

Google Yourself  
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After searching for my name on Google I was unable to find myself anywhere, after scrolling through pages of links and pictures still nothing. I decided to search combinations such as “Stephen Cole UNB”, “Stephen Cole IBM” and “Stephen Cole \*insert hometown\*” and still absolutely nothing. Maybe if I scrolled through a few thousand LinkedIn profiles I would find mine; however, the closest thing I could find related to myself using my readily available personal data was an article on my father. Now that’s kind of eerie, but that’s exactly what I hoped to find. I’m not really on social media and I let people know that I would rather not be linked in their posts. So, all in all I was pleased that it is not as simple as a google search to find me. The data I found related to my name on Google was mostly pictures of old men and links to a famous writer and broadcaster. None of the things I have created online such as web servers I run, or my GitHub account were able to be found and none of what people could discover was created by someone other than me. I was fairly aware that I keep my online presence to a fairly low hum, so I wasn’t surprised at the results. I don’t think anyone can get any sense of me from a primitive search on google as they won’t find anything unless they search through LinkedIn and know who they are looking for. For me after class I think I want to keep operating online just like I do now, keeping my personal data personal and meeting people in real life rather than online. Some takeaways from our group discussion were that LinkedIn extremely prevalent being on the first page of results for all of us. Another commonality was that for the 3 men in my group all of us had a plethora of old men on the images tab when we searched our name, we assume that these men are found much easier because there are probably more pictures of them online that have been there much longer. One of the main takeaways from the discussion was

that the more active you are on social media the more results related to your name will be of you. Something that Chris Ruff and I found odd was that artwork was fairly abundant in searches; however, our repositories of code were nowhere to be found which may just be part of Google's algorithm as people probably want to see art before code.