

Digital Literature: Death of Print Culture (Engl 190)

Fall 2010

Prof. Katherine D. Harris

Twitter & the Digerati Assignment & Presentation

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- Is Twitter a valid scholarly apparatus?
- Does it extend the conversations beyond the university walls?
- Is it “professional”?
- Is it literary?

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- Is it “professional”?
- Is it literary?

Presentation

Keep track of the daily conversations and report back to us during our Twitterati Presentation Day on November 16 and November 18. Each person will have 10 minutes to discuss the Digital Humanist he/she followed. Show us something interesting and innovative about this person's tweets.

Written Post

On November 16 by 10am, post a formally-written 1000-word evaluation (description, summary, and assessment) of your particular Digital Humanist's tweets to the appropriate Moodle forum. In your post, you may also include a brief assessment of Twitter itself.

Grading

A grade for your presentation will be based on your ability to communicate the ideas represented by your Digital Humanist in tweets. A display of his/her tweets will be very helpful. A grade for the written post is based on your ability to convey the complexity of your ideas in a written format. Please use MLA style to cite and quote tweets. (Citing tweets is relatively new, so let's discuss how to do it.)

Digital Literature: Death of Print Culture (Engl 190)

Fall 2010

Prof. Katherine D. Harris

Twitter & the Digerati Assignment & Presentation

Many of the Digital Humanities scholars are following each other on Twitter, a micro-blogging platform that allows users to type only 140 characters to convey an idea. Typically, they blast the community with ideas and receive real-time responses (as opposed to email, blogging, wikis or print scholarly apparatus). In other words, they are constructing narratives from conversations with other Digital Humanists in a constantly evolving atmosphere.

1. Register for a Twitter account (www.twitter.com)
2. Create a profile and either in the username or the bio, use your real name
3. Make your profile public; if you have a Twitter account already but would like to keep that private, register for a new account.
4. Find and follow all members (students and professor – @triproftri) of our class.
5. Review a list of Digital Humanists in @DanCohen comprehensive list and select one in particular to follow. (Many of our readings' authors are on this list.)
6. Get into the habit of checking Twitter at least once per day.
7. Since tweets are not saved beyond a certain date, I strongly urge you to keep a log of your favorite tweets (perhaps in a Word document or in your Moodle blog area).

You might find that you would like to expand your followings or that you will acquire some of the Digerati following you. Think about some of these questions as you follow along:

- Is Twitter a valid scholarly apparatus?
- Does it extend the conversations beyond the university walls?
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