Machine Perspectives

Reading Code Within the Humanities

Ben Allen

Modern Thought and Literature

Oral Exam Reading List

Examiners: Andrea Lunsford (co-advisor)
Fred Turner (co-advisor)
Mark McGurl
Thomas Mullaney
[University Chair TBD]

Orals Fields: Software Studies and Critical Code Studies
Code in 20th/21st Century literature (electronic and otherwise)
Science and Technology Studies and History of Information
Speculative Realism / Object Oriented Ontology
Cybernetics and History of Computing
Software Studies / Platform Studies


Fuller, Matthew, 2003, Behind the Blip: Essays on the Culture of Software.


---, 2002, Writing Machines
---, 2005, My Mother was a Computer
---, 2012, How We Think: Digital Media and Contemporary Technogenesis

Innis, Harold, 1950. Empire and Communications.


Montfort, Nick, 2005 Twisty Little Passages.


Critical Code Studies

Cayley, John. 2002. "The Code is not the Text (unless it is the Text)".

---, 2001. "Reveal Codes: Hypertext and Performance"

Montfort, Nick, et. al. 2012. 10 PRINT CHR$(205.5+RND(1)); : GOTO 10.
Computers and society


Orals Field: Code in Contemporary Literature and e-Lit Examiners: Andrea Lunsford, Mark McGurl

20th/21st C. Fiction

Dick, Philip K. 1981. *VALIS*
---, *Three Stigmata of Palmer Eldritch*

---, 1990. *The Difference Engine*

---, 2000. *Perdido Street Station.*


Canonical e-Lit

Shelley Jackson, 1997. *my body -- a Wunderkammer*


Michael Joyce, 1987. *Afternoon, a story*

Emily Short, 2000. *Galatea.*

---, 2002. *Savoir-faire mez,* 2011... *CROSS.OVA.ING 4RM.BLOG.2.LOG 07/08 XXtracts...* [from ELC Vol. 2]


Orals Field: Science and Technology Studies, History of Information
Examiners: Tom Mullaney, Fred Turner

**STS and History of Information**


---, 2000. *Scripts, Grooves, and Writing Machines*


Kittler, Friedrich, 1992. *Discourse Networks 1800/1900*
---, 1999. *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter.*


[introduction and last two chapters]

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**Speculative Realism and Triple-O**

Bogost, Ian. 2012. *Alien Phenomenology, or What It’s Like to be a Thing*


---, *The Quadruple Object.*

Massumi, Brian. 2002. *Parables for the Virtual*

Meillasoux, Quentin. 2010. *After Finitude.*

Rhetoric


Searle, John, 1970, *Speech Acts*

Orals Field: Cybernetics and Computer History
Examiners: Tom Mullaney, Fred Turner

Coders on Coding


Stephenson, Neal, 1999. *In The Beginning was the Command Line...*

Stoll, Cliff, 1989. *The Cuckoo’s Egg*

Ullman, Ellen, 2001. *Close to the Machine*

Computer Scientists and Cyberneticists

Berkeley, Edmund Callis., 1949. *Giant Brains, or Machines that Think.*


Knuth, Donald. 2003. *Things a Computer Scientist Rarely Talks About*


Thompson, Ken. 1984. “Reflections on Trusting Trust”

---, 1950. *The Human Use of Human Beings*