

WHY CODE ?

Students today **should know at least two software languages**, “only then they'll be able to say something about what 'culture' is at the moment” (Kittler, 1995)

“This phenomenon suggests the following analogy: **as the unconscious is to the conscious, so computer code is to language.** I will risk pushing the analogy even further; in our computationally intensive culture, **code is the unconscious of language**”. (Hayles, 2006, p. 137)

“I argue in this chapter that protocol has a close connection to both Deleuze’s concept of ‘control’ and Foucault’s concept of biopolitics. I show here that protocol is an affective, aesthetic force that has control over ‘life itself.’ **This is the key to thinking of protocol as power.**” (Galloway, 2004, p. 81)

“Instead of seeing the various species of contemporary computational technologies as so many different genres of machines, spinning out on their own, **we should instead see them as forming the body of an accidental megastructure.**” (Bratton, 2014)

“the **cognisphere** gives a name and shape to the globally interconnected cognitive systems in which humans are increasingly embedded. As the name implies, **humans are not the only actors within this system; machine cognizers are crucial players as well.**” (Hayles, 2006, p. 161)

“The posthuman in its more nefarious forms is construed as an informational pattern that happens to be instantiated in a biological substrate”. (Hayles, 1999, 2006)

“Second-order emergence arises when a system develops a behavior that enhances its ability to develop adaptive behaviors—that is, when it evolves the capacity to evolve. At this point, the simulation really takes off, so it is not surprising that creating such dynamic hierarchies is now the announced goal of artificial-life researchers.” (Hayles, 2005, p. 198)

**“This conclusion makes abundantly clear why we cannot afford to ignore code or allow it to remain the exclusive concern of computer programmers or engineers”.
(Hayles, 2005, p. 61)**

REFERENCES

- Bratton, B. (2014, March). The Black Stack. Retrieved August 23, 2015, from <http://www.e-flux.com/journal/the-black-stack/>
- Hayles, K. (1999). How we became posthuman: Virtual bodies in cybernetics, literature, and informatics. Chicago, Ill.: University of Chicago Press.
- Hayles, N. K. (2005). My mother was a computer digital subjects and literary texts. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Hayles, N. K. (2006). Unfinished Work: From Cyborg to Cognisphere. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 23(7-8), 159-166.
- Hayles, N. (2006). Traumas of Code. *Critical Inquiry*, 33(1), 136-157.
- Kittler, F. (1995). Technologies of Writing/Rewriting Technology. *Auseinander*, 1(3).
- Galloway, A. (2004). Protocol how control exists after decentralization. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.