Name:

Technology for International Development

94-812 - Fall 2015

Final Exam

Due Thursday, December 10, 11:59:59pm to Blackboard

# Logistics:

## This is a take-home, open-notes, open-papers, and open-wiki exam.

## This is an individual exam. You are not to discuss any aspect of the exam with any other class member.

## ***All words must be your own***. Cutting and pasting from any other source will be considered cheating.

## The exam should be posted to the wiki by…. just joking, that would not make sense.

## Use Microsoft Word or some similar word processing program that can read and write .docx format files.

## Submit the completed exam, as a .docx file (**not** a pdf or other format) to Blackboard, in the ***Final Exam*** assignment slot. If you send a pdf I will dock you 5% and ask you to resubmit.

## Be sure to *Submit* your file once you upload it to Blackboard.

## Exams received on or after 12:00:00am December 11 will lose 5% per day.

## No exams will be accepted by email

There has been a lot of debate concerning Internet.org and its goals. In this class we have looked at many uses of technology to meet development goals, many of which are made possible by the use of mobile phones.

**READ:** The Emerging Mobile Internet Underclass: A Critique of Mobile Internet Access  
 (A link to this paper is provided in the Final exam section of the T4ID wiki. )

**RESEARCH:** Internet.org

**WRITE:** Drawing on your experience in this class, write a position piece (700-900 words) contributing to the debate regarding Internet.org. To support your position, review three T4ID cases we have discussed in this course in light of how it would work, or not work, with the Internet.org "Free Basics" program.

In your piece:

* Start by stating your position on Internet.org
  + Your position can be descriptive, prescriptive, or even normative
* Review Internet.org in terms of the framework used in the Napoli and Obar paper. It looked at 3 issues of "technological capabilities" (memory/storage/speed, content availability, and network/platform architecture) 2 issues of "usage patterns" (information seeking and content creation), and "skill sets across platforms".
  + Note: Internet.org may be neutral, positive, or negative on any of these issues.
  + You can agree, disagree, or be neutral as to the value of each of these issues in terms of your position.
* Analyze 3 cases that we discussed in class in terms of how its social benefit would likely be helped or hindered by Internet.org.
  + These should be about specific technology interventions.
  + Be sure to cite the title and author(s) of each case you mention.
* Summarize and conclude your thesis argument
* Do **not** go over 900 words. ( -1 point for every 10 words over 900)

Grading Points:

4 – clear statement of your position

18 – Review of Internet.org in terms of the Napoli and Obar paper

18 – Analysis of 3 sources from class

5 – Clear summarization of the argument

5 – Overall quality of the argument

A position piece is more subjective than a formal essay. It expresses an opinion, but relies on research and argument more than a strict opinion piece would. It is different than a debate in that it takes one side of the argument and selects information to support that position. To be persuasive, however, it needs to be aware of and address the counterarguments. It is argued from the first person "I".