

ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES & DATABASES

Fall 2014

NMDS 5278 / CRN 5275
Tuesdays 4-5:50pm
6 East 16th Street, Room 1004

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“There has been more information produced in the last 30 years than during the previous 5000.”

We’ve all heard some variation on this maxim. As U.S. publishers add 250,000 printed books and close to 300,000 print-on-demand books to our libraries each year; as we find ourselves wading through over 200 million websites; as we continue to add new media – from Tweets to Apps to geo-tagged maps – to our everyday media repertoires, we continually search for new ways to navigate this ever more treacherous sea of information. Throughout human history we have relied on various institutions and politico-intellectual architectures to organize, index, preserve, make sense of, and facilitate or control access to our stores of knowledge, our assemblages of media, our collections of information. This seminar looks at the past, present, and future of the library, the archive, and the database, and considers what logics, priorities, politics, audiences, contents, aesthetics, physical forms, etc., ally and differentiate these institutions. We will examine what roles the library, archive, and the database play in democracy, in education, in everyday life, and in art. Throughout the semester we’ll examine myriad analog and digital artworks that make use of library/archival material, or take the library, archive, or database as their subject. Some classes will involve field trips and guest speakers. Students will have the option of contributing to a Spring 2015 exhibition, in Aronson Gallery, about the future of knowledge institutions.

COURSE MATERIALS

All readings will be posted as pdfs to the class website:

<http://www.wordsinspace.net/lib-arch-data/2014-fall/>

To access password-protected readings, you’ll be prompted to enter the **user name** _____ and **password** _____.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION. In a seminar course each participant's contribution is valued, and absences affect the entire group. You will be permitted two excused absences ("excused" means that you must have contacted me *prior* to class to inform me of your absence) throughout the semester. Any excused absences in excess of two and any unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade. A pattern of late arrivals is likewise detrimental. More than three excused absences, or more than two unexcused absences, will prevent you from passing the course.

You're expected to come to class prepared (i.e., having read and digested the readings), remain engaged, and participate thoughtfully in class discussions, presentations, group exercises, etc. Attendance and participation are worth **20%** of your final grade.

PROCESSING POSTS. Just as archivists "process" a newly-acquired collection, we need to process the new ideas we're exposed to; we need to arrange those ideas in our minds, consider them in relation to our past knowledge, personal interests, and everyday experiences; and appraise what value they might hold for the future. This intellectual work benefits not only *you*; it also helps *us* make the most of our in-class discussions. You'll need to post to our class blog **at least five 150- to 300-word "processing posts"** over the course of the semester; you should begin posting within the first three weeks of the semester, and keep posting at least once every three weeks for the duration of the semester. Posts are **due by noon on Tuesdays**. Your posts should involve some **critical, synthetic reflection on the week's assigned readings**, but would also ideally include: ideas that you find particularly captivating or frustrating and that you might like to explore through further research (perhaps your final project); questions you'd like us to address in our group discussion; connections you've drawn between the readings and art you've recently experienced, places you've recently been, current events you've heard about, etc. You're welcome to illustrate your posts with images, audio, video, etc., where appropriate. These posts are worth **20%** of your final grade.

APPLICATION. Over the course of the semester each student will deliver one **10-minute in-class presentation** and submit one **900- to 1200-word post** focusing on a *concrete application* of the theories we discuss in class. Where do you see the week's central themes playing out *in the world* – in a brick-and-mortar library or archive, in an artist's work, in a particular online database, in one of the many behind-the-scenes spaces supporting our digital infrastructure, etc.? On our website you'll find a sampling of interesting artists and local sites that you're welcome to take as your topic, but you're also welcome to go "off list." Just please try not to duplicate examples we discuss in class, and please **post a little preview (or "teaser" or "trailer") of your topic on our class blog at least two days before class**, so I don't steal your thunder in my own prepared presentation ☺ (...and so your classmates know what to expect). You're encouraged to investigate how archival/library/database theory works *on the ground* – which means that, ideally, for this assignment, you'll go visit places, talk to people, touch stuff, etc., rather than simply conduct online research from a critical distance, without "getting your hands dirty," so to speak. In your paper and presentation you'll want to strike a balance between *synopsis* of the relevant theoretical frameworks or concepts; *description* of your chosen concrete subject; and *critical analysis* of that subject in light of those theories and concepts.

You'll find a few sample application projects from our Spring 2011 class [here](#), from our Fall 2012 class [here](#), and from our Fall 2013 class [here](#).

Your paper should be **posted to our class website before class** on the date you're schedule to present. You're encouraged to include illustrative media. You'll have ten minutes for your formal presentation, then we'll dedicate roughly five minutes to discussion. The presentation and paper are together worth **20%** of your final grade.

FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL. See below for more on the format of the final project. Throughout the semester I hope you'll come across several ideas, arenas, individuals, etc., about which or whom you would like to know more. This final project will give you the opportunity to delve deeply into a research and/or creative area of personal interest. You should begin thinking about potential topics early in the semester. By the end of the day on **Monday, November 17** (you needn't wait until November 17; you can submit *any time before then!*) I'll need you to submit via **Google Drive** a **formal ~900-word** (including end-matter) **project proposal**. This proposal must include (1) a problem statement or research question; (2) a discussion of your proposed research methodology and an outline of your research/production plan*; and (3) a tentative bibliography containing at least ten sources, half of which must be scholarly sources. You'll be expected to share your proposal in an informal **two-minute presentation** in the following class, on November 27. I certainly don't expect your proposals to be perfect (the primary reason I ask you to submit these is *so* you can receive constructive feedback before delving too deeply into your projects), but I do expect the proposals to evince some serious contemplation, good planning, and an awareness of relevant resources in the field. The proposal is worth **10%** of your final grade. You'll have an opportunity to revise and resubmit the proposal if necessary. You'll find a list of 2011 projects [here](#), 2012 projects [here](#), and 2013 project [here](#).

*If you're considering a research-based creative project or media production, your "research methodology" section should explain how your chosen format – video, artist's book, interactive map, audio documentary, etc. – serves as an appropriate "method" for your project, i.e., how the *form* suits the *content*.

FINAL PROJECT. This semester we have the opportunity to dedicate our coursework to the production of material that will be shown in Spring 2015 exhibition, tentatively titled "Cloud Sourcing" in Aronson Gallery @ 2 W 13th Street. We'll be able to contribute to the overall conception of the exhibition, and each of you will be able to produce work for potential inclusion in the show. Radhika Subramaniam, Director of the Sheila Johnson Design Center, will be joining us in class on October to help shape our design process.

Your work can take any format, but you must grapple with the critical/historical/aesthetic issues at the heart of our class – and how to translate those concerns into something "exhibition-friendly" or "-worthy." Your final project must be accompanied by a 900-word support paper in which you address the critical issues you explored through your work, and how your chosen format aided in that exploration. [If you wish to exempt yourself from the exhibition, you're welcome to discuss with me the possibility of writing a 4,000- to 6,000-word term paper (word count includes endmatter).] This research project is worth **30%** of your final grade, and is due before class on **December 2**. Papers *and* support papers for creative projects should be submitted via **Google Drive**.

SUBMITTING WORK VIA GOOGLE DRIVE. Please give all your assignments a **filename** that helps me identify *you* and *the assignment* (e.g., **LastName_ProjectProposal.doc**).

I'll email you with summary comments, and when necessary, I'll provide editorial and margin comments on the document itself. Depending upon your level of comfort with Google and "the cloud," you could either (1) create your work *as* a Google Doc, in which case I'll simply use GD's own commenting features; or (2) upload your work as a Word doc and *not* convert it to a Google Doc, in which case I'll add comments via Word's "track changes" and email your edited work back to you.

To share your work with me, simply click the "**share**" button in the top-right corner of Google Docs. Make sure the "sharing settings" are set to "Private," so "only people explicitly granted permission can access," and under "Add People," type my email address. That's it.

POSTING WORK ONLINE. We'll all create accounts for our class's blog, and we'll briefly review how to post. If you're not comfortable posting your work on line, talk to me.

DEADLINES. Assignment deadlines are noted on the syllabus. Late work will be penalized, and extensions will be granted only rarely, and only after consulting with me well in advance of the assignment deadline. Sorry – I know some other faculty are a bit more lenient with deadlines, but I tend to set aside big blocks of time for assignment review, and I provide substantial feedback – so missing deadlines means you miss your “window of opportunity” for feedback, which is an essential part of your learning in this course (and any course, for that matter).

A student who has not submitted all assigned work by the end of the semester does not receive an “Incomplete” by default. “Incompletes” are assigned only in extreme circumstances, and require that the student consult with me before the end of the semester and sign a contract obligating him or her to complete all outstanding work by a date that we agree upon.

ACADEMIC HONESTY. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the University’s academic honesty policy. Plagiarism or cheating of any form will result in immediate failure of the course. No joke. If you have any questions regarding proper citation of sources or other academic integrity matters, consult the Writing Center.

Week 1: Aug. 25:

Introductions + Historicizing Information Overload¹

TEXTS REFERENCED IN CLASS (You needn't read these, but you're welcome to!)

- Clay Shirky, "[It's Not Information Overload, It's Filter Failure](#)" [video] O'Reilly Web 2.0 Expo NY (2008).
- Ann Blair, "[Information Overload, Then and Now](#)" *The Chronicle Review* (November 28, 2010).
- Daniel Rosenberg, "Early Modern Information Overload" *Journal of the History of Ideas* 64:1 (January 2003): 1-9.
- Jorge Luis Borges, "The Library of Babel" *The Garden of Forking Paths*
- J.G. Ballard, "The Index" *The Paris Review* 118 (Spring 1991).

ARCHIVES

Week 2: Sept. 2

Exploring The Archives

GUEST: Kate Eichhorn, Lang Faculty Member & Author of *The Archival Turn in Feminism* (Shannon's out of Town)

READINGS

We'll discuss this material in class next week:

- Mike Featherstone, "Archive" *Theory, Culture & Society* 23:2-3 (2006): 591-596.
- Jacques Derrida, "Note" + "Exergue" *Archive Fever: A Freudian Impression* (University of Chicago 1996): 1-23.
- Jennifer Ulrich, "[Transmissions from the Timothy Leary Papers: Applying Archival Processing](#)" *NYPL Archives Blog* (March 26, 2012); Jennifer Ulrich, "[Transmissions from the Timothy Leary Papers: MPLP, the New Standard?](#)" *NYPL Archives Blog* (December 10, 2012); David Olson, Leary Intern, "[Transmissions from the Timothy Leary Papers: Artifactual Intelligence](#)" *NYPL Archives Blog* (May 30, 2013).
- "[Networked Q&A with Marvin Taylor](#)," *NYU Workshop in Archival Practice Blog* (April 20, 2012).
- Kate Eichhorn, [Interview](#) by Hope Leman, *Critical Margins* (January 1, 2014).
- **Optional (but highly recommended):** Part 3 of *The Hairpin's* "[Ask an Archivist](#)" series (September 4, 2012).

TO DO

- Please also visit the "[Offense and Dissent](#)" exhibition in the Sheila Johnson Design Center, 2 W 13th, before it closes on September 3. We'll be discussing this exhibition with Radhika Subramaniam on Oct. 28.

Week 3: Sept. 9

What's in the Archive?²

FIELD TRIP: **New York City Municipal Archives**, w/ Ken Cobb, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Records and Information Services
Meet at 4:00 at **31 Chambers** (@ Centre). Take 4/5/6 (front of train) to Brooklyn Bridge. Please bring picture ID.

READINGS

The following will help to provide some context for our tour:

- [NYC Municipal Archives](#) + [Collections](#)

We'll discuss the following when we return to the classroom next week:

- Michel Foucault, *Archaeology of Knowledge*, Trans. Smith (Harper & Row [1969]1972): 126-31.
- Wolfgang Ernst, "Dis/continuities: Does the Archive Become Metaphorical in Multi-Media Space?" In Wendy Hui Kyong Chun & Thomas Keenan, Eds., *New Media Old Media: A History and Theory Reader* (New York: Routledge, 2006): 105-123 [**focus on** pp. 105-6, 108-10, 112-14, 116-20; skip "A Forerunner of the Internet?," "The Silence of the Archive," "Global Memories," "Retrograd...," "Between Reading and Scanning"]
- Michael Gaynor, "[Inside the Library of Congress's Packard Campus for Audio-Visual Conservation](#)" *Washingtonian* (May 9, 2011).
 - Listen: Craig Shank & George Drake, Jr., *Everything Sounds* 25: "[Packard Campus](#)" (May 23, 2013) [28:10]
- Watch: Arthur Ou, *The Invisible Photograph*, Part 1: "[Underground: The Corbis Image Vault](#)" (2014) [16:50]
- Shannon Mattern, "[Paper, Ash & Air: Material Remembering](#)" Talk @ 9/11 Forum on Memory, Trauma, and the Media, The New School, September 9, 2011.

We'll continue our discussion of archival themes – including the relationships between memory and storage, ephemerality and erasure – in our "Databases" unit, particularly when we discuss Vannevar Bush.

Week 4 Sept. 16

Who's In the Archive?³

PRESENTATIONS: TBD

READINGS/SCREENING

- Ann Laura Stoler, "Colonial Archives and the Acts of Governance" *Archival Science* 2:1-2 (2002): 87-109.
- Christa Wolf, "So Who Could I Tell the Story To" *Harper's* (March 2013).
- Diana Taylor, "The Archive and the Repertoire" In *The Archive and the Repertoire: Performing Cultural Memory in the Americas* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003): 16-33.
 - **Supplemental:** Diana Taylor, "Archiving Performance: The Digital as Anti-Archive?" Animating the Archives Conference, Brown University [video] (December 3-5, 2009): search iTunes for "Animating the Archives" → choose "Keynote" → fast-forward to 22:00, and watch through 1:03:56
- Terry Cook, "Evidence, Memory, Identity, and Community: Four Shifting Archival Paradigms" *Archival Science* 13:2/3 (2013): 95-120 [**focus on 105-118**].
- Bruce Lazorchak, "[Ian MacKaye and Citizen Archiving](#)" *The Signal: Digital Preservation* (Library of Congress blog) (May 8, 2013).
- Skim through [Rags Media Collective](#), [The Atlas Group](#) & [Interference Archive](#)
 - Melissa Morrone, "[The Interference Archive Documents Radical History](#)" *Library Juice* (April 10, 2012) [we'll be visiting the IA on October 25!]

Week 5: Sept. 23

Archival Aesthetics⁴

PRESENTATIONS: TBD

READINGS/LISTENINGS

- Breakell, Introduction, “The Archival Impulse: Artists and Archives” Tate Modern [audio] (November 16, 2007): search iTunes for “The Archival Impulse” + Tate → choose Part 1 → listen from 2:00 to 11:30
- Susan Stewart, “Wunderkammer: An After as Before” In Ingrid Schaffner & Matthias Winzen, Eds., *Deep Storage: Collecting, Storing, and Archiving in Art* (New York: Prestel, 1998).
- Hal Foster, “An Archival Impulse” *October* 110 (Fall 2004): 3-22.
- David Joselit, “On Aggregators” *October* 146 (Fall 2013): 3-18.
- Amei Wallach, “A Conversation with Ann Hamilton in Ohio” *American Art* 22:1 (2008): 53-77.
- Shannon Mattern, “[Preservation Aesthetics](#),” plenary address @ “Digital Preservation 2014” conference, Library of Congress, July 2014.
- Pamela Lee, “The Whole Earth Is Heavy” *Artforum* (September 2013).
 - Watch: Erwann Lameignère, “[Camille Henrot ‘Grosse Fatigue’](#)” (2014) [7:27]

LIBRARIES

Week 6: Sept. 30

Ordering Media’s “Innumerable Species”⁵

PRESENTATIONS: TBD

READINGS/SCREENING

- Georges Perec, “Think/Classify” In *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces* (New York: Penguin, 1997): 188-205.
- Roy Boyne, “Classification” *Theory, Culture & Society* 23:2-3 (2006): 21-30.
- Alex Wright, “The Industrial Library” In *Glut: Mastering Information Through the Ages* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2008): 167-80.
- Barbara Tillett, “What is FRBR?” (Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service, 2003).
- Browse through the [resources](#) for Dr. Cristina Patuelli’s “Knowledge Organization” class at Pratt, and Birger Hjørland’s “[Lifeboat for Knowledge Organization](#)” – just to get a sense of what LIS students need to know!
- David Weinberger, “[Everything is Miscellaneous](#)” [video] Google Tech Talks (May 10, 2007) [the first few minutes are a little rocky].

Week 7: Oct. 7

Libraries: From Mesopotamia to Madison Avenue⁶

FIELD TRIP: Morgan Library, 225 Madison Ave @ 36th Street, 4-5pm; NYPL Stacks, 5:15 – 5:45pm

READINGS

- “Library” *Oxford English Dictionary* (2010).
- Matthew Battles, Excerpts from “Burning Alexandria,” “The House of Wisdom” & “Books for All” In *Library: An Unquiet History* (New York: W.W. Norton 2004): 22-81, 117-155.
- Quickly skim (just for fun!) Library Bureau, [*A Handbook of Library and Office Fittings and Supplies*](#) (Library Bureau, 1890).

The following will prepare us for our field trip:

- Charles E. Pierce, Jr., “Private to Public: Opening Mr. Morgan’s Library to All” In Paul Spencer Byard, et. al., Eds., *The Making of the Morgan: From Charles McKim to Renzo Piano* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2008): 21-32.
- Shannon Mattern, “Collected Notes on the Morgan Library for an Article I Meant to Write in 2003 But Never Did” [it’s exactly what it says it is!]
- The Morgan Library & Museum, “[McKim Building Restoration](#).”
- Holland Cotter, “[Let There Be Light, and Elegance](#)” *New York Times* (October 28, 2010).
- Jennifer Maloney, “[New York Public Library Rethinks Design](#)” *Wall Street Journal* (August 27, 2013).
- Scott Sherman, “[NYPL Shelves Plan to Gut Central Library](#)” *The Nation* (May 7, 2014).

Week 8: Oct. 14

Idiosyncratic and Unorthodox Libraries⁷

PRESENTATIONS: TBD

READINGS

- Georges Perec, “Brief Notes on the Art and Craft of Sorting Books” In *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces* (New York: Penguin, 1997): 148-55.

The Warburg Library

- The Warburg Institute [Library](#) and [Classification Scheme](#)
- Alberto Manguel, “The Library as Mind” *The Library at Night* (Toronto: Knopf Canada, 2006): 193-212.
- Barbara Maria Stafford, “Reconceiving the Warburg Library as a Working Museum of the Mind” *Common Knowledge* 18:1 (Winter 2012): 180-187.

The Prelinger Library

- “The Library as a Map: An Interview with Rick Prelinger and Megan Shaw Prelinger” *Contents* 5 (2013).
- **Optional:** Gideon Lewis-Kraus, “A World in Three Aisles” *Harper’s* (May 2007): 47-57.

Week 9: Oct. 21

The Future Library⁸

IN-CLASS SCREENING: Holmes Films, *The Librarian*, 1947; Alain Resnais & Chris Marker, *Toute la Mémoire du Monde*, 1956

READINGS

- Skim David Giles, *Branches of Opportunity* (Center for an Urban Future, 2012).
- Shannon Mattern, “[Marginalia: Little Libraries in the Urban Margins](#)” *Places* (May 22, 2012).
- Shannon Mattern, “[Library as Infrastructure](#)” *Places* (June 9, 2014).
- Matthew Battles & Jeffrey Schnapp, “Scenarios” In *The Library Beyond the Book* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014): 55-119.
- Visit the [Digital Public Library of America](#) and, while you’re at it, see the [Hathi Trust](#), too
- Check out the work of the [Harvard Library Innovation Lab](#) and Harvard’s [Library Test Kitchen](#)
- Scan over the [voluminous recent discussion](#) about the future of libraries!

Saturday, October 25, 2:30-6pm

Field trip to the [Reanimation Library](#) (534 Union Street, Brooklyn) + [Interference Archive](#) (131 8th Street, Brooklyn)

Please, please, please, please, please come. It’ll be awesome. I promise.

Week 10: Oct. 28

Prep for Spring Semester Exhibition + Planning Final Projects

GUEST: Radhika Subramaniam, Director / Chief Curator, Sheila C. Johnson Design Center

READINGS

- Susanne Lehmann-Brauns, Christian Sichau, & Helmuth Trischler, Eds., *The Exhibition as Product and Generator of Scholarship* [preprint] (Berlin: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, 2010). Read the following (34 pp.):
 - Jochen Brüning, “Exhibitions vs. Publications – On Scientific Achievements and their Evaluation”: pp. 25-28.
 - Martha Fleming, “Thinking Through Objects”: pp. 33-47.
 - Ulrich Raulff, “Old Answers, New Questions – What Do Exhibitions Really Generate?”: pp. 69-77.
 - Thomas Schnalke, “Arguing with Objects – The Exhibition as a Scientific Format of Publication”: pp. 103-110.
- [via Radhika] Tamara Rhodes, “A Living, Breathing Revolution: How Libraries Can Use ‘Living Archives’ to Support, Engage, and Document Social Movements” *IFLA Journal* 40:1 (2014): 5-11.
- Explore this sampling of library- and archive-themed exhibitions:
 - “[Little Museum of Diary](#)” @ Piccolo Museo del Diario, Tuscany, Italy, 2013
 - “[Systemics #2: As We May Thing \(Or, The Next World Library\)](#)” @ Kunsthall Aarhus, 2013
 - [XFR STN](#) @ The New Museum, New York, 2013
 - “[The Finding Aid: Black Women at the Intersection of Art and Archiving](#)” @ Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 2013
 - [Harvard Library](#) @ Cambridge, MA, 2012
 - “[L’Institut des archives sauvages](#)” @ Villa Arson, Nice, France, 2012
 - “[An Archaeology of Knowledge](#)” @ Brody Learning Commons, Johns Hopkins [permanent installation], 2012
 - [AAAARG Library](#) @ MoMA PS1, New York, 2012
 - “[Library Science](#)” @ Artspace, New Haven, CT, 2012
 - [\(The Missing Library\)](#) @ Dumbo Arts Center, 2011
 - “[Archive Fever: Uses of the Document in Contemporary Art](#)” @ International Center of Photography, New York, 2008
 - “[Deep Storage: Collecting, Storing and Archiving in Art](#)” @ P.S.1, Long Island City, 1998

DATABASES

Week 11: Nov. 4

Tabula of Relationships, Orders of Things⁹

PRESENTATIONS: TBD

READINGS

- Michel Foucault, Preface to *The Order of Things: An Archaeology of the Human Sciences* (New York: Vintage Books [1970]1994): xv-xxiv.

- Muhammad Haadi, “[The Evolution of Database](#)” *All About Databases* (October 18, 2010).

Paul Otlet

- Alex Wright, “[Forgotten Forefather: Paul Otlet](#)” *Boxes and Arrows* (November 10, 2003).

- Molly Springfield, “[Inside the Mundaneum](#)” *Triple Canopy* 8.

- Google’s [Mundaneum Collection](#) – see especially their “[The Origins of the Internet in Europe: 1895-2013](#)” exhibition

Vannevar Bush

- Vannevar Bush, “[As We May Think](#)” *The Atlantic* (July 1945).

- Wendy Hui Kyong Chun, “The Enduring Ephemeral, of the Future is a Memory” *Critical Inquiry* 35 (Autumn 2008): 148-171 [stop at p. 161 if you’re pressed for time].

Week 12: Nov. 11

A Database Episteme¹⁰

PROJECT PROPOSALS: Everyone shares their final project ideas. Proposals are due next week.

READINGS

- Charles & Ray Eames, “[The Information Machine](#)” (1958) [film]

- Ted Byfield, “Information” In Matthew Fuller, Ed., *Software Studies: A Lexicon* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008): 125-32.

- *Skim* Chaim Zins, “Conceptual Approaches for Defining Data, Information, and Knowledge” *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 58:4 (January 2007): 479-93.

- Alan Liu, <preface type = "general">, <preface type = "technical"> + <argument title = "technologic" subtitle = "the blind spot on the page"> In “Transcendental Data: Toward a Cultural History and Aesthetics of the New Encoded Discourse” *Critical Inquiry* 31:1 (Autumn 2004): 49-63 [note: you’re reading only *half* the article].

- Browse through Lev Manovich’s [Cultural Analytics](#) projects.

- Tim Sherratt, “[A Map and Some Pins: Open Data and Unlimited Horizons](#)” *discontents* [blog post] (June 11, 2013).

Week 13: Nov. 18

Database Aesthetics¹¹

The following is subject to change. There are countless directions we could take our discussion on this topic, so I think we'll wait to see how your interests evolve before nailing down our specific topics of focus. Take a look at what last year's class discussed [here](#).

READINGS

- Christiane Paul, "The Database as System and Cultural Form: Anatomies of Cultural Narratives" In Victoria Vesna, Ed., *Database Aesthetics: Art in the Age of Information Overflow* (University of Minnesota Press, 2007): 95-109.
- Paddy Johnson, "Curation and Conservation: An Interview with Rhizome's Ben Fino-Radin" *Art Fag City* (June 22, 2012).
- New Museum's [XFR STN](#) (see press release and other links at bottom of page)
 - Melena Ryzik, "[Preserving that Great Performance](#)" *New York Times* (August 11, 2013).
- Cory Arcangel, "[The Warhol Files](#)" *Artforum* (Summer 2014).
 - Watch: Arthur Ou, *The Invisible Photograph*, Part 2: "[Trapped: Andy Warhol's Amiga Experiments](#)" (2014) [18:52]

Nov. 25

NO CLASS

Week 14: Dec. 2 – Final Class

FINAL PRESENTATIONS

- We may have to extend class to accommodate all presenters

Week 15: Dec. 9: **NO CLASS: Shannon's Out of Town**

¹ John Seely Brown & Paul Duguid, *The Social Life of Information* (Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2000); "[The Data Deluge](#)" *The Economist* (25 February 2010); "[Data, Data Everywhere](#)" Special Report *The Economist* (25 February 2010).

² Antoinette Burton, "Introduction: Archive Fever, Archive Stories" *Archive Stories: Facts, Fictions, and the Writing of History* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2005): 1-24; Wolfgang Ernst, "[Beyond the Archive: Bit Mapping](#)" *Media Art Net* (2004); Wolfgang Ernst, *Digital Memory and the Archive*, Ed. Jussi Parikka (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, forthcoming 2012); Wolfgang Ernst, "[Order by Fluctuation? Classical Archives and Their Audio-visual Counterparts](#)," Archives Aesthetic Practices Seminar, National Library of Sweden, Stockholm, Sweden, May 19, 2009 [[dead link!](#)]; Sigmund Freud, "A Note Upon the Mystic Writing Pad" (1925) In *General Psychological Theory: Papers on Metapsychology* (New York: Collier, 1925): pp?; Robert Gehl, "**YouTube** as Archive: Who Will Curate This Digital Wunderkammer?" *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 12:1 (2009): 43-60; Elizabeth Honer & Susan Graham, "Should Users Have a Role in Determining the Future Archive?..." *Liber Quarterly* (2001): 382-4 [**libraries vs. archives**]; Boris Groys, "What Carries the Archive – and For How Long?" In Joke Brouwer & Arjen Mulder, Eds., *Information is Alive* (Rotterdam: V2_Publishers/NAI, 2003): 178-93 [**media ontology** + the archive]; Geert Lovink, [Interview with German Media Archaeologist Wolfgang Ernst](#), *Nettime* (26 February 2003); Tim Maly, "[Dark Archives](#)" *Contents* 5 (March 2013) [**the unknown**]; Marlene Manoff, "Theories of the Archives from Across the Disciplines" *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 4:1 (2004): 9-25; Jussi Parikka, Excerpt from "Archive Dynamics: Software Culture and Digital Heritage" In *What Is Media Archaeology?* (Malden, MA: Polity, 2012): 113-122 [**preservation, memory, storage**]; Sven Spieker, "**Freud's Files**" In

The Big Archive: Art from Bureaucracy (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press 2009): 34-49; Carolyn Steedman, "Something She Called a **Fever**: Michelet, Derrida, and Dust" *The American Historical Review* 106:4 (October 2001): 1159-1180; John Tagg, "The Archiving Machine; or, The Camera and the Filing Cabinet" *Grey Room* 47 (Spring 2012): 24-37 [archival "**furniture**"].

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