

# **AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES**

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## **COURSE REVIEW**

- Work done on site, deadlines
- Forum: excellence, relations

## **FINALIZING THE SYLLABUS:**

- group site posts (5 by end Nov.) - 30%
- group forum (5 different weeks) - 30%
- group glossary (5 different weeks) - 10%
- interlinked individual post (1) - 10%
- interlinked final individual post (1) - 20%



## **OUTLINE OF TODAY'S LECTURE**

- Tech has an agenda (Postman)
- Craft/consumerism

## GLOSSARY

- front-end (graphical interface) UI/UX
- SaaS, PaaS
- walled gardens, silos, vendor lock-in
- proprietary software
- IoT
- deep learning, AI, GPT3
- data harvesting
- antitrust
- centralized services
- unicorn, venture capital

## **GLOSSARY**

- data portability, OpSec, information
- defederalization
- FLOSS
- net neutrality

# THE TECH AGENDA



# **TRADE PRIVACY - AGREEMENT - FOR SERVICES**

# DOCTOROW AS ΚΑΣΣΑΝΔΡΑ

**"I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE"**

## **IDENTIFIED KEYWORDS, PROFILING**

**GPT3**

# WALLED GARDENS, SILOS, VENDOR LOCK-IN

# **INTERNET: CONSOLIDATE, MANIPULATE INFO: AGGREGATING DATA, SCRAPING**

## **US STANCE ON MONOPOLIES: ANTIMONARCHIST, ROOSEVELT**



## **DOJ ACCUSATION: GOOGLE AS DEFAULT SEARCH ENGINE**

**CITIZENS -> USERS AND DATA MINES FOR HARVESTING**

## **PERSONAL DATA AS CAPITAL (SPECULATIVE ECONOMY)**

## **PASSIVE CONSUMERS OF PAAS AND SAAS**

# ENTROPY



## **PROBLEMATIC WORDS**

host, cloud, speculative, unicorn





# **CRAFT/CONSUMERISM**

# PROPRIETARY VS. FREE SOFTWARE

## **DATA OWNERSHIP, PORTABILITY (VS. WALLED GARDEN)**

## **INDIEWEB, BLOG RINGS**

## **USER AS ACTIVE MAKER, DEVELOPER, CONTRIBUTOR**



**"...THE BASIC FREEDOM IS THAT OF FREEDOM OF MIND AND OF WHATEVER DEGREE OF FREEDOM OF ACTION AND EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY TO PRODUCE FREEDOM OF INTELLIGENCE" TO DEVELOP AS INDIVIDUALS AND CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY...**

Dewey, J. (1946). "Democracy and Education," Problems of Men.

**BEING A CITIZEN IS AN ACTIVE STATE; BEING A CONSUMER IS PASSIVE.**

Roger McNamee



## RESOURCES

- [switchingsoftware.com](https://switchingsoftware.com)
- [ethical.net/resources/](https://ethical.net/resources/)
- [privacytools.io/operating-systems/](https://privacytools.io/operating-systems/)
- [ssd.eff.org/en](https://ssd.eff.org/en)
- [deletefacebook.com/](https://deletefacebook.com/)
- [degoogle.jmoore.dev/](https://degoogle.jmoore.dev/)
- [suckless.org/philosophy/](https://suckless.org/philosophy/)

## **HOMEWORK**

- Write a challenge/reflection post - naming which Forum Rules tools you are using - on a topic from today's lecture and readings. Must include links to other work - can be student comments and posts.



**THANK YOU**

## MATERIAL

- Doctorow, C. (2012). The curious case of internet privacy. Technology Review. <https://www.technologyreview.com/2012/06/06/19572/the-curious-case-of-internet-privacy/>
- Zuboff, S. (2019). The age of surveillance capitalism: the fight for a human future at the new frontier of power. New York: Public Affairs. Reviewed by Carr, N. (2019). Thieves of experience: how Google and Facebook corrupted capitalism. LARB. <https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/thieves-of-experience-how-google-and-facebook-corrupted-capitalism/>
- FSF (2020). Rewind. Free Software Foundation. <https://www.fsf.org/blogs/community/watch-and-share-rewind-to-help-explain-free-software>
- Cyphers, B. and Doctorow, C. A legislative path to an inoperable internet. EFF.org. <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2020/07/legislative-path-interoperable-internet>
- Bruder, J. & Maharidge, D. (2020). Surveillance capitalism and the

internet of things. LitHub. <https://lithub.com/surveillance-capitalism-and-the-internet-of-things/>

- Magnusson, G. (2020). How Silicon Valley will solve the trolley problem. magnusson.io. <https://magnusson.io/post/solving-the-trolley-problem/>
- Mangalindan, J. P. (2015). In Silicon Valley, 'unicorn' is a dirty word. Mashable. <https://mashable.com/2015/05/08/silicon-valley-unicorn/>
- Net neutrality. EFF. <https://www.eff.org/issues/net-neutrality>
- Peck, S. (2019). Why OPSEC is for everyone, not just for people with something to hide – part II. Tripwire. <https://www.tripwire.com/state-of-security/security-awareness/why-opsec-is-for-everyone-part-2/>
- Philip. GPT3 bot posed as a human on AskReddit for a week. kmeme. <https://www.kmeme.com/2020/10/gpt-3-bot-went-undetected-askreddit-for.html>
- Stallman, R. (2002). Free software, free society. Boston: GNU Press, Free Software Foundation. <https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/fsfs/rms-essays.pdf>
- Stallman, R. (2020). The JavaScript Trap. GNU Operating System. <https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/javascript-trap.html>
- Stoller, M. (2020). We're all anti-monopolists now. Substack.

**<https://mattstoller.substack.com/p/the-google-suit-were-all-anti-monopolists>**

- Veliz, C. (2020). Under surveillance capitalism? LitHub.  
**<https://lithub.com/what-does-privacy-really-mean-under-surveillance-capitalism/>**
- Wu, T. (2020). The Google case. Medium.  
**<https://superwuster.medium.com/the-google-case-8fd0b26328c7>**.  
Online text.

## RESOURCE MATERIALS

- <https://switchingsoftware.com>
- <https://ethical.net/resources/>
- <https://www.privacytools.io/operating-systems/>
- <https://ssd.eff.org/en>
- <https://deletefacebook.com/>
- <https://degoogle.jmoore.dev/>,
- <https://suckless.org/philosophy/>