Math 1111: Cryptography, Fall 2017
Paper #1 – Little Brother

In this paper, you'll be asked to make an argument based on your reading of *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow. You'll have to decide what argument you want to make. You might make an argument about security or privacy, responding to such arguments made by characters in the novel. You might question the use of the terms security, privacy, and surveillance. You might critique the actions of one of the main characters in the novel, or the rhetorical approach of the author. Or you might go in some other direction that interests you.

This essay will be graded on both content (including the relevance and complexity of your argument) and clarity (including the appropriateness of your writing voice to academic writing). See the rubric for this assignment for details. Please consider this rubric a guide to my expectations, and not a binding contract on my grading. I reserve the right to make changes to the rubric during the grading process.

LENGTH AND FORMATTING

Your paper should be between 750 and 1000 words in length, and it should use American Psychological Association (APA) formatting for citations and references. Citations appear within the text of your paper, references at the end. Both should be properly formatted. See Purdue University's Online Writing Lab (http://is.gd/UuDWNt) for a useful guide to APA formatting.

DRAFTS AND REVISIONS

A first draft of your paper is due at the start of class on Friday, September 15th. Bring a paper copy since you'll spend part of that class session providing feedback on each other's papers.

A second draft of your paper is due at the start of class on Monday, September 18th, through Brightspace. (Look for "Assignments" in the "Activities & Assessments" menu.) I'll grade this draft and return it to you with feedback on Friday, September 22nd. During class that day, we'll spend some time exploring revision tools and techniques.

Then you'll be required to revise your paper and resubmit it (via Brightspace) by Monday, September 25th. Your final grade on the paper will be your grade after revision, but please note that your final grade won't be more than one letter grade away from your pre-revision grade. (For example, if you receive a C- on the paper you turn in on the 18th, you can make at most a B- on the assignment.)

SCHEDULE

Friday, September 15th   First draft due. Peer review workshop during class.
Monday, September 18th   Second draft due. Provisional grade.
Friday, September 22nd   Second draft returned. Revision workshop during class.
Monday, September 25th   Revision due. Final grade.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please familiarize yourself with Vanderbilt's Honor System. I'm encouraging a lot of sharing and collaboration in this course, but your work on your paper assignments should be your own. Please be careful not to plagiarize. The Writing Studio has a great set of resources on working with sources in academic writing (http://vanderbilt.edu/writing/resources/handouts/). We'll spend some class time exploring plagiarism and academic integrity more generally.

If your life is falling apart and you are tempted to plagiarize to save time or get a good grade, please see me instead. I would rather grant you an extension than send you before the Honor Council.