Transcript of the DigiCiti audio file.

This is Sarah Carstensen reflections on digital citizenship - here after referred to as digi-citi.

I'm going to answer a few questions, the first of which is how has my thinking changed in regards to digi-citi, since the start of ED 654?

One area that I hadn't really thought of when I created my digi-citi list originally, was safety slash security. Though, the basics are ones I've adhered to since getting access to the internet as a teenager.

Such as make sure your computer is protect from viruses/malware, don't go places or do things that are liable to put you at risk - like following sketchy links from emails. Don't give out personal information, or share passwords.

That sort of thing.

I've been doing them so long I don't really think about them, they're just common sense. But when I think about my niece, she is a bit oblivious to that personal responsibility aspect of security. Maybe because she doesn't maintain her own devices.

So I can see where teaching safety and security would be important.

The other topic that I mentioned but didn't go into, and certainly didn't have a name for, was digital literacy. I made points about contributing, constructive criticism, and giving credit where due. But my understanding of those points has expanded to include learning how to read and gather information from digital texts - like sources such as gifs, and memes - and knowing about bias, and media manipulation.

Over all I think that the biggest change to my thinking is that I now have categories to fit the guidelines of digi-citi under. Security, literacy, creation, etiquette, identity. I still think that the points I created originally are all part of digi-citi. They mostly revolve around interaction. Treating others well, being a participating member of various communities, helping to improve those communities when you can.

I feel like these points are all very similar to citizenship in general. Obviously, we are not yet able to vote online, which is a big part of US citizenship, but the idea is being pushed and debated, and even implemented in a limited fashion. So we may see that in the future.

In fact I would argue there is very little difference between general citizenship and digi-citi. Digi-citi is just participation in the citizenship of another level of community - the same way we participate in national, state, and local citizenship.

The second question is how does my understanding of digi-citi influence my work and play?

I am influenced particularly by the ideas of digital footprint or identity, digital etiquette, and creation.

As a teacher, I have to be aware that I'll be under a contract that, at least in Alaska, includes a moral turpitude clause, and that what I post publically could have an impact. There have been cases where teachers in other states have been fired for posting pictures of themselves drinking, for example.

I also don't want to create a bad first impression for potential employers. So I have spaces, such as my website, that are professional. Where I watch my language, and present polished work.

At the same time I have spaces where I'm relaxed, spaces where I interact with friends and don't worry about being polished and professional. For the most part they're kept separate. If I post something about a family issue, I don't think random people on the internet, or even students, need to be privy to it.

Etiquette on the other hand is something that I practice, not particularly as part of digi-citi, but because I believe in treating others well and not being a nuisance. As well as taking responsibility for how you interact with people and the community at large.

As for creation, it's part of both work and entertainment.

As you can probably guess from previous assignments, I draw and create digital graphics. I typically include a list or resources used at the end of the post, even for public domain items. The exception being utility items like fonts or brushes.

Though I may create a resource page where I list my most used utilities, such as the stencil font I used in the bullet journal graphics, and the tips for future students assignment. When I was involved more in fanworks, I kept a similar running list. But I've gotten out of the habit in the last few years, because I haven't been posting much online much.

I think creation is a good way to participate - of being present and contributing.
Not just making graphics, but posting discussions, and reviews or reflections, asking and answering questions.

Which leads me to the third question: how will I be a digital citizen?

Probably by continuing on as I am now. Interacting, and being part of the conversation in places like twitter, creating thoughtful posts and works, or at least entertaining ones, by being respectful, and by teaching my students how to be responsible participants in the digital community.

So, we've reached the end of my somewhat rambling reflection on digital citizenship. I'm looking forward to seeing how the rest of the cohort's opinions have shift or not.

Until next time.