ISIS 250S / LIT261S / ARTHIST 250S / VISUALST 250AS / FVD: Critical Studies in New Media  
T 6:00-8:30 PM, Location: Smith Warehouse, Bay 12, Room 101. Addresses key issues in the philosophy of new media. Central themes include the materiality of media; media configurations and the co-evolution of human being; computational media and recent discussions of posthumanism; the merger of nano-bio-info-technology and the ubiquity of code; media convergence and the political uses of new media. Examines new media technologies from a transdisciplinary perspective. Builds upon existing expertise in film, literature, and media studies to analyze what is “new” about new media and how they compare with, transform, and remediate earlier media practices. Proposes the development of a critical analytical framework for approaching new media and relating them to other areas of academic discourse. Promotes a hands-on, active engagement with the technologies as a means for analysis and critique of new media innovations in contemporary academic research. Instructors: Tim Lenoir and Patrick Herron

Class meets from 6:00-8:30 PM in the Smith Warehouse, Bay 12, Room 101.

Week 1: Tuesday Aug 25: Course introduction

Week 2: Tuesday Sept 1: What Are Media?  
Film: Videodrome

Week 3: Tuesday, September 8: What are New Media?  

Week 4: Tuesday, September 15: Writing Différance  

Week 5: Tuesday, September 22: There is No Software  
Friedrich Kittler, Discourse Networks: 1800/1900, Stanford; Stanford University Press, 1990, Section
II 1900, pp. 177-368.

**Week 6: Tuesday, September 29: Cinematic Embodiment**

**Week 7: Tuesday, October 6: Fall Break: No Class**

**Week 8: Tuesday, October 13: As We May Think**

Video: Doug Engelbart 1968 Demo of mouse, hypertext, and collaborative online work environments.

**Week 9: Tuesday, October 20: Postmodern Subjects**
Jean Baudrillard, *Simulations*, New York; Semiotext(e), 1983.

Films: Blade Runner
TRON

**Week 10: Tuesday, October 27: The Medium is the Body**
Adrian Mackenzie, Cutting Code: Software and Sociality, New York; Peter Lang, 2006, pp. 1-42

Week 11: Tuesday, November 3: Encoding the Posthuman
N. Katherine Hayles, My Mother Was a Computer: Digital Subjects and Literary Texts, Chicago; University of Chicago Press, 2005, chapters 1, 2, 7, 8 (pp. 15-38; 39-61; 171-192; 193-213).

Week 12: Tuesday, November 10: Writing Machines
Adrian Mackenzie, Transductions: Bodies and Machines at Speed, London; Continuum, 2002: Introduction, pp. 1-27; Chapter 1, pp. 1-56; Chapter 6, pp.171-204.
Recommended: Terrence Deacon, The Symbolic Species: The Co-Evolution of Language and the Brain, New York; Norton, 1997, Ch. 3, pp. 69-101; Ch. 4, pp. 102-115; Ch. 11, pp. 321-375; Ch. 12, pp. 376-410; Ch. 13, pp. 411-419; 423-432; Ch. 14, pp. 433-464.

Week 13: Tuesday November 17: Becoming Beside Ourselves

Week 14: Tuesday, November 24: No Class. Rescheduled for Dec. 8.

Week 15: Tuesday December 1: Political Engagements with New Media

**Week 16: Tuesday December 8: Network Subjects and Datastreams**
