

David Levy Blog Notes from 4 class lectures/discussions

Communications Theory & Frameworks Jeanine Turner

Intro – computer scientist...left to study calligraphy and bookbinding in London

Think tank at Xerox Palo Alto center (personal computer)

Transition from world of paper to world of technology

90's (technology and the Policy of Absence)

Can we/ do we need to slow down technology?

Epiphany at a conference at Stanford ... computer becomes the writing tool

Questionnaire

- Do you ever spend too much time online or plugged in? —almost all
- Why does it seem like too much? Doing things that are less effective, what is a good use of time? Where does that idea come from? These things have become routine, everything is all about updating which feeds addiction.
- Do you ever feel the need to quiet down and slow down? Will the next generation not be overwhelmed b/c they grew up in it?—80-85% yes we do spend too much time online, need to quiet down and slow down

Noticed that the change is still happening by looking at those younger, CCT grads are older

Study other cultures – culture in comparison

Don't think there is a right answer

What do we need to live a good life and what does that look like?

Right answer – personal, but cultures can be deeply out of balance

May adjust, but lose crucial dimensions, thinking correcting b/c we can't speed thinking up, we can't speed relationships up

Humanities and Writing with Dr. Levy 9/23/09 Randall Bass

Levy read students blog posts on his work

Anyone who is a good teacher is also a good student

Been unhappy with limited way of learning

Ledite – anti- technology

Questionnaire

- Do you ever feel like you are spending too much time plugged in?—majority: yes, too much at once, need to disconnect, a lot but not regretting it, takes away from time for homework and sleep, takes away from personal interaction – take away from present moment, expectation to answer emails and phone calls creates a busy life.
- How many have reflected on these kinds of questions before? — 80%
- How many have talked with friends about this before?— 80%

- Do you ever feel the need to quiet down and slow down? What do you do about it? — Most “yes”...feel unproductive when slow down, sometimes feel more pressured later.

Culture giving double message – for 1st time we have laptop one place where reading, writing, studying, social, music, and entertainment are all in one place

What does this technology in education mean for the near future?

- Input on how we socialize, finding balance is personal
- Levy says that finding balance is person but it is also the responsibility of culture

To what extent should a university give you the opportunity to get away from all this?
All about convenience, not enough time to read in depth

As a new college student, I can say I can feel myself beginning to be pulled into a cycle of information intake and output without too much deep thought...It is only with technology AND the willingness of the universities to drastically change the format of education will technology become a powerful tool to aid and encourage deep thought, contemplation, and creativity in students.—Adam Rosenfeld

As Levy puts it: *“We would seem, then, to be losing the time ‘to look and to think’ at the very moment we have produced extraordinary tools for investigating the world and ourselves and for sharing our findings.”*

And I agree to the statement that the current way of learning is resulting in “mindless cycle of production and consumption,” since at least the current educational system has been around for too long to somewhat naturally wear out by now. The educational reform towards participatory learning, or at least something similar, is necessary in today’s classroom.—Joe Park

Blogs largely focus on participatory learning.

Ignatius Seminar: Navigating the Moral Terrain 8:50 9/24/09 Alisa Carr

Dartmouth Liberal Arts major

Wants to live a more meaningful life and help others to live a more meaningful life – forget about CV

Since beginning of industrialization – West dominated by “more, faster, better” philosophy to live better life

- Do you ever feel the need to quiet down and slow down?
- Don’t interact in live conversations, get online for school, caught up in virtual world of past, dependent on having time to think about talking, asking out via text message and online
- Do you ever feel the need to quiet down and slow down?—Majority yes, worry about what else you could be doing

Idea of information overload