Critical Digital Studies — Sampler

Practice-based glimpses of how pedagogy, ethics, and tooling intertwine.

Unlisted page · Updated 2025-09-14

Each subsequent page is a card: hero image, methods, outcomes, and the teach-with-this kit so a future instructor can reproduce the work without guessing.

faceTimes — Consent-Forward Vision Station

Alignment: digital literacy · justice/representation · civic engagement

On-device, detection-only pipeline with explicit opt-in and delete-now controls. No identification, no network calls, and no storage without consent. Interface copy foregrounds agency before computation; documentation (README, PRIVACY/ETHICS, assumption ledger) is treated as research output.

Methods & Ethics

- Classroom demo & public kiosk contexts
- Detection overlay with visible status + erase
- {'System': 'webcam → local detector → ephemeral buffer → user action'}

Outcomes

- Deployed in 1 kiosk (TBD)
- Used by ~24 students (TBD)
- 3 critique sessions (TBD)
- 1 iteration logged (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Practice consent-forward capture as digital literacy
- **60-min lab:** Implement detection-only pipeline; test erase-now; reflect on affordances

- **Assess:** Process log + assumption ledger + 2-min demo

Links

- Repo
- ETHICS
- PRIVACY
- diagrams.md

MOARkNOBS-42 — open-source microcontroller MIDI controller

Alignment: digital literacy · civic engagement

PLACEHOLDER — MOARkNOBS-42 panel

Reproducible hardware + firmware used as both instrument and teaching platform. Parameter mapping functions as an inquiry into authorship and control; latency is characterized and documented so performance claims are auditable and extendable.

Methods & Ethics

- Teensy-based instrument + teaching rig
- {'Complete docs': 'BOM, wiring, parameter map'}
- Measurement folded into practice (latency notes)

Outcomes

- v0.x performances (TBD)
- Latency characterization published (TBD)
- Student replicates (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Interface as authorship; documentation as scholarship
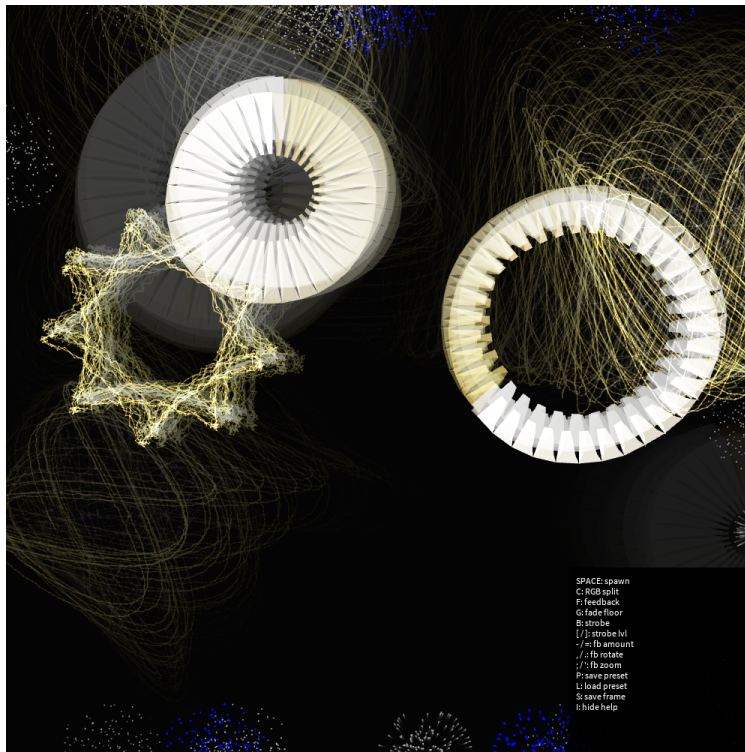- **60-min lab:** Map controls → parameters; measure + log latency

- **Assess:** Short demo + latency note + reproducibility checklist

Links

- Repo
- Release (latest)
- TESTING.md
- PinMap.md
- hardware/

Glitch Geometry — Audio→Form Instrument

Alignment: digital literacy · justice/representation

Live translation of signal features into geometry; pipeline choices (feature extraction, modulation, rendering) are made legible as aesthetic and ethical decisions. The system is tunable and documented for both teaching and critique.

Methods & Ethics

- Signal in → features → geometry modulation → render
- Transparent, documented pipeline for reproducibility
- Designed for classroom demos and public performance

Outcomes

- 1–2 live demos (TBD)
- Student mini-studies (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Link form to claim via signal features
- **60-min lab:** Implement 2 features; compare visual behaviors
- **Assess:** Process log + short critique memo

Links

- Repo (GlitchListener)
- README quickstart

DEAD SKY — Vision & Motion Grammar Studies

Alignment: digital literacy · justice/representation

PLACEHOLDER — DEAD SKY DS200412 still

Two short studies—rural pursuit (DS200412) and wheel-mounted POV (DS200801)—probing surveillance logics, attention, and embodied capture toward a larger film project. Tests "pursuit grammar" and mechanical vision's entrainment.

Methods & Ethics

- November light, long-lens compression (pursuit grammar)
- {'Wheel POV': 'cyclic motion & peripheral smear'}
- Consent & site plans for actors/bystanders

Outcomes

- 2 studies complete; cuts TBD
- Screening/critique (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Make camera grammar legible and accountable
- **60-min lab:** Long-lens pursuit vs. wheel-POV; reflect on ethics
- **Assess:** Shot log + ethics note + 60s cut

Links

- Vimeo profile
- Related tool: VidObjectifier

Skyway Derivé / Media Fast — Critical Pedagogy Interventions

Alignment: justice/representation · civic engagement

Paired interventions that make media power felt: a "Spectacle" action-lecture moves critique into public space; a structured "Media Fast" maps sensory shifts and agency before reflective media making. Designed as public method; prompts and reflections are the artifacts.

Methods & Ethics

- Transparent prompts; bystander consent & respect
- Reflection before publication; no IDs without release
- Documentation pack (brief, roles, reflection prompts)

Outcomes

- 1 public intervention (TBD)
- 1 compiled reflections doc (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Embody critique; document before publish
- **60-min lab:** Skyway dérive with consent checkpoints
- **Assess:** Reflection + consent notes + debrief

Links

- Briefs (Syllabus)
- Policies / templates (Syllabus/shared)

MCAD Media 2 — MTN Public Access Broadcast

Alignment: civic engagement · digital literacy

Studio-seminar culminating in a 28.5-minute MTN broadcast planned, produced, and edited by students. The artifact is civic-facing media formed by calendars, critique gates, and documentation standards for longevity.

Methods & Ethics

- Roles & calendars; consent and authorship checkpoints
- {'Deliverables': 'broadcast master + process docs'}
- Public exhibition as peer review

Outcomes

- 28.5-minute episode delivered (TBD)
- Airtime / reach (TBD)

Teach with this

- **Goal:** Practice public-facing media with accountability
- **60-min lab:** Segment planning → critique gate → deliver
- **Assess:** Checklists + credits + release archive

Links

- Syllabus / MCADMedia2
- MEDIA2-codeEXPLAINERS