Wiki Assignment -30% of final grade
Media Studies 220—Interim 2012
Dr. Rebecca Richards

Our classroom is a community—a group emerging media studies scholars. As such, we each need to take responsibility for our shared knowledge and the exchange of this knowledge. In order to facilitate such a collaborative space, each of you are asked to contribute to our class wiki: *Cybercultures* (http://cybercultures.wikia.com/wiki/Cybercultures_Wiki). We will experience first-hand whether or not the hype around wikis is true. As Leuf and Cunningham (2001) write, wikis have been heralded as a means for "… encourag[ing] democratic use of the web and promot[ing]content composition by nontechnical users." We will find out if Leuf and Cunningham are correct or naïve in believing that practice of collaborative writing is truly democratic and governed by nontechnical writers.

Setup
First, you will have to register for a wikia.com account. Please select a username that gives you a cyberidentity, but that also links to your RL identity. For example, my wiki name is: BRich11. While someone outside of the class would not know who BRich11 is, you all can clearly identify that I am the person behind the online persona.

Once you have established your account, please go to our course wiki (see link above), and select "follow" at the bottom of the wiki homepage.

Vocabulary
I have listed 19 terms related to cyberculture. You are expected to add a new definition to at one term during our course. You are also expected to edit and revise definitions that others have provided. Use our readings and other sources to complicate definitions of these terms. You are also welcome to add new terminology you encounter during the readings, class activities, etc.

Reviews
Select a text (book, poem, film, video game television show, etc) that relates to the general theme of the course, *Cybercultures*. Then you will write a wiki entry on the "Reviews" page for this text. Please provide an MLA bibliographic citation for your text. After the citation, give a critical summary of the text. Try to link up vocabulary in your critical summary with the "Vocabulary section" of our wiki. You are also expected to edit at least one other review entry.

Geocaching
As the semester progresses, you will work in teams on a geocaching activity. One person from each group should create a new heading for your experience on the "Geocaching" page. Please include your group name, group members names, and description of your geocache that you choose. Then each group member should revise the entry based on his or her experience underneath the heading. These entries should document the experience of geocaching in a narrative form. This means that you are telling a collective story of what happened on your group experience.

Additional Resources

Throughout the semester, you should add an MLA citation on the "Additional Resources" page for any resources you encounter throughout the semester that are *outside* of the required or reviewed resources. This section is unlike the "Reviews" section because it does not require a review of the resource. Instead, each entry gives a very brief overview of the resource so that others can determine whether or not they want to explore it.

Assessment

Wikis are meant to be a community document—something that is collaboratively created and revised. Therefore, this Wiki will be assessed collectively and individually. What this means is that I will give a *class grade* for the Wiki at the end of the semester, which will account for 50% of your Wiki grade. Additionally, I will give you an individual grade for your Wiki writing/contributions, which accounts for the other 50% of your Wiki grade. In class, we will discuss the rationale and the impact of such an assessment mechanism. There is a rubric on Moodle for this assignment.