ENGL 5995, Digital Humanities
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:45-12:05, BU C 304 and LIB 1110 (Mac Lab)
Course url: https://digitalhumanitiesutah2017.wordpress.com/
password: mediums

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Digital Humanities

Andrea Danti’s “Human Hand Touching an Android Hand”

The past decade has seen an enormous surge in scholarship devoted to the study of “the digital” within the humanities, and this seminar offers an orientation to the field. Throughout this course we will consider important theoretical frameworks for understanding the manner in which digital technology relates to cultural production, aesthetic expression, and prior media forms. Throughout our discussions we will engage with the following broad set of questions: What is (or what are) the Digital Humanities? How does computer technology contribute to the creation, dissemination, and analysis of literary works? What happens to categories such as “author,” “producer,” “product,” “reader,” and “consumer” in light of works that are generated collectively online? What happens to the concept of an “original” in a medium that appears to afford perfect and swift reproducibility? How are ideas about identity, race, ethnicity, gender, and class challenged, deferred, and/or re-inscribed in digital works? What, if anything at all, distinguishes this “new” medium from its analog predecessors—or can we view it more fruitfully as one component within a diverse “media ecology”? Note that although this course involves frequent hands-on interaction with digital tools, no special knowledge of computing is required or expected.

Required texts:
Gibson, William. Pattern Recognition
Gold, Matthew K. Debates in the Digital Humanities
Hayles, Katherine N. Writing Machines
Jenkins, Henry. Convergence Culture
Kim, Walter. The Unbinding
McLuhan, Marshall. The Medium Is the Massage
Moretti, Franco. Maps, Graphs, Trees

Other readings will be available in pdf.