



Part Three

Panic Learning / Panic Citizenship

Paul Virilio's argument

- The fast will dominate the slow
- The speed of an object or idea changes its nature



Dromology

A word developed by Virilio to describe how speed is the determinant force in a technological society.

(‘Dromos’ comes from the Greek word for ‘race.’ Virilio describes the ‘science of speed.’)

Virilio and the 'Art of the Accident'

- The speed of change creates the potential for accidents
- The invention of the railway created derailments
- The invention of the internet created data breaches

Impact of the 'art of the accident'

- We become desensitized to tragedy
- Because content is carried at speed, we feel its impact and then move to the next event
- Tragedy is mediated and managed through the speed of media movements

"One of the most important books written on higher education in the last 50 years." —*David A. Green, author of The House That Money Built*

THE KNOW- LEDGE FACTORY

DISMANTLING THE CORPORATE UNIVERSITY
AND CREATING TRUE HIGHER LEARNING



Stanley Aronowitz

The Frontstage of Leadership?

Vice Chancellor Profiles and the Performance of Self

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Doi: 10.23918/ijsses.v8i4p36

Abstract: What makes a Vice Chancellor a Vice Chancellor? This article assesses – through unobtrusive research methods– the 37 public profiles of Australia Vice Chancellors in the nation’s public universities. I deploy non-reactive methods to locate the characteristics deemed of value in each profile, such as qualifications, research field, teaching expertise, personal life, leisure pursuits, and educational and non-educational experiences. I track similarities and differences between the profiles and ponder the development of a ‘genre’ of shared characteristics. In this first international study, the goal is to assess whether recent controversies about university leadership are the result of a ‘few bad apples’ or a systematic valuing of particular attributes and the neglect of other, crucial necessities of university leadership, particularly after a pandemic.

Keywords: University Leadership, Frontstage, Vice Chancellors, Double Refusal, Jean Baudrillard, Erving Goffman

THE PETER PRINCIPLE

Why Things Always Go Wrong



Dr Laurence J. Peter
& Raymond Hull

'The classic book which warned
of the dangers of over-promotion.'

The Times

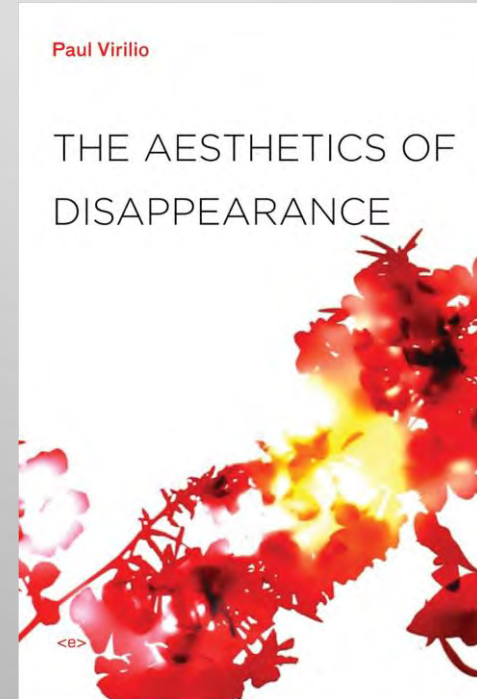
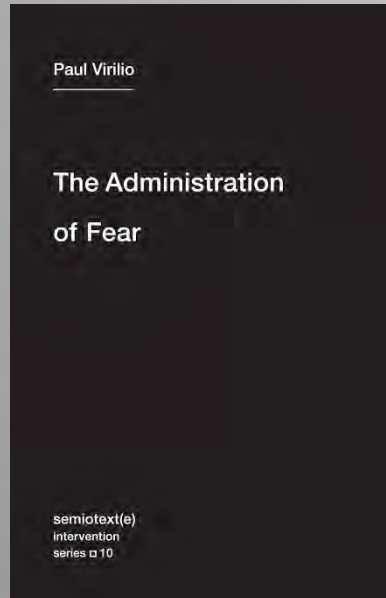
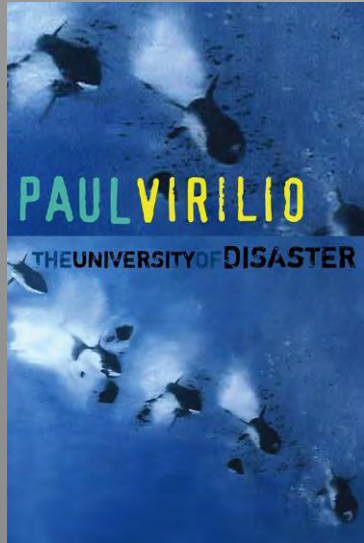


Higher Education: the last twenty years

- Iterative restructures
- Movement away from the core business of teaching and research
- Casualized teaching contracts
- Research reified to the needs of 'industry'
- Instability




“The accident that now replaces all events” Paul Virilio





Part Four

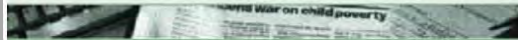
Situated Literacies - Claustropolitanism



Situated Literacies

Reading and Writing in Context

Edited by
David Barton,
Mary Hamilton
and Roz Ivanić



Claustropolis

- A concept from Paul Virilio
- From his 2008 book, *Pure War*
- The current era is moving *cosmopolis* to *claustropolis*
- A response to the Global Financial Crisis (2008)
- The public good was displaced for private greed
- Public health, public education and public libraries suffered to 'bail out' banks





Cosmopolis to Claustropolis

Cosmopolis

- Multiculturalism
- Public good
- Respecting diversity
- Ethics

Claustropolis

- Overcrowding
- Depleted resources
- Gridlocked
- Corrupt

Steve Redhead died while developing the claustropolitanism concept



He died six weeks after this photograph was taken and Theoretical Times was published

From claustropolis to claustropolitanism

- Developed by Steve Redhead
- Started to appear in blogs, podcasts and refereed publications from 2015
- “A structure of feeling” Raymond Williams
- A desire to get off the planet
- An imperative to find safety
- The working class no longer in work
- Reproletarianized middle class in a digitized, globalized, casualized workplace

The critique of cosmopolitan sociology

- The best known cosmopolitan sociologists are: Ulrich Beck, Scott Lash, Zygmunt Bauman and John Urry
- They failed to understand September 11
- They failed to understand the Global Financial Crisis



(Post)Covid Claustropolitanism

- Global condition
- Xenophobia
- Wars
- Border control
- Refugees
- Fear
- Infection
- A foreclosing of the world



Claustropolitanism: a lens to see our future

- To see the consequences of greed, self absorption and ignorance
- To see the consequences of market forces on public education, public health and public libraries
- To necessity to return information literacy to public debates
- To imperative to reconnect health, education and economic priorities



What is in the public good?

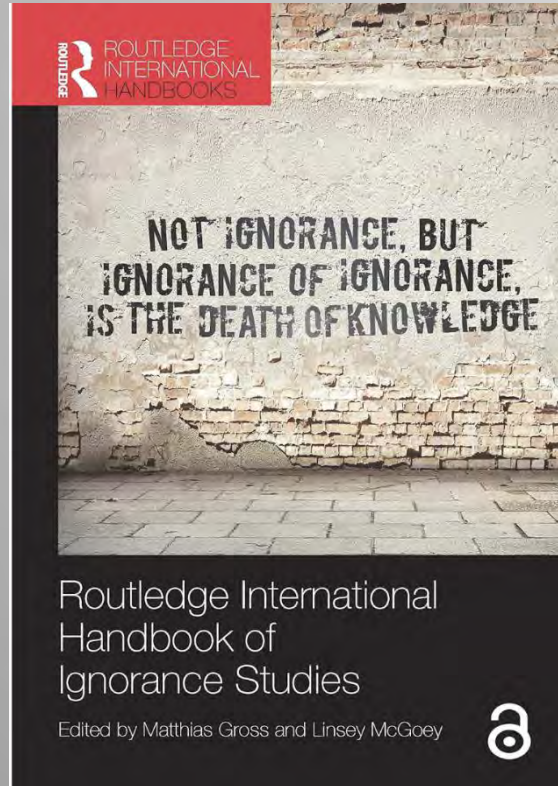


Section Five

Donald Trump, populism and Ignorance Studies



Ignorance Studies






AGNOTOLOGY

[THE MAKING & UNMAKING OF
IGNORANCE]

EDITED BY ROBERT N. PROCTOR & LONDA SCHIEBINGER







T R U M P
AMERICA
FIRST

NEW YORK TIMES and WALL STREET JOURNAL BESTSELLER

The Inside Story of J.P. Morgan and How
Wall St. Greed Corrupted Its Bold Dream and
Created a Financial Catastrophe

FOOLS

HOLD


"A gripping and
indispensable
book."
—*The
New Yorker*

GILLIAN TETT

UPDATED WITH NEW PREFACE AND AFTERWORD

Findings of the JISC Information behaviour of the researcher of the future (2007)

- “There are very very few controlled studies that account for age and information seeking behaviour systematically: as a result there is much mis-information.”
- All researchers – not only ‘young people’ are skim reaching research, reading abstracts rather than drilling deeper into the paper.
- Not only “the Google Generation” reading less, but academics more generally.
- “The information literacy of young people, has not improved with the widening access to technology: in fact, their apparent facility with computers disguises some worrying problems.”
- “Young scholars are using tools that require little skill: they appear satisfied with a very simple or basic form of searching.”
- “Digital literacies and information literacies do not go hand in hand”



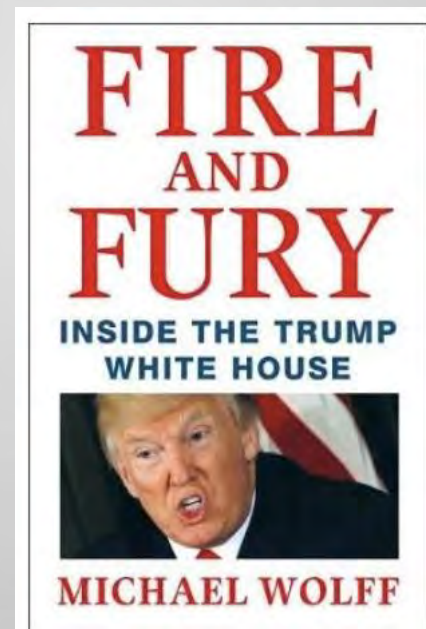
We found consistent evidence that many students were not being appropriately challenged. In a typical semester, 50% of students did not take a single course requiring more than 20 pages of writing, 32% did not have any classes that required reading more than 40 pages per week, and 36% reported studying alone five or fewer hours per week. Not surprisingly, given such a widespread lack of academic rigor, about a third of students failed to demonstrate significant gains in critical thinking, complex reasoning and writing ability (as measured by the collegiate Learning Assessment) during their four years of college.

Richard Arum and Josipa Roksa

Michael Wolff's Fire and Fury

“Trump’s difficulties with reading, writing and close focus”

“The media adopting a ‘shocked shocked’ morality, could not fathom how being factually wrong was not an absolute ending in itself.”



“Because these programs cannot themselves be concerned with truth, and because they are designed to produce text that looks truth-apt without any actual concern for truth, it seems appropriate to call their outputs bullshit.”

Ethics and Information Technology (2024) 26:38
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10676-024-09775-5>

ORIGINAL PAPER



ChatGPT is bullshit

Michael Townsen Hicks¹ · James Humphries¹ · Joe Slater¹

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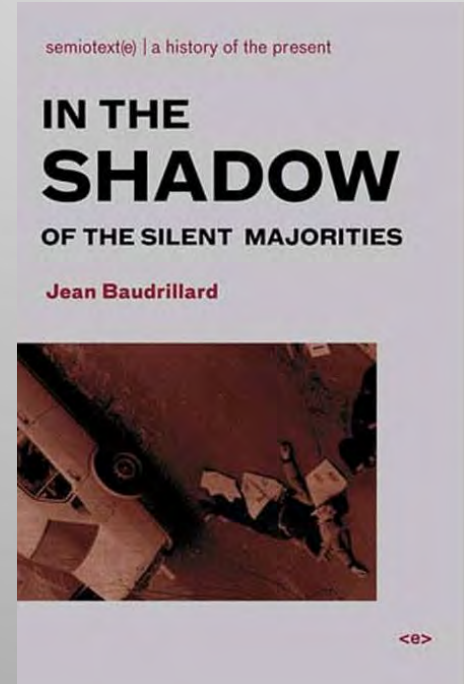
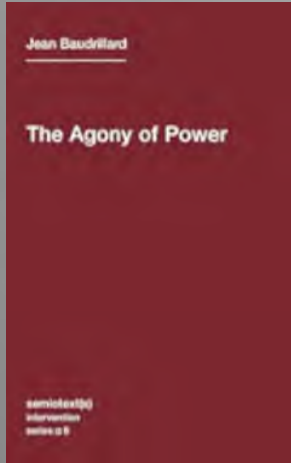
Abstract

Recently, there has been considerable interest in large language models: machine learning systems which produce human-like text and dialogue. Applications of these systems have been plagued by persistent inaccuracies in their output; these are often called “AI hallucinations”. We argue that these falsehoods, and the overall activity of large language models, is better understood as *bullshit* in the sense explored by Frankfurt (On Bullshit, Princeton, 2005): the models are in an important way indifferent to the truth of their outputs. We distinguish two ways in which the models can be said to be bullshitters, and argue that they clearly meet at least one of these definitions. We further argue that describing AI misrepresentations as bullshit is both a more useful and more accurate way of predicting and discussing the behaviour of these systems.

Keywords Artificial intelligence · Large language models · LLMs · ChatGPT · Bullshit · Frankfurt · Assertion · Content

Baudrillard's Double Refusal

- A leader's refusal to dominate and the subject's refusal to be dominated
- The irrational denial of power



Disintermediated racism



Andrew Tate  

@Cobratate

Follow

Juneteenth isn't a real holiday it's ratchet nigger bullshit.

1:30 PM · 19 Jun 24 · **2.5M** Views

1,714 Reposts **1,009** Quotes **23.8K** Likes



Andrew Tate   @Cobratate · 13h

Verified niggers only.


Too many pakis talking shit.

And chinks.

 808

 3.9K

 34.9K

 7.2M





Mike Primavera

@primawesome




My ability to dissociate has become too powerful. Now I'm just watching the fall of America like "hmm yeah that happens to empires" while I look for dog hats on Amazon.

Who is the audience?

What is the context for information?

What are we trying to achieve?



“What we need to consider about the computer has nothing to do with its efficiency as a teaching tool. We need to know in what ways it is altering our conception of learning.”

Neil Postman

Paul Virilio – The Administration of Fear

Paul Virilio


The Administration of Fear

semiotext(e)
intervention
series □ 10



What is our future?

- How to build from 'me' to 'we'?
- How to move from scrolling to reading?



“Men have become the tools of their tools.”

Henry David Thoreau