Project
Find or create your own images or illustrations of existing or currently imagined ways (i) in which digital technologies are implicated in representations of self, or (ii) in which situations or contexts are opportunities for the use or elimination of digital technologies to facilitate representations of self. This is the research part of the project—we are looking for your design research rather than your own creative concepts. Choose 2-3 contrasting images or illustrations. At least one of your choices must be connected to digital technologies in some way. Explain why your choices contrast and what’s interesting about them in any terms relating to HCID.

The following notions may be particularly helpful: Hierarchy of Needs, Visual Communications, Blogs, Micro-blogging, Portfolios, Professionalism, Publishing, Recognition, Cognition, Identity, Security.

Format:
Your project must be presented on a single landscape mode page in pdf format, for both the initial rough first iteration and the final form completed project. You may include auxiliary files of other media types, as instructed in class. Upload your work to oncourse, as instructed in class. Be certain to reference all of your sources accurately and completely.

The example on the page that follows gives an idea of what a design research project could look like for the purposes of this class assignment. The example is by no means the most ideal project—yours should not be longer, but it can be more compelling and interesting than the example. Neither the sketch nor final examples should be taken as best examples.

DUE Wednesday November 10th no later than 23:59: An initial rough SKETCH first iteration of your ideas for how you will complete this project.

DUE Tuesday November 17th no later than 11:15: A FINAL form completed project.
In 1943, psychologist Abraham Maslow wrote about a now famous “Hierarchy of needs” which serves as a description of what motivates people. These motivations are part of our understanding of who we are and how we would like others to understand us. When we speak of representations of self, there are many levels that we may be discerning and Maslow’s hierarchy is one possible way to think about the facet of selfhood that deals with needs and motivations.

Micro-blogging is a representation of self in the sense that it is motivated in part by the desire to share ones own thoughts and opinions in real time. The idea that others are listening must afford some comfort and recognition to micro-bloggers, and a feeling of selfhood among a community.

Micro-blogging is a more informal representation of self than professional websites and other forms of representation of professional self.

This personal website is a public representation of professional self. The goal of this particular site—my own—is to provide a record of professional contributions to others who may need to interact professionally with me, as well as resources that others may need such as syllabi and projects for my classes, and to promote my writing and other professional work.
Primary Attributions
Erik Stolterman—who will be the guest Judge for project 6.B—reminded me of the frequent reference to Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs in HCI and spent some time discussing the choice of topic for project 6.

Secondary Attributions
The image used as an illustration in the sketch is adapted from a photo of workshop participants at the 2009 Creativity & Cognition Conference in Berkeley taken by the author using a self-timer.
Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs (source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Maslow%27s_Hierarchy_of_Needs.svg @ 11.09.09 under creative commons license)
Micro-blogging (source: http://twitter.com @ 11.09.09)
Professional Personal Website (source: http://eli.informatics.indiana.edu @ 11.09.09)