

Network Cultures 2010 Essay Questions

Due Date: 5 November, 2010 **Length:** 2,000 words
(HALM207) 3,000 (HAM435) Please indicate which subject code you are enrolled in on your coversheet.

Essays should be submitted to your tutor using the assignment cover sheet

- How do technologies of mediation change the way humans communicate? Discuss.
- In the age of advanced networks, is telepresence a reliable substitute for face to face presence? Discuss.
- Networked conditions began with the introduction of the technology of writing. Discuss.
- Writing and other media of distance have profoundly changed human nature. We are now cyborgs. Discuss
- Portable and mobile technologies are disrupting the boundary between public and private space. Discuss.
- Mobile technologies are transforming the ways in which we conceptualise place, locality and physical presence. Discuss.
- According to Daniel Palmer, what is 'the paradox of user control' and what are its political and cultural implications?
- Discuss the extent to which new media platforms for productive participation transform the boundaries between creator and audience or between producer and consumer.
- How are gossip blogs affecting the production of celebrity and our understanding of the public sphere?
- Participatory culture is founded on and encourages the pirating of cultural content. Discuss with reference to fan fiction and/or remix culture.
- What is the 'creative commons'? Respond to this question by *outlining the key debates and identifying the major theorists* of open source approaches to intellectual property and copyright.
- Copyright can be said to both stifle creativity and protect creativity. Discuss both sides of this argument.
- New media technologies facilitate invasions of privacy. Discuss in relation to social networking.
- Digital technologies are changing aesthetic practices. Discuss with reference to at least two media arts practitioners or in terms of a specific, recent exhibition.