

CMS.998/CMS.600: New Media Literacies  
Dr. Alice Robison  
Lecture Notes

Session 19, 4/25/07  
Learning Week: Wikis

- Examples of class projects that students are working on
  - A wiki with lesson plans available
  - The interaction between visual art and new media literacy theory
  - Spaces of independently produced music and the relevant media literacies. Looking at media literacy from the perspective of independent music, outside of and educational standpoint.
  - An analysis of how this semester's class went, and a proposal for a new class to be taught along similar lines
  - Identity construction in games and on the web.
  - Strong texts and remixing media
  
- Learning week lecture: Wikis
  - "Wiki" comes from the Hawaiian word for quick
  - What is a wiki?
    - Wikipedia is an example
    - Anybody can edit it
    - Lots of pages within one wiki will all link to each other
  - Wikis can be expansive, like wikipedia, or more specific in nature
    - There are wikis on lots of different topics
  - People work together to create a good source of information
  - Why do people use wikis?
    - They're easy to learn to use and edit
    - They keep histories, so you can go and retrieve old information that someone deleted.
    - It's easy to fix your mistakes
  - When to use a wiki
    - Many people can work together
    - Wikis are useful when the information is not static, but changing
    - You can see information in any order you choose
  - Hazards of wikis
    - Vandalism: graffiti and malicious tampering
    - Inaccuracies
  - Wiki Examples:
    - A Million Penguins project
      - They wrote a novel in five weeks on a wiki, written by lots of different people together
      - They had ten edits going on per second
    - WoWWiki
      - This is a wiki for World of Warcraft

- It's got useful information for planning a new characters are thinking about new zones to quest in
    - There are guides to every location, class, instance, and space in the game
    - Sometimes it has too much information
    - Standardized formatting is important
  - Lostpedia
  - Wikimedia: wikipedia wasn't expansive enough, and so people created these other forums where different types of articles could go
    - Encyclopedia
    - Dictionary
    - Quotations
    - News
    - Books
- How to make a wiki
  - Choose a hosting service
    - [www.pbwiki.com](http://www.pbwiki.com)
    - [scratchpad.wikia.com](http://scratchpad.wikia.com)
  - Register
  - Design wiki structure
  - Post data
  - Think about design and set up questions
- Possible ideas for wikis
  - Party plans
  - Study group coordination
  - School play, cross country team, or any other topic
- Create your own wiki! Examples:
  - MP3 buyers' guide
  - CMS gossip