

Academic Discourse I

FS101

Class Discussion: Black Mirror Scenarios

29th September
Fall 2021

Oliver BONHAM-CARTER

Stranger Than Fiction!



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MOTHERBOARD

TECH BY VICE

15 Years Ago, the Military Tried to Record Whole Human Lives. It Ended Badly

Before Facebook, the military tried to make an all knowing 'cyberdiary' called LifeLog.



By [David Axe](#)

May 21, 2018, 9:00am



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Black Mirror

NETFLIX ORIGINAL

BLACK MIRROR

2019 TV-MA 5 Seasons

Watch Season 5 Now

"The Entire History of You"

In the near future, everyone has access to a memory implant that records everything humans do, see and hear.

▶ NEXT EPISODE

+ MY LIST



Creators: Charlie Brooker

OVERVIEW

EPISODES

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Stranger Than Fiction!

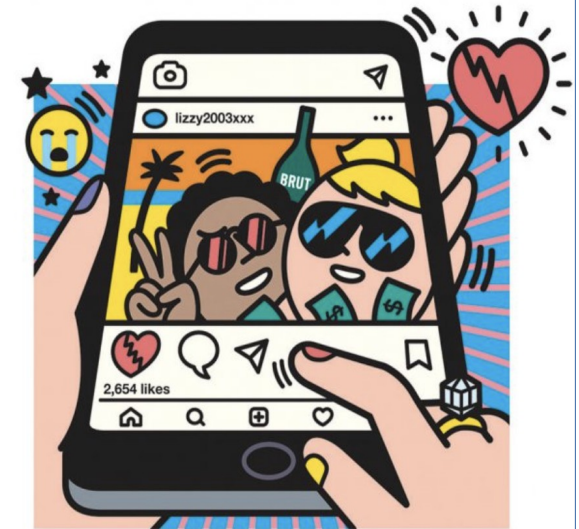
Artificial Intelligence Mar 4

China's social credit system stopped millions of people from buying travel tickets



L.A. Kids and Instagram Anxiety: "Social Media Is Destroying Our Lives"

9:45 AM PDT 8/18/2017 by Stephanie Chan



POLICY / US & WORLD / TECH

EU should ban AI-powered citizen scoring and mass surveillance, say experts

New recommendations have also been criticized as lacking enforceability

By James Vincent | Jun 26, 2019, 7:30am EDT



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Black Mirror

NETFLIX ORIGINAL

BLACK MIRROR

2019 TV-MA 5 Seasons

Watch Season 5 Now

"Nosedive"

A woman desperate to boost her social media score hits the jackpot when she's invited to a swanky wedding. But the trip doesn't go as planned.

▶ NEXT EPISODE

+ MY LIST



Creators: Charlie Brooker

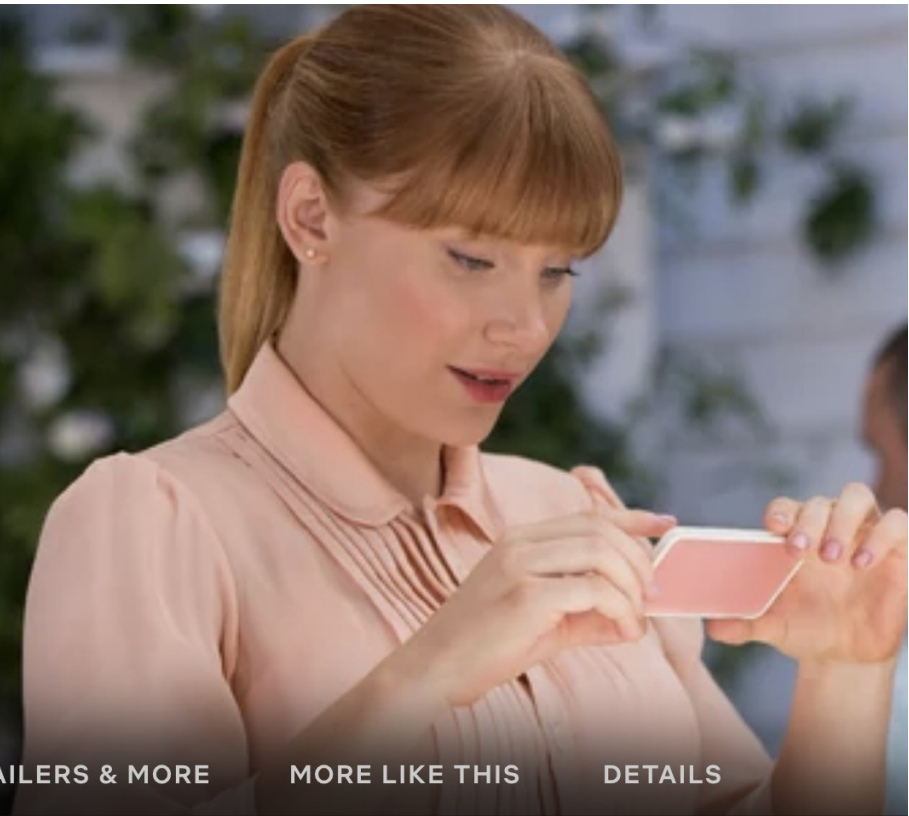
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Stranger Than Fiction!

More parents using GPS to track children but experts warn there could be consequences

By [Melanie Vujkovic](#)

Posted 3 Apr 2019, updated 3 Apr 2019

EDUCATION

Privacy Experts Say The Trade-Offs Of Tech To Track Kids In School Aren't Worth It

August 26, 2019 · 4:22 PM ET
Heard on All Things Considered

TEEN MONITORING

The Best Teen Monitoring Apps Every Parent Needs

🕒 JANUARY 13, 2020 👤 ALEXANDRU TANASE

The New York Times

Is Snooping on Teenagers Ever O.K.?





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TEEN MONITORING

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Black Mirror

N SERIES

BLACK MIRROR

2019 TV-MA 5 Seasons

"Arkangel"

Worried about her daughter's safety, single mom Marie signs up for a cutting-edge device that monitors the girl's whereabouts -- and much more.

NEXT EPISODE

My List



Creators: Charlie Brooker

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Stranger Than Fiction!

MIT
Technology
Review

Humans and Technology / Quantified Self

Digital immortality: How your life's data means a version of you could live forever

'When your heart stops beating, you'll keep tweeting': Controversial app that updates your Twitter feed from beyond the grave

- LivesOn analyses users' Twitter feeds to continue posting in the same style after they are dead
- Being developed by a London-based ad agency, who say 'it'll work better than a frozen head'
- It joins DeadSocial and If I Die in the market for apps offering social media services which continue after death

By DAMIEN GAYLE

PUBLISHED: 06:30 EDT, 20 February 2013 | UPDATED: 06:45 EDT, 20 February 2013



109
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Last Updated: 7th January, 2021 16:28 IST

Artificial Intelligence Can Now Help You Speak To Deceased Family And Friends; Here's How

Marking another scientific marvel, researchers have developed an artificial intelligence technology that could allow people to communicate with their loved ones

Written By Riya Baibhawi





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Black Mirror

NETFLIX ORIGINAL

BLACK MIRROR

2019 TV-MA 5 Seasons

Watch Season 5 Now

"Be Right Back"

29 of 48m

After learning about a new service that lets people stay in touch with the deceased, a lonely, grieving Martha reconnects with her late lover.

▶ RESUME

+ MY LIST



Creators: Charlie Brooker

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Discuss Amongst Yourselfes!

- 1. Brainstorm a near future technology based on a topic of your choice. It should be close enough that it seems like a plausible future. What is the technology and how does it relate to daily living?
- 2. What are the potential social implications and/or ethical issues and/or regulatory challenges with this technology?
- 3. What do you think might be a cautionary tale related to this technology? How could this technology be exploited to impact others, environmental conditions or animal lives?
- 4. Describe the worst that can happen if this tale became a reality?
- 5. What is a Black Mirror-type story-line this tale?
- 6. Create a poster-slide for the episode you described above and include its Google Docs link or presentation file with this deliverable.



Example Topics 1

- Algorithmic Bias
- Recommender Systems
- Self-Driving Cars
- Government surveillance
- Censorship
- Free speech
- Internet of things
- Predictive policing
- Facial recognition/analysis



Example Topics 2

- Social media privacy
- Data privacy
- Online dating
- Robots/AI
- Intellectual property
- Online harassment
- Fake news/misinformation
- Job loss due to automation
- The digital divide



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Format Your Poster Like...



Add Title of Episode

Add your team's
synopsis of your
episode.



Choose a graphic for your work!



Assignment 4:

Writing assignment for Black Mirror-type synopsis

As a group project, you are to write a short plot of an episode of Black Mirror. In your work, you are to address some searching questions about the use of technology in your episode plot.

- **Note:** get into groups of two (2), have one person “accept” the repository assignment and then give group a name.
- Then, the second member can select the group to join from the link.
- **GitHub Group Classroom Repository.**
- **Stop do not click just yet!**
 - <https://classroom.github.com/g/M5Ga4eSC>
- **Deliverables** (see writing/reflection.md of repo):
 - Written: create one plot, respond to questions, make poster slide for episode to discuss in next class.

THINK