Blogs 1 and 2

Cathal O'Grady

Blog 1

Topic: What is your understanding of digital innovation? What do you hope to learn during this course?

My understanding

To me innovation is about a new idea and ones drive in pursuing this idea with the vision of a better world. It is easy to get functionally fixed, that is seeing objects associated with their most common uses and innovation is an escape from this and a building of a new concept. Due to this it is often that a new set of eyes can induce a new perspective on older concepts and lead to innovation.

To my knowledge in the tech world innovation often manifests it'self in a startup company in which one or a small group of entrepreneurs try to develop a scalable business, backed by innovative technology. Unfortunately it's rare that businesses make it past the startup phase let alone being highly profitable. However every so often there is an idea so good as to bring a person unimaginable wealth.

What I hope to learn

I hope to learn a little more of the business side of technology. I am interested in understanding how tech companies function and how it's all managed.

As well as this I hope to be able to some what better articulate myself by the end of the semester. Both the blogs and group project should do well by me in this regard. Communication is always a good skill to hone in this field.

I also anticipate learning more about web design through the group project. I learned a lot about websites last semester in the 'Web Design' module and It will be nice to apply that outside of the module.

Overall I am looking forward to the module and what it might bring to the table.

Blog 2

Topic: Choose a frequently updated blog that you like and write about it including (i) why you like it; (ii) how you would categorise it; (iii) what it's main focus is.

The Blog

The youtube channel "Luke Smith" is one that I frequent and although he doesn't upload as much as others might he has tonnes of content that I absorb and find both helpful and informative.

Why I like it

Luke Smith, the owner of the channel, is somebody I consider highly rational and down to earth. Though he spent much of his life studying linguistics he often covers topics involving technology. I find his stance on modern technology very refreshing and I am always engaged by his technical tutorials about gnu/linux. He inspired me to ditch windows and use software that respects the rights of it's users. Additionally he inspired me to start reading literature again and use my free time more productively in general.

How I would categorise it

Though he criticises phones and social media he also makes great tutorials about gnu/linux programs as well as discussing other aspects of technology. His channel is very unique in his balance in promoting a calm rural life whilst also developing software and appreciating technology. I would categorise his channel under "Tech and life advice".

What it's main focus is

The channels core focus is on education, educating people about free software, technology and being a reasonable person. One video that stands out to me is "Will you EVER stand up for yourself?", in this he discuses crucially the importance of sticking to your principles as well as arguing the ultimate livelihood being as self-dependant as possible. This video gives a taste of Luke's morals, ones that follow closely to my own.

links: https://www.youtube.com/c/LukeSmithxyz/featured https://lukesmith.xyz/