

## Hon-H 399: Digital Culture and Its (Dis)contents

### COURSEWORK MENU

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Using the menu below, fill your choices in on the Coursework Agreement (located in the “Coursework Menu” folder in the Resources tab) and submit that form to Dr. Cook either via Oncourse message or at the start of class in **Week 2 (Thursday, 01/23/2014)**. Be sure that the selections you make from the menu on the next few pages add up to 200 points.
2. The **Honors Project & Presentation** (200 points) and **Midterm(ish) Exam** (100 points) are automatically included as part of your graded work. These items add up to 300 points (or 60%) of your grade.
3. Beyond the Honors Project/Presentation and the Midterm(ish) Exam, you are free choose whatever you like from this menu as long the total point value of all work (including the Honors Project) adds up to **500 points**.
  - If you’re coming in at a small # of points over/under 500 based on your choices, please let me know, and we might be able to modify a particular assignment for you so that it puts your total at exactly 500.
  - If you choose something with a “student’s choice” due date you can fill in a due date of your choice.
  - Pay close attention to “student’s choice” due dates. If the schedule is updated at some point in the semester (say, because we’re running slightly behind schedule), you may have to change your due date to reflect the updated schedule if your due date is tied to a particular reading or topic. (Typically, this will mean that an assignment due date will be pushed back a week or two.)
4. I will review your choices and either approve your Coursework Agreement *as is* or contact you about any problems (e.g., too few points, too many points, etc.).
5. Once the Coursework Agreement has been signed by both you and me, you’ll be held to it and the due dates listed on it. If you fail to turn in any of the work on the Coursework Agreement on time you will receive a zero for the missing and/or late work. Under (most or 99.3%) normal circumstances, this work cannot be made up.

Category	Individual or Group	Description	# of Times Work Can Be Repeated	Point Value	Due Date (all work is due at 1:00pm on class day unless otherwise listed)
<b>Honors Project &amp; Presentation*</b> **	Individual	<p><b>Project Abstract:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit a 200-250 word overview of the proposed project in the Assignments tab in OC including a clear, workable thesis statement.</li> <li>Dr. Cook will give you feedback on your proposed project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Peer Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-mail your assigned reviewer a copy of your paper draft by <b>Week 10</b> by 11:30 pm (R, 3/20).</li> <li>Then in class in <b>Week 12</b> (R, 3/27), we'll take some class time for each student to meet with their review to do constructive criticism on the drafts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Paper:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written research/persuasive paper on a topic of your choice related the theme of the course.</li> <li>2,500-3,500 words</li> <li>must include minimum 5 academic and relevant research sources which are not specifically on course reading schedule</li> <li>citations can be in APA, MLA, or Chicago Style and you may use endnotes, footnotes or in text citations</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>during our final class meeting in <b>Week 16</b> (R, 5/01), students will complete a 7-10 minute presentation on their project with 5-10 additional minutes for a question and answer session with audience.</li> </ul>	1	200 total  (20 points abstract, 50 points presentation, 130 points paper, not participating in peer review process will deduct 50 points from final paper grade)	Abstract Stage: Week 7  Peer Review Email Stage: Week 9  Peer Review Discussion In Class: Week 12  Final Submission and Presentation: Week 16

<b>Midterm(ish) Exam***</b>	Individual	In Week 11, you will complete an exam on everything we've covered up to that point in the semester. The exam will consist of a short answer section (6-9 items) and an essay section (1 item).	1	100	Week 11 (R, 3/27)
<b>Forums</b>	Group, <i>at least</i> 5 students need to pick forums for this to work	For 8 weeks you'll be given a set of discussion questions in the Oncourse Forums (you'll also have the option to design your own questions and/or prompts). I will meet with interested students for a few minutes to hammer out the details—just let me know.  <i>All students doing forums will have the same due dates for each forum and by committing to forums you are committing to do all 8 weeks of forums.</i>	1	100 points total, 12.5 points per forum for 8 forums	Forum weeks denoted by "FW" on course schedule.
<b>Short Paper</b>	Individual	Choose your own topic (relevant to course material) and write a short paper. Minimum 1,200 words, maximum 1,500 words. The paper may include research but does not need to.	2	75	Student's Choice – you can choose your own due date(s) but date must be a class meeting at 4 pm.
<b>Media Review Presentation</b>	Individual	Find a journal article, documentary, podcast, or other media relevant to the week's reading(s), write a summary of that article and explanation of how it relates to the week's reading(s). Then present your review in class that week for a few minutes.	2	50	Student's Choice of date to present. List chosen date on graded work agreement.  Only 2 students can do this kind of presentation in a class period, so if more than 2 students choose the same date on which to present, then someone will be asked to switch to a different date.
<b>Reading Reaction</b>	Individual	Write a reaction essay in which you critically analyze a reading (or set of related readings). Minimum 1,000 words, maximum 1,300 words. This paper should not be a rote summary, but you should think of it as an opportunity to take a stance on an issue presented in the reading (or some aspect of it) and either show flaws in the reading or do work to strengthen the arguments in the reading and further develop their effectiveness. The paper	4	50	Student's Choice. <b>You don't have to specify dates on your graded work agreement</b> for this BUT reading reaction papers are DUE 3 class periods after the reading you choose to

		may include outside research, but this is not a requirement.			react to is discussed in class.
<b>"Project X"</b>	1-4 students	This could be a co-authored research paper but you could do something more creative and even involve community service if you choose. In the past, groups of students have designed and recorded series of podcasts, while another group did survey-based research. Be creative, there are lots of options possible. You and your group will need to pitch your project to Dr. Cook and then your individual project requirements will be created. You'll need to meet with Dr. Cook to work out the specific requirements of your project depending on what your group comes up with for project ideas.	1	100-150	Student's Choice, list date you choose on graded work agreement
<b>Blog</b>	Individual	Start blogging! Plan, design, and start your own blog series on the web. The topics could range from weekly responses to our class readings to something much more involved and multifaceted (so long as it concerns digital culture in some way).	1 (at least 6, 300- to 500-word entries, plus appropriate graphics and design)	100	Student's Choice, just be sure to let me know some details as soon as you can.
<b>Mini-Research Paper</b>	Individual	Choose a small, "bite-sized" topic or area of interest and write a brief, information essay in which you teach your audience about your chosen topic. 1,000 to 1,500 words.	2	75	Student's Choice, list date you choose on graded work agreement
<b>Creative Project</b>	Individual	Life isn't all about papers (although when you're in college it may seem like it). If you'd like to create some type of project that involves, art, media or something else non-paper related, then this category might be for you. Please speak with Dr. Cook about your project idea so we can set a point value for it.	1	50-100 depending on the scope and ambition of the project (talk to Dr.	Student's Choice, list date you choose on graded work agreement

				Cook to set point values	
<b>Case Study Analysis &amp; Informal Presentation</b>	Individual	You will choose one of the four Case Studies from <i>Understanding Digital Culture</i> (e.g., video games, cybersex, etc.) related to the material we're covering in a specific weekly meeting. (That is, say you want to do a case study on video games, you would then complete this assignment in Week 4, when we are reading that case study together.) You'll then be asked to draft a 1,000-1,300 word analysis of that case study using concepts you've learned in class. You may respond, disagree, agree, complicate, problematize, or expand in some way(s) on the case study as it is presented in the textbook.	4	50	Student's Choice, list date you choose on graded work agreement
<b>Book Review &amp; Brief Presentation</b>	Individual	As you'll soon notice, each chapter in <i>Understanding Digital Culture</i> concludes with a section on "Further Reading." This is your chance to delve even more deeply into a particular concept or theme of your choice and to write a book review (1,250 to 1,500 words) of whichever text you choose. You may choose a book not listed in <i>U</i> , but you will need to clear it with me first. You will also talk about your book informally for 7-10 minutes in a class meeting of your choice, but preferably a week when the topic of our class meeting dovetails with the book you have reviewed.	2	75	Student's Choice, list date you choose to submit on graded work agreement
<b>Negotiate Something(s) Not on This Menu</b>	Individual or Group	This is your chance to do add some type of work not on the menu to this course. If there is something not on this menu or some significant alteration that you want to make to something already on the menu contact Dr. Cook to discuss your idea. There's no guarantee that your idea will be approved but anything you bring up will be given serious consideration.	?	?	?