Instructor: Dr. Simon Carroll

Course Description:
Explores how various digital technologies are transforming our perceptions of ourselves, our friends, families and the world around us. The sociological perspective will be applied to developing a critical understanding of how our social landscape has been transformed by social media and other information and communication technologies and interrogate what it means to us as individuals as well as the larger society.

Course Outcomes/Objectives:
Students will learn about contemporary social theories relevant to understanding the transformations in society brought about by the digital revolution, with a particular emphasis on the use of internet-based technologies, mobile telephony and social media platforms. Students will better understand the relationship between the political economy of contemporary capitalist societies and the digital information revolution.

Course Format: If courses remain online in the Spring term, then the course will be offered mainly via an asynchronous teaching-learning format, meaning that course materials, including readings, lecture videos and other multi-media resources, will be posted on the UVic online platform, and students can access them on their own time throughout each week. The course will offer two synchronous open office hours/week via the UVic Zoom platform, where students can drop in and ask questions about the course topics and receive additional guidance regarding course assignments (these will be non-private sessions and will be recorded for other students to watch later). There will be opportunities for private Zoom meetings to be arranged separately with individual students.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:
N/A

---

1 This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.
Topics May Include:
Digital culture
Digital media
Economic foundations of the Information Age
Convergence
Digital Inequality
The Transformation of Privacy
Information Politics, Subversion and Warfare
Digital Identity and the New Social Media
The Body and Information Technology

Required Resources May Include:
Textbook


Coursespaces:

Extra Resources are posted on Coursespaces;