

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Rodney H. Jones
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**Topic: Reading People, Writing Machines:
New Literacies for an Era of Mass Surveillance**

Discussion: <http://todaysmeet.com/wrtrhj>



Abstract

This talk explores the kinds of literacy skills students need to develop for a world in which nearly every word they read and write will be recorded, logged, aggregated, and analyzed. It discusses how to critically engage students in understanding the ways the nature of reading and writing has changed in this era of mass surveillance and 'big data', and how they can creatively confront these changes.

Topics that will be discussed include:

- Algorithmic culture (how texts read their readers)
- Writing the self online (social media and identity)
- Curating content (who owns digital texts?)

The talk will present practical classroom activities to help students reflect on the new creative opportunities and the new dangers posed by online writing.

Biodata

Professor Rodney H. Jones is Acting-Head of the Department of English at City University of Hong Kong and co-editor of the journal *Writing and Pedagogy*. His recent books include *Discourse analysis: A resource book for students* (Routledge 2012), and *Understanding digital literacies: A practical introduction* (with Christoph Hafner, Routledge 2012).