Blog Assignment

And while we are on the topic of modems and communication, for most of us the modem connects us to the web. How the web is constructed and how it works will be the main focus of the third part of CS 12, but at this point we will just take a short look at some of the social implications of this new connectedness and the "generation gap" that it has created.

Go to: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline

And watch the program there. Then, look at the resources and links provided on the site.

One of the main topics discussed in the program is **social networking** and its implications. Your assignment will set up a **blog** to discuss this and related issues.

The assignment consists of two parts:

Part 1.   Create a blog discussing the effects of social networking.
Part 2.   Read and comment on the blogs of 2 of your classmates.
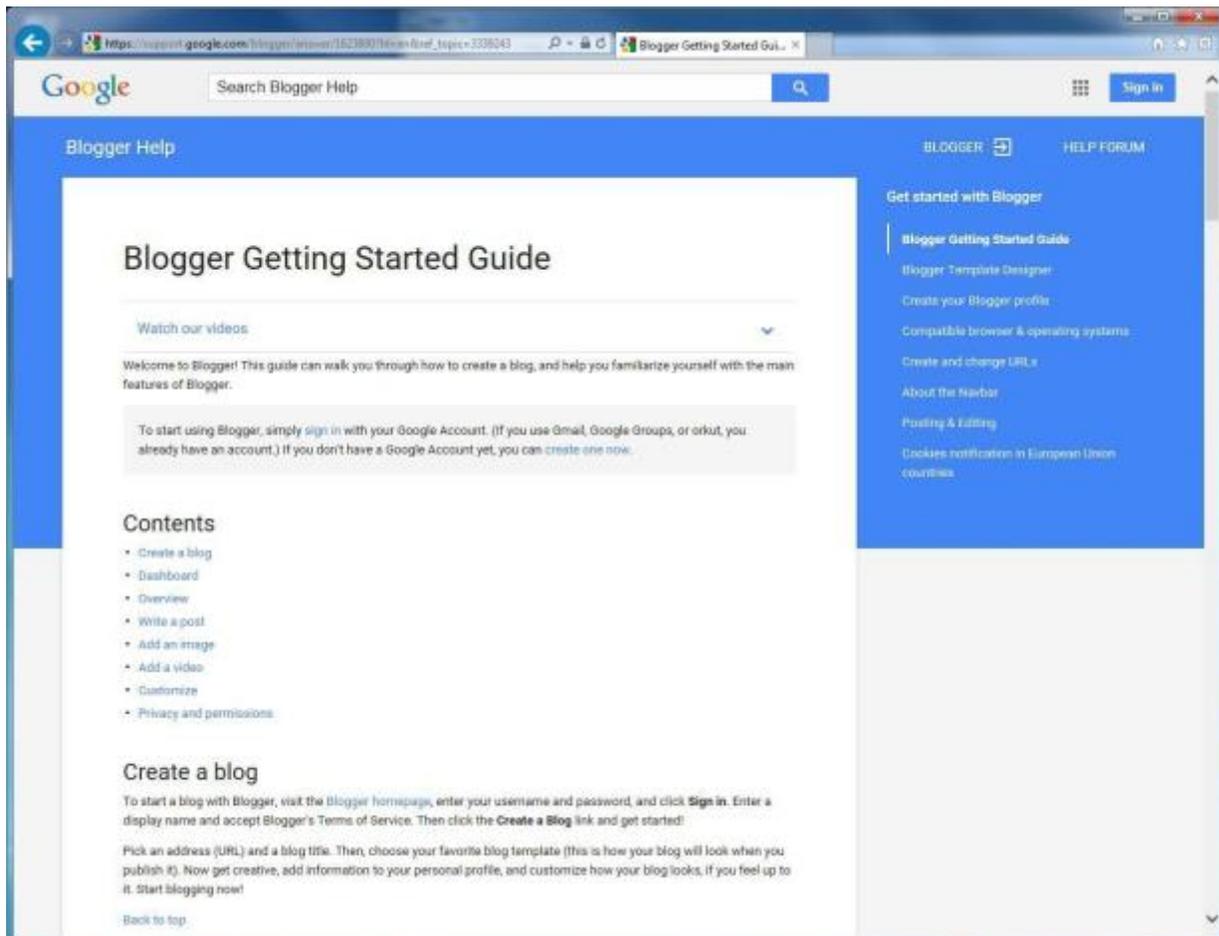
What is a blog?

Blog (from wikipedia)

A **blog** is a <u>website</u> in which journal entries are posted on a regular basis and displayed in reverse chronological order. The term blog is a shortened form of **weblog** or **web log**. Authoring a blog, maintaining a blog or adding an article to an existing blog is called "blogging". Individual articles on a blog are called "blog posts," "posts" or "entries". A person who posts-these entries is called a "blogger". A blog comprises <u>hypertext</u>, <u>images</u>, and links (to other web pages and to <u>video</u>, <u>audio</u> and other files). Blogs use a <u>conversational</u> style of <u>documentation</u>. Often blogs focus on a particular "area of interest", such as <u>Washington, D.C.'s</u> political goings-on. Some blogs discuss personal experiences.

Blogs can be hosted by dedicated <u>blog hosting services</u>, or they can be run using <u>blog software</u> on regular <u>web hosting services</u>. In the early <u>21st Century</u>, blogging has quickly emerged as a popular and important means of communication.

Part 1 - Create a blog.

Go to: https://support.google.com/blogger/answer/1623800?hl=en&ref_topic=3339243
to get to the Blogger Getting Started Guide.

A. Create your blog account on Blogger.com and create a single blog titled **The Effects of Social Networking**.

B. Write your blog posts. A minimum of 2 paragraphs for each blog post. You should address at least the following:

1. On your blog, write a blog post about the issues raised in the PBS presentation on the previous page.

2. On your blog, write a second blog post about the methods and implications of the Obama campaign's use of social networking tools. See here: **http://cs12.cs.qc.cuny.edu/8fn_002.pdf**

3. We assume that one of the important aspects of the web is that it has the potential to expose its users to multiple perspectives and to ideas they might not otherwise encounter. This is important for a democracy which, to some extent, depends on people being able to understand perspectives other than their own. But, check out these two sources and, on your blog, write a third blog post about:

    http://www.ted.com/talks/eli_pariser_beware_online_filter_bubbles.html

    http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2011/jun/23/mind-control-and-internet

    contrasting them with:

    http://www.wired.com/magazine/2011/04/st_thompson_homophily

C. Submit the web address (URL) of your blog to your lab instructor using the form given on the Lecture Assignments web page of the CS 12 Lab website: **http://cs12.cs.qc.cuny.edu/lecture.html**

Click on the **Blog URL Registration Form** link in **Part 1** of the **Blog Assignment** to go to the form.

To obtain your social networking blog URL: 1) log into your blogger.com account, and 2) click the **View blog** button for your blog. The URL of your blog will appear in the address bar of your web browser. The URL of your blog should look something like this: **http://xyz.blogspot.com/** where **xyz** will be different for your URL and the **http://** and **.blogspot.com/** will be the same for everyone's URL.

Part 2 – Write your blog comments.

A. Choose 2 different blogs. A list of blog URLs, from your fellow CS 12 students, will be posted on the Lecture Assignments web page of the CS 12 Lab website (**http://cs12.cs.qc.cuny.edu/lecture.html**) sometime on **Tuesday, March 7, 2016**. Click on the **Blog URL List** link in **Part 2** of the **Blog Assignment** to go to the list. For each blog, choose just one post, and write and post a comment for that blog post. A minimum of 1 paragraph for each blog comment.

B. Submit the web address (URL) of the 2 blogs you chose to your lab instructor using the form given on the Lecture Assignments web page of the CS 12 Lab website: **http://cs12.cs.qc.cuny.edu/lecture.html**

Click on the **Blog Comment URLs Registration Form** link in **Part 2** of the **Blog Assignment** to go to the form.