

Richard Graham Understanding Google

5000 Years of Human Thought in 0.3 Seconds

5.30–7pm Tuesday, 12 March 2019 John Percival Building 2.01

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Richard Graham is a Lecturer in Contemporary Literature and the Digital at the University of Birmingham. He specialises in exploring the intersection of technology, language and culture in global contemporary media. His current project Understanding Google investigates how to analyse dynamic digital technologies, such as Google's search engine, from a humanities perspective. Richard's most recent published work explores Google's role in the dissemination of fake news and the changing nature of work and digital labour.

This talk addresses a range of issues concerning the nature of internet search technologies, including how our identities are interpreted algorithmically and how search engines provide individuals with different results based on various criteria. The paper will also consider the social impact of harnessing big data and machine learning to make linguistic judgements, which often lead to the propagation of sexist, racist or extremist views.

