATION 2:** **Homework for next class:** • Read excerpt from Walter Ong's *Orality and Literacy*

	• Read Scott Bukatman's "Gibson's Typewriter" • Read Matthew Fuller "It Looks Like You're Writing a Letter"
Wednesday **Feb. 8**	**PRESENTATION 3:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 5: LITERARY STUDIES AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Monday **Feb. 13**	**PRESENTATION 4:** **Homework for next class:** • Read "Literary Studies" http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405103213/ 9781405103213.xml&chunk.id=ss1-2-8&toc.depth=1&toc.id=ss1-2- 8&brand=9781405103213_brand
Wednesday **Feb. 15**	**PRESENTATION 5:** **Homework for next class:** • read excerpt from Franco Moretti's *Distant Reading* • Look at Google's Ngram http://books.google.com/ngrams • Look at Presidential Speeches Tag Cloud: http://chir.ag/projects/preztags/ • Look at and play with Wordle: http://www.wordle.net/ • TextArc: http://www.textarc.org/ • The MONK Project: http://www.monkproject.org/ • Read Tanya Clements "'A thing not beginning and not ending': using digital tools to distant-read Gertrude Stein's The Making of Americans"

WEEK 6: LITERARY STUDIES AND DIGITAL MEDIA CONT.

Monday **Feb. 20**	**PRESENTATION 6:** **Homework for next class:** • Browse The Walt Whitman Archive: http://www.whitmanarchive.org/, The William Blake Archive: http://www.blakearchive.org/blake/, Artists' Books Online: http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/ • Read Ed Folsom "Database as Genre: The Epic Transformation of Archives" • Read "The Virtual Codex" http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405148641/ 9781405148641.xml&chunk.id=ss1-5-5&toc.depth=1&toc.id=ss1-5- 5&brand=9781405148641_brand
Wednesday **Feb. 22**	**PRESENTATION 7:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 7: SEARCH AND RESEARCH

Monday **Feb. 27**	**PRESENTATION 8:** **Homework for next class:** • Read exceprt from John Batelle's *The Search* • Read "Google and the Evolution of Search" Parts 1, 2, 3 http://digitaldaily.allthingsd.com/20090603/google-and-the-evolution-of-search-scott-huffman/ • Read excerpt from *The Googlization of Everything*

Wednesday **Feb. 29**	**ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM #2 DUE THURSDAY OCT 13 by 11:59pm** **PRESENTATION 9:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 8: SEARCH AND RESEARCH

Monday **March 5**	**PRESENTATION 10:** **Homework for next class:** • Read "Web 2.0: The Machine is Us/ing Us": http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gmP4nk0EOE • Download and play with Zotero: http://www.zotero.org/ • Download and play with Diigo: http://www.diigo.com
Wednesday **March 7**	**MEETING WITH RESEARCH LIBRARIAN** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 9: READING/WRITING SOFTEWARE

Monday **March 12**	**PRESENTATION 11, 12:** **Homework for next class:** • Read excerpt from Matthew Fuller's *Softare Studies: A Lexicon* • Read Noah Wardrip-Fruin's "Procedural Literacy" • Read Electronic Literature Authoring Software http://www.well.com/user/jmalloy/elit/elit_software.html#mark
Wednesday **March 14**	**PRESENTATION 13:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 10: TEXT-MESSAGE, BLOGGING, TWITTER

Monday
March 19
	PRESENTATION 14:
	Homework for next class:
	• Read "Blogs and Blogging"
	   http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405148641/
	   9781405148641.xml&chunk.id=ss1-6-1&toc.depth=1&toc.id=ss1-6-
	   1&brand=9781405148641_brand
	• Read excerpt from Jill Walker-Rettberg's *Blogging*
	• Read excerpt from David Crystal's *Txting: The Gr8 Db8*
	• Read "Twitter and Epic Poetry"
	   http://www.economist.com/blogs/prospero/2011/10/twitter-and-epic-poetry

Wednesday **March 21**	**Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 11: SPRING BREAK

Monday **March 26**	**SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS**
Wednesday **March 28**	**SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS**

WEEK 12: HYPERTEXT POETRY AND FICTION

Monday **April 2**	**RESEARCH PAPER DRAFT DUE IN CLASS** **PRESENTATION 15** **Homework for next class:**

	• Read Nick Montfort's "What Hypertext Is" at http://www.hyperfiction.org/texts/whatHypertextIs.pdf • Read Belinda Barnet and Darren Tofts: "Too Dimensional: Literary and Technical Images of Potentiality." http://www.digitalhumanities.org/companion/view?docId=blackwell/9781405148641/9781405148641.xml • Read Michael Joyce's "Twelve Blue" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/joyce__twelve_blue.html • Read Judd Morrissey and Lori Talley's "The Jew's Daughter" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/morrissey__the_jews_daughter.html • Read and explore hypertext poetry and art works listed at http://www.hphoward.demon.co.uk/poetry/hypelink.htm
Wednesday **April 4**	**FINAL DRAFT RESEARCH PAPER DUE FRIDAY APRIL 6th BY 11.59pm** **PRESENTATION 16** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 13: KINETIC POETRY AND FICTION

Monday **April 9**	**PRESENTATION 17:** **Homework:** • Watch bpNichol's "First Screening" at http://www.vispo.com/bp/ • Watch Brian Kim Stefans' "The Dreamlife of Letters" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/stefans__the_dreamlife_of_letters.html • Watch Jean-Pierre Balpe's "Les Lettres Derange" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/burgaud__jean-pierre_balpe_ou_les_lettres_derangees.html • Watch "Pulp Fiction in Typography" at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqc4FqvXlKs • Watch "The 8 Rules of Fight Club" at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbMa4MGFCOg&feature=related • Watch/play "88 Constellations for Wittgenstein" http://collection.eliterature.org/2/works/clark_wittgenstein.html
Wednesday **April 11**	**PRESENTATION 18:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 14: COMPUTER-GENERATED POETRY & FICTION

Monday **April 16**	**PRESENTATION 19:** **Homework for next class:** • Read Tristan Tzara's "How to Make a Dadaist Poem" at http://www.madsci.org/~lynn/juju/surr/games/dada-poem.html • Read William Burroughs' "Cut-up Technique of Brion Gysin" at http://books.google.com/books?id=DQYXoRx9CcEC&pg=RA3-PA8&lpg=RA3-PA8&dq=%22tristan+tzara%22+cut-up+text&source=web&ots=OJywfoxrTv&sig=RzopEpdzFo6XFhVnxl4BM4rmpXA&hl=en&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=4&ct=result • Read excerpt from Charles O. Hartman's *Virtual Muse* • Read poems by Racter • Read excerpt from Erin Moure's *Pillage Laud* • Read Flarf poems in *Jacket Magazine* special feature at http://jacketmagazine.com/30/index.shtml • Read John Cayley's "Translation" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/cayley__translation.html

	• Read Loss Glazier's "White-faced Bromeliads" at http://collection.eliterature.org/1/works/glazier__white-faced_bromeliads_on_20_hectares.html
Wednesday April 18	**PRESENTATION 20, 21:** **Homework for next class:** • continued

WEEK 15: COMPUTER-GENERATED POETRY & FICTION CONT.

Monday April 23	**PRESENTATION 22, 23:** • Group projects
Wednesday April 25	**PRESENTATION 24, 25:** • Group projects

WEEK 16: GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Monday April 30	**GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**
Wednesday May 2	**GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**