

■ NEW COURSE ■ NEW COURSE ■ NEW COURSE ■

Individual in the Information Age



SPRING 2007

SLIS-L 416 (25898) -- Individual in the Information Age
Tuesday/Thursday 2:30pm-3:45pm (3 credits)

No prerequisites required

Email questions to the instructor: Wayne Buente
(wbuente@indiana.edu)

I. Course Description

The internet as cyberspace is dead. The metaphor that cyberspace exists as a place somewhere else in our lives is no longer true. As Newsweek (2006) declares, we are all part of the "Living Web." Web 2.0 applications seek to draw upon the collective intelligence of all Internet users allowing them to create content, organize information and build community. During the semester we will examine the applications of the living web such as Google, MySpace, Facebook and Flickr, among others, and explore their impact on our information environment. We will also review the contribution of virtual worlds and interactive gaming environments and how the "real" links to the "virtual". The course will appraise both conceptual and practical aspects of how these technologies incorporate into our own social lives of information.

The course is divided into different thematic modules, each focusing on the relationships between new communication technology and the individual information environment, as well as the intersection of media, social life and entertainment.

II. What We Will Do

Individual in the Information Age will provide you with a broad understanding of the social, informational, and economic consequences of new Web technologies and encourage critical thinking about technology and information. Media-related hands-on assignments will help you learn to analyze the social life of information as it affects our lives and how we manage information.

III. Required Texts & Readings

Social Life of Information

The Google Story

The Design of Everyday Things

Course Topics

Information on the Web: Information as Big Business; Google is your friend; Media Convergence; The Long Tail; The World is Flat: What Globalization Means.

Information in the Living Web: Social Life (me and my friends) on the Web; Wisdom of Crowds; Peer Production; Interactive Entertainment and Virtual Worlds; The Web at Home and Work Life.

Information as a Web: Information Visualization and Representation; Information as Emotion; Personal Information Management; Information Evaluation; Who Owns Information; Ethical Considerations.

INSTRUCTOR:

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(Contact for more information)

READ MORE:

<http://ella.slis.indiana.edu/~wbuente/L416/HTML/index.html>