

# What is access?

LIB 1201 Spring 2012

February 22, 2012

# Personal access to information

- Digital divide
  - New York Times [article](#) from December 2010 & [editorial](#) from December 2011
- Household income & location
- Political: censorship
  - Iran's government [has disrupted internet access](#) before national elections next week
  - Egyptian government [cut internet access](#) during 2011 protests
  - [Google](#) in China
- Free public access to information—online, print, non-text media?
  - Libraries are access points; what about filtering?

# Institutional access to information

- Schools
  - Print: books, textbooks, etc.
  - Internet: ~~sometimes~~ usually filtered
- Libraries
  - Print onsite (circulation records are confidential, or are they? See USA Patriot Act, library records provision)
  - Internet onsite (usually filtered) & offsite
  - Some public libraries have research collections
- Museums
  - Images, art, artifacts
  - Some have specialized research libraries

# The Open Access Movement

Unrestricted access to the results of research published in scholarly journals and the right to use those results to create new knowledge

The Student-run [Right to Research Coalition](#)

supports open research resources ([video](#))

- What about textbooks?
- What about scholarly sources to support research projects?

# Martin, “The Politics of Research”

- Each group works on one concept:
  - Funding and disciplinary disparities (pp. 129-130)
  - Experts and non-experts; why is expertise privileged? (135-136)
  - What is the community model of research? (136-138)
  - Research and social movements (p.141-142)
- Summarize the concept and report to the class
- From small group discussion, generate one or more questions about this concept and ask your classmates to respond

# More on Martin

- How feasible do you think Martin's alternative, “community participation,” is?
  - This article is from 1998 – how do you think the internet advances of the past 11 years have affected this?
- What are Martin’s biases, viewpoints?
- What does it mean when access to information varies by community?
  - What are some implications for individuals?
  - For American society?
  - For the world?

# For Monday, February 27

## *Discussion: Privacy*

changing definitions; challenges of digital media

*Reading:* Marshall, P. (2009, November 6). [Online privacy](#). *CQ Researcher*, 19, 933-956.

boyd, d. (2008). [Facebook's Privacy Trainwreck](#).

*Convergence: The International Journal of Research into New Media Technologies* 14:1, 13-20.

*Assignment:* Write one reading response blog post