



INTERNET RESEARCH ETHICS

Digital Library, Resource Center, and Commons

agent	Similar to a bot, an agent is an entity (usually code or software) operating online on the behalf of an individual.	Timberfrog.com is an agent that automatically notifies an individual when the price of an item on Amazon.com drops.
avatar	A character, graphic, or other representative persona used by an individual online.	An avatar from the Nintendo Wii system: https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/wiki/File:MiiReuel.jpg
BBS	Bulletin Board System. Often refers to communication systems that existed between the 1970s and 1990s that required users to directly connect to the communication system with their modem.	The homepage of one of the earliest BBSes (The Well): http://www.well.com/
blog	A "web blog" is a website used as a journal, can be personal or professional in nature.	The Official Goggle Blog: http://googleblog.blogspot.com/
bot	Short for "robot", often refers to a piece of code or program meant to automate work that would otherwise be done by an individual.	"GossipinGabby" is a conversational and information retrieval bot on AOL's Instant Messenger network
chatroom	An online location where individuals can come together to have text-based chat discussions that occur in real-time	Yahoo! Chat Rooms : http://chat.yahoo.com
cloud computing	A system in which computing resources are virtual, often externally distributed across the Internet.	Google Mail is an example a cloud computing e-mail system.
cookie	A text file placed on user's computer by a website or web server. Often used for keep track of individuals as they navigate a site, and more broadly the web.	Mozilla's Definition and Examples of Cookies: http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Cookies
Creative Commons	A copyright licensing schema that provides users different choices about the way in which the licensed material can be used.	The Creative Common's License Generator: http://creativecommons.org/choose/
CUSEeMe	An early online video conferencing software tool.	Screen capture of CUSeeMe Software, hosted by Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:CU-Schools.GIF
Distributed Denial-of-Service Attack	A means of attacking a website by overloading it with hundreds of requests at a time. Often abbreviated as DDOS.	The Computer Emergency Response Team's (CERT) examples of how a DDOS attack works: http://www.cert.org/homeusers/ddos.html
encryption software	A piece of software that is used to obfuscate information to all of those who do not have the means to decrypt the information.	PGP (Pretty Good Privacy) is an example of encryption software: http://www.pgp.com/

Facebook	A popular online social networking site, designed originally to mimic a school yearbook.	http://www.facebook.com
Flickr	A social networking site built around sharing photographs.	http://www.flickr.com
folksonomies	A classification and/or tagging system that is defined by a specific community.	The tags and tagging system used at sites such as http://delicious.com/ are folksonomies.
Hacking	The unauthorized access, use, or manipulation of computing resources.	Wired Article on "Internet Hacking for Dummies": http://www.wired.com/science/discoveries/news/1998/02/10459
hashtag	A text marker used on the site Twitter to tag a tweet.	The hashtag #CES2011 was the hashtag for the 2011 Consumer Electronics Show tech trade-show
hyper-blogging	Rapid posting of blog entries, usually with relatively short entries, often consisting one or two sentences.	The Twitter platform is often considered an example of a hyperblog: http://www.twitter.com
iChat	Mac based software that provides instant messaging and video chat capabilities.	The iChat homepage is located at: http://www.apple.com/macosx/what-is-macosx/ichat.html
ICQ	A software program used for instant messaging.	The ICQ homepage: http://www.icq.com/en.html
IM	Short for "Instant Messaging"	An example of an IM conversation, hosted by Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pidgin_Screenshots_Ubuntu.png
IP Addresses	A numeric address assigned to every computer that connects to a network, or more commonly, the Internet.	Examples and further explanation of IP Addresses: http://computer.howstuffworks.com/internet/basics/question549.htm
IRC	Internet Relay Chat, a protocol used for hosting and participating in chatrooms	The homepage of the largest IRC site: http://www.efnet.org/
knowledge re-use database	A database consisting of research datasets or results, designed to emphasize the re-use of that data.	----- -----
LambdaMoo	A specific text based online community.	The LambdaMoo Homepage: http://lambdamoo.info/

listserv	An electronic mailing list or discussion group, where messages are sent via e-mail. Though the name LISTSERV is actually a software package for managing these lists, the name has been co-opted.	The LISTSERV software homepage: http://www.Isoft.com/products/listserv.asp
Livejournal	A blog hosting site that hosts both individual and community blogs.	http://www.livejournal.com
lurking	A behavior specific to online communities, wherein an individual remains silent, observes, and does not participate in the community. Phrase "lurker" can also be used to describe the individual who does this.	A discussion of the ethics of lurking (along with examples) can be found in this article by Dr. Ronald Kizior: http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/law/st_org/iptf/commentary/content/1999060506.html
MMORPG	An acronym for "Massively MultiPlayer Online Role Playing Game". These types of games often involve hundreds of players participating in virtual worlds.	The "World of Warcraft" is a popular MMORPG.
MOO	A text based online virtual environment, often used for text based gaming in real time.	A list of active MOOs: http://www.Isoft.com/products/listserv.asp
MUD	Short for "Multi-User Dungeon", a MUD is a text based online virtual environment, often used for gaming in real time.	A list of active MUDs: http://www.mudconnect.com/
MySpace	A popular social networking site.	http://www.myspace.com
newsgroups	A bulletin board type system for posting messages and content; most often refers to the USENET newsgroups.	The Master List of Newsgroup Hierarchies Homepage: http://web.archive.org/web/20060428060056/www.magma.ca/~leisen/mlnh/mlnh tables.html
online character	An online persona used by an individual.	A tutorial on how to create a (fantasy) online character: http://www.ehow.com/how_4540206_create-fantasy-character-online.html
online survey	Any tool used to collect responses to survey questions via the Internet.	SurveyMonkey, a common site used for conducting online surveys: http://www.surveymonkey.com/
Phishing	A type of fraud that involves attempting to obtain sensitive user information (usernames, passwords, etc) through deceptive means, such as fake websites.	Microsoft's Explanation of Phishing: https://www.microsoft.com/protect/fraud/phishing/symptoms.aspx

Ping	A command used to send a packet of data to an IP address to see if it is reachable from a networked computer.	Wikipedia's example of the results of a ping command: https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/wiki/Ping#Sample_ping_test
Second Life	An online virtual environment, run by LindenLabs.	The Second Life homepage, which includes screenshots of the virtual environment can be found at: http://www.secondlife.com
secure websites	A site that uses the Secure HyperText Transfer Protocol (https)	An example of a secure website: https://www.google.com
Social Engineering	The act of trying to obtain potentially information from individuals under false pretenses using person to person contact.	Symantec's explanation of common approaches taken in social engineering: http://www.symantec.com/connect/articles/social-engineering-fundamentals-part-i-hacker-tactics
social networking site	A site designed to encourage social interaction among it's users.	Facebook is an example of a popular social networking site: http://www.facebook.com
Spam	Unwanted e-mail, usually commercial in nature.	The Federal Trade Commission's "Can-SPAM Act" Compliance Guide: http://business.ftc.gov/documents/bus61-can-spam-act-Compliance-Guide-for-Business
Spyware	Software that sits on a user's computer and collects data about the user without their knowledge or consent.	HowStuffWorks explanation of how Spyware works: http://computer.howstuffworks.com/spyware.htm
trolling	An action designed to provoke a response or create discord among a site's users.	Time Magazine's examples of trolls and trolling: http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1570701,00.html
Tumblr	A blog hosting site that emphasizes the sharing of multimedia content	http://www.tumblr.com
tweet	A term for a single post on Twitter.	An example of a "tweet" from the NASA Twitter page can be found at: http://twitter.com/NASA/status/20146648791
Twitter	A blogging site that limits messages to 140 characters.	http://www.twitter.com
Usenet	A popular bulletin board system that allows individuals to post messages and content.	Searchable archive of more than 700 million Usenet postings from a period of more than 20 years. http://groups.google.com/

virtual community	A group of individuals networked together through association through a virtual environment, homepage, or other internet medium.	Digg is an example of an online community centered around news: http://www.digg.com
Virus	A piece of code that is capable of replicating itself. Generally, these programs are often malicious.	HowStuffWorks explanation of how Viruses work: http://www.howstuffworks.com/virus.htm