Final Lab Outline

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T TH – Intro to Digital Studies

"Living in a Digital Age: The Double-Edged Sword of Connection"

ME: Hi everyone and welcome back to another episode of "CTRL + Humanity" I'm your host Symone and I am so excited to dive into today's topic.

Sponsor Bit But before we even get started, I'd like to give a big thank you to our sponsors Professor Hayward and Drew, they were awesome enough to allow us at "<u>motherboard</u> <u>series</u>" to use the platform Audacity to make today's podcast. Which I gotta say is an amazing editing platform for beginners to utilize, so listener's if your feeling like playing around and making podcasts or audio clips for your own personal use definitely check with Professor Hayward and Drew for more information (put office hours). Now let's get back to todays theme.

Transition

ME: For the past couple episodes we've been going through the theme of "**Living in a Digital Age" and today's talking point is looking at thee..**

" The Double-Edged Sword of Connection"

In today's world, our digital lives shape almost every aspect of who we are and how we interact with each other. On one hand, technology has given us the ability to stay connected across oceans, find information instantly, and create communities in ways that were once unimaginable. The digital space opens doors for innovation, creativity, and a diversity of voices that would've once been silenced. But, what does this constant connectivity really mean for us as humans?

We live in an age where scrolling on our devices has become as routine as breathing, and in doing so, we may find ourselves more isolated than ever. While we can share moments online, is this sharing real, or just a curated version of ourselves?

In this podcast, let's explore how digital life is both enriching and, at times, consuming. We'll dive into the balance between the convenience of the digital world and the need to reconnect with the physical one. Through stories of innovation and cautionary tales, we'll reflect on what it truly means to live in a world where our lives unfold both online and offline; how can we make sure we control our digital experiences rather than letting them control us?"

Me: I'll be drawing from a few different sources to essentially tie this whole ordeal together.

Within my **FYS** The Art of Passage we've been dissecting Calvino's idea of quickness

Calvino's "Quickness" essentially represents the idea of being able to relay complex points in swift and efficient manner without losing the overall depth or meaning of your point. Though specifically we're going to be apply this concept of quickness in a digital sense. With the emergence of the digital world we've gotten used to fast, clear communication through apps like Instagram, WhatsApp, skype, and more. As times gone on we've had more responsive sites and digital tools and search engines like google search, wiki, even now were seeing the rise of ai.

Though this is when we start to see the double edge of the metaphorical sword. because of this quickness and accessibility of the digital realm, when we take information for how we see it, were often seeing the can lead to oversimplification of complex ideas, reducing the depth of conversations or understanding. Which Noble touches on how such a popular search engine like google could be so biased painting poc women in such a provocative rsight, and this is because eit is very true that these tech are manmade they have biases embedded even if we try to be a neutral as possible. And with us blindly going on to trust media in a way

Calvino's idea of "Quickness" is essentially about getting across complex ideas in a efficient manner without losing it initial meaning. But here, I'm focusing on how this applies to the digital world. With platforms like Instagram, WhatsApp, Skype, and more, we've gotten used to quick, clear communication. As technology advances, we have even faster, more responsive tools like Google, Wikipedia, and even now AI.

But here's where the metaphorical double-edged sword comes in: this quickness and accessibility can lead to oversimplification. When we as users start taking information at face value, , we risk losing the depth and even the ability to truly understand the information we're looking for. Noble points out how even a search engine like Google can show biased results, especially when it comes to the portrayal of women of color. Though the thing is we need to remember that all technology is still man-made, and it carries the biases of its creators, even if the aim is neutrality. And when we just trust the media without questioning it, we run into even bigger problems. Like reinforcing stereotypes to shaping our views of the world in misleading lights. And I think because of how caught up we are in the modern technology we don't see how deeply it's effecting how we perceive people, issues, cultures…and how easyily it's making for users to be shallow and spread harmful biases which effects our connections in both digital and real-world interactions.

Transition

Possible discussion points

- Mental health
- Dating
- Performative interactions

Bring in a guest

Before we close out I urge you all to ask yourselves…

are we becoming numb to the awesomeness of real-world because we're so used to instant, bite-sized information? Are we sacrificing meaningful, deep connections for the convenience of media and the digital world?