Book Report Assignment: Book List

See also the references lists at the ends of the chapters of the text.

New books are published regularly, and I do not try to survey all that

might be relevant. Please check other sources for more options.

LIST OF BOOKS

Floyd Abrams, Speaking Freely: Trials of the First Amendment

(Viking Penguin, 2005)

How do the principles in this book apply to controversies about content on the

Web?

Robert M. Anderson, Robert Perrucci, Dan E. Schendel, and Leon E.

Trachtman, Divided Loyalties: Whistle-Blowing at BART (Purdue

University, 1980).

This book describes the efforts of several engineers to get

computer-related safety problems fixed during the construction of the

San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit System.

Sven Birkerts, The Guttenberg Elegies: The Fate of Reading in An Electronic

Age (Faber and Faber, 1994).

Birkerts is a critic of computers; he writes his books on a typewriter.

Frances Cairncross, The Death of Distance: How the Communications

Revolution Is Changing Our Lives (Harvard Business School Press,

2001).

Peter J. Denning, ed., The Invisible Future: The Seamless Integration of

Technology Into Everyday Life (McGraw Hill, 2001).

Peter Denning, Talking Back to the Machine: Computers and Human Aspiration

(Copernicus Books, 1999.

Michael Dertouzos, What Will Be: How the New World of Information Will

Change Our Lives (HarperEdge, 1997).

How accurate were his predictions?

Whitfield Diffie and Susan Landau, Privacy on the Line: The Politics of

Wiretapping and Encryption (MIT Press, 1998).

James A. Dorn, ed., The Future of Money in the Information Age

(Cato Institute, 1997). How accurate were his predictions?

Hubert Dreyfus, What Computers Still Can't Do: A Critique of Artificial Reason

(MIT Press, 1992).

A report on this book should include some discussion about how well Dreyfus's

arguments have held up over the past two decades. (Can computers now do some

of the things he said they could not do?)

Neil Gershenfeld, When Things Start to Think (Owl Books, 1999).

Mike Godwin, Cyber Rights: Defending Free Speech in the Digital Age

(Times Books, 1998).

Jack Goldsmith and Tim Wu, Who Controls the Internet? (Oxford University

Press, 2006)

Peter Huber, Law and Disorder in Cyberspace (Oxford Univ. Press, 1997).

Criticizes FCC regulation of telecommunications, showing examples where

regulations have delayed introduction of new technologies.

Merritt Ierley, Wondrous Contrivances: Technology at the Threshold

(Clarkson Potter, 2002). Looks at expectations for and attitudes about

many earlier technological devices.

Walter Isaacson, Steve Jobs (Simon & Schuster, 2011). A biography of

the co-founder of Apple.

Joel Kotkin, The New Geography: How the Digital Revolution Is Reshaping

the American Landscape (Random House, 2000).

Anthony Lewis, Freedom for the Thought That We Hate: A Biography of the First

Amendment (Basic Books, 2008).

How do the principles in this book apply to controversies about content on the

Web?

Steven Levy, Crypto: How the Code Rebels Beat the Government---Saving

Privacy in the Digital Age (Viking, 2001; paperback 2004).

Steven Levy, Hackers: Heroes of the Computer Revolution (Doubleday, 1984).

A "classic" history of hacking.

Jessica Littman, Digital Copyright: Protecting Intellectual Property

on the Internet (Prometheus Books, 2001).

Jerry Mander, In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and

the Survival of the Indian Nations (Sierra Club Books, 1991).

Mander is a strong critic of technology.

Read at least Parts 1 and 2. Parts 3 and 4 are interesting but not

much related to this course.

Joel Mokyr, The Gifts of Athena: Historical Origins of the Knowledge Economy,

(Princeton University Press, 2002).

Joel Mokyr, The Lever of Riches: Technological Creativity and Economic

Progress (Oxford University Press, 1990).

Glyn Moody, Rebel Code: Inside Linux and the Open Source Revolution

(Perseus, 2001).

Evgeny Morozov, The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom

(PublicAffairs, 2011)

Alan Murray, The Wealth of Choices (Crown Business, 2000).

John Naisbitt, Global Paradox: The Bigger the World Economy, the

More Powerful Its Smallest Players (William Morrow and Company, 1994).

Donald Norman, The Invisible Computer: Why Good Products Can Fail, The

Personal Computer Is So Complex, and Information Appliances Are the

Solution (MIT Press, 1998).

Donald Norman, Things That Make Us Smart: Defending Human Attributes in the

Age of the Machine (Addison Wesley, 1993).

Andrew Oram et al., Peer-to-Peer: Harnessing the Power of Disruptive

Technologies (O'Reilly, 2001).

George Orwell, 1984.

Orwell's distopian novel in which the totalitarian government controlled

the people via ubiquitous telescreens. (Orwell introduced the term

"Big Brother" for the government.) How realistic did Orwell's view of

the future turn out to be? What did he foresee accurately, and what

did he miss?

Ivars Peterson, Fatal Defect: Chasing Killer Computer Bugs (Times Books,

Random House, 1995).

Henry Petroski, To Engineer Is Human: The Role of Failure in Successful

Design (St. Martin's Press, 1985).

This book is more about engineering in general, not computer systems

design, but the principles and lessons carry over. In your report, tell

how the book is relevant to computer systems.

Neil Postman, Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology

(Alfred A. Knopf, 1992).

Another critic of technology.

Jeffrey Rosen, The Unwanted Gaze: The Destruction of Privacy in

America (Random House, 2000)

Kirkpatrick Sale, Rebels Against the Future: The Luddites and Their

War Against the Industrial Revolution: Lessons for the Computer Age

(Addison Wesley, 1995).

A vehement critic of computers. You can skim the first part of the book,

about the original Luddites.

Scott Shane, Dismantling Utopia: How Information Ended the Soviet Union

(I. R. Dee, 1994).

Ithiel de Sola Pool, Technologies of Freedom (Harvard University Press, 1983).

About communications technologies and government policy. Although it's

old, this book has a lot of relevance to issues about the Internet.

Daniel J. Solove, The Future of Reputation: Gossip, Rumor, and Privacy

on the Internet (Yale University Press, 2007)

Bruce Sterling, The Hacker Crackdown: Law and Disorder on the Electronic

Frontier (Bantam Books, 1992).

Clifford Stoll, The Cuckoo's Egg: Tracking a Spy Through the Maze of

Computer Espionage (Doubleday, 1989).

Clifford Stoll, Siobhan Adcock, ed., High Tech Heretic: Reflections

of a Computer Contrarian (Anchor Books, 2000).

Adam Thierer and Clyde Wayne Crews Jr., eds. Who Rules The Net? Internet

Governance and Jurisdiction (Cato Institute, 2003).

Laws and culture vary among countries. How should cyberspace disputes,

especially international disputes about free speech, intellectual

property, privacy, etc., be resolved?

Adam Thierer and Wayne Crews, eds., Copy Fights: The Future of

Intellectual Property in the Information Age (Cato Institute, 2002)

Linus Torvalds and David Diamond, Just for Fun: The Story of an

Accidental Revolutionary (HarperBusiness, 2001).

Sherry Turkle, Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less

from Each Other (Basic Books, 2011)

Includes results from many interviews with teenagers and college students

about the impact on them from personal communications media.

Eugene Volokh, Freedom of Speech in Cyberspace from the Listener's

Perspective: Private Speech Restrictions, Libel, State Action,

Harassment, and Sex (Univ. of Chicago Legal Forum, 1996).

You might have to get this from a law library.

William Wresch, Disconnected: Haves and Have-Nots in the Information Age

(Rutgers Univ. Press, 1996).

How accurate were his predictions? What implications can you draw from

how accurate or inaccurate he was?