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## RESEARCH BLOG REPORT

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due date	5 pm. Friday June 10 2005.
assessment value	This task comprises 30% of your final result in Network Media I.
background	<p>Your blog is a networked research journal. This is where you document and discuss the ideas, interests, problems, connections and possibilities suggested to you in this course. It is also where you establish and maintain connections to other sites of relevance and interest. Your blog will form the core of your 'network identity' or 'network profile' — it is what people will see and read to find out who you are when they 'Google' you.</p> <p>The purpose of this is threefold. It provides you with a public space where you can establish and maintain your network identity. It allows you to document and store things that you can then easily refer to later. It gives you the opportunity to think out and test ideas by having to write out these ideas in your blog, in this writing out you have to 'flesh out' your ideas.</p>
task description	<p>You are expected to use your blog regularly throughout the semester. You may write about whatever you want, subject to RMIT and the course's Rules of Use, however you must regularly write entries that are identifiable as academic.</p> <p>This semester your blog is no longer just a journal. It now participates in a networked writing environment. This means that we are now going to consider blogs in terms of the networks they establish and promote and your blogs are expected to reflect this. This is achieved through the blogs you read and comment upon, as well as the specific and individual content in your own blog.</p> <p>Therefore your blog will consist of multiple regular entries, categories and a significant blogroll (or equivalent). There will be links to other blogs (internal to the course and external), and you can expect links back into your blogs from other locations.</p> <p>Your blog will be customised by you. It will contain photos, text, and possibly audio and video.</p>
requirements	<p>Your blog is to be an exemplar of a social academic blog (a genre we are helping to invent). It will contain a blogroll, and may have trackbacks and comments. It will include appropriate social software additions or commentary on your use and experience of these. It will contain posts that deal with academic content and experience.</p> <p>Write an outline or brief essay demonstrating how your blog achieves</p>

this. Include 8 URLs indicating individual blog entries from your own blog. These blog entries should be from a range of dates across the semester. They should demonstrate and/or document what you explored, experimented with, and trialed. This outline, and your blog entries, should indicate how a blog participates in, and forms, networked ecologies or social ecologies. This should be a minimum of 500 words, remembering that most of the content should be in your blog.

submission

The work is to be submitted by 5pm, Monday June 6. It should be an online essay. It can be a single page. The URL of this essay is to be emailed to [adrian.miles@rmit.edu.au](mailto:adrian.miles@rmit.edu.au) and receipt of this email indicates date of submission. The essay should include appropriate URLs to your blog entries and to any other online resources. It should be appropriately referenced.

assessment

The assessment of this will place emphasis on the following criteria: **Quality** of ideas. This includes the depth and detail of the ideas you pursue and explore in your blog.

**Documentation** of resources. This refers to the references you find and refer to. This includes things like books and essays but also linking to the resources and other blog entries and sites that you use in your research.

**Regularity** of writing. This is how often you post to your blog, and in what contexts (personal, social, academic, and so on).

**Range** of writing. This is how many different things you write about in your blog. A blog should not be monological.

The ideas that you **experiment** with. Experimentation is not random, nor is it an idiolect (ideas and language understood only by you), it is a form of risk taking where you probe and test possibilities. The tools and resources that you **explore**. There is an enormous range of social software tools that are available that you can incorporate in your blog, or use more generally. Play with these, document their use, think about what they might offer, achieve, and make possible. What problems do they bring? What do they require?