SOCI 4107: Gender and Technological Change
Midterm

 /41

This exam is due on Wednesday the 8th at 10:15 (the end of class). You can submit your final copy in the dropbox on D2L or you can give me a hard copy. If you use the dropbox, please title your midterm with your last name and "midtermFA2014." So my exam would be named Liboiron-midtermFA2014.docx.
Note that there are two parts to the midterm. One is graded, the other is not. Please do both. The second part is its own file on D2L.

Whenever possible, draw on (and cite!) class readings. You are also welcome to cite news stories or other sources if appropriate (not required, but impressive).

Use vocabulary we’ve developed in class.

Be sure to define academic terms whenever you use them.

Here is background on the Thermal Flashlight:
http://publiclab.org/wiki/thermal-camera

**Feminist Design**

1. Design a casing for a thermal flashlight that exemplifies at least three characteristics of feminist design. You should incorporate two manifestations of each characteristic (so if inclusivity is your chosen feminist characteristic, you should make two separate design choices based on inclusivity).

Draw your design below (or on a separate sheet), and label it with the characteristic, and how that characteristic is embodied in the design. /6

**Feminist Organization**

2a. Imagine that you have to make this design now, and then try it out. What are the **three** *most important* collaboration “rules” of feminist organization that you would want followed in your group? 9 points: 1 pt for the element, 1 pt for saying how it is feminist, 1 pt for saying why it is most important, per example. /9

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Organizational Element | How is it feminist? | Why is this important? |
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|  |  |  |

(if this chart cramps your style, use a separate piece of paper)

2b. Articulate how your organization choices above will impact the technology itself? Please cite readings (Author year, page), and define any specialized terms you use. /3

**Feminist Technology Practices**

3. Imagine you and your new organization create this thermal flashlight . List three concrete, specific local instances where this might be a useful tool. (Specific looks like this: “the docks where the heat escapes from the vents on Mulberry street, because I think the escaping heat makes the grass die.”). Extra points if your example addresses a justice/feminist issue.

6 points: 1 point for the instance, 1 point for why that is an instance, per example. /6

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| --- | --- |
| Location/Instance | Issue to address |
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4. Imagine you go to use this thermal flashlight you’ve built with your organization at **one** of the locations/instances mentioned above. How could you make that investigation an event for open public discourse as you gather information with the flashlight (ie, use it to tell the temperature)? (Recall the “spectacle” discussion in class; how you could make it a publically-engaging spectacle?)
For inspiration, see: http://stsdesignworkshop.tumblr.com/post/60602641645/science-as-spectacle
5 points for thick description of this, including but not limited to: what you would do to make the “spectacle, how it would create open dialogue, what that dialogue might be and why it would be important. /5

5. Let’s say you have this great flashlight that you designed with your wonderful organization, and it made a great public discussion at your chosen location while you collected data. What are some feminist ways of disseminating that data/information? List three ways you could present that information, and why they are feminist, and three places to circulate that information, and why you chose those audiences. /12

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| How to present the data/info gathered | How is this feminist? |
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| --- | --- |
| Where/to whom are you going to circulate the data? | Why this audiences? |
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