ISIS 250S / LIT261S / ARTHIST 250S / VISUALST 250AS:
Critical Studies in New Media T 6:00-8:30 PM, Location: Friedl Building, East Campus, Room 118. Addresses key issues in the philosophy of new media. Central themes include the materiality of media; media configurations and their co-evolution with 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 Friedl Building, East Campus, Room 118.

Week 1: Tuesday Jan 18: Course introduction: What Are Media?
Film: Videodrome

Week 2: Tuesday, Jan 25: What are New Media?

Week 3: Tuesday, Feb 1: Writing Différance

Week 4: Tuesday, Feb 8: There is No Software
Week 5: Tuesday, Feb 15: Cinematic Embodiment
Film: *Blue Steel*

Week 6: Tuesday, Feb 22: As We May Think
Video: Doug Engelbart 1968 Demo of mouse, hypertext, and collaborative online work environments.

Week 7: Tuesday, Mar 1: Postmodern Subjects
Films: *Blade Runner*
*TRON*

Week 8: Tuesday, Mar 8: Spring Break: No Class

Week 9: Tuesday, Mar 15: The Medium is the Body
Week 10: Tuesday, Mar 22: 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 11: Tuesday, Mar 29: Writing Machines

Week 12: Tuesday April 5: Becoming Beside Ourselves
Week 13: Tuesday April 12: The Rise of Finance Machines
Mandelbrot, The (Mis)behavior of Markets (specifics pending)
Karín Knorr Cetina and Urs Bruegger, “Traders’ Engagement with Markets: A Postsocial Relationship.” Theory Culture Society 2002 19:161. Link: http://tcs.sagepub.com/content/19/5-6/161

Week 14: Tuesday April 19: Political Engagements of Networked Subjects