

CMSC 119: (De-)Coding the Drone
Reflection I: Digital Literacy
Due October 22, 2013

Make a case for or against a **digital literacy** distribution requirement at Bard.

What does it mean to be digitally literate, and why is that important or unimportant for Bard graduates? What should citizens and policy makers know about algorithms, programming, drones and the digital? What should it mean for citizens to know how to **use** computers? Like a pen, drill or car, is it enough to understand how to operate the tool without understanding how it works? What does it mean to “operate” a computer in comparison with a pen, drill or car or other tools? Is there a difference between hardware and software?

On the first day of class we read an article, “Pianos Not Stereos: Creating Computational Construction Kits” by Resnick, Bruckman, and Martin. In this reflection, you are asked to ponder the questions of what is a *Digital Piano* or *Drone Piano* and what is a *Digital Stereo* or *Drone Stereo*? And does that distinction even matter?

Deliverable

Your reflection should be 1,024 words.

Upload an electronic copy of your essay via moodle as a PDF named: **digital_lastname.pdf**