Assignment 3: Xinformatics (Spring 2016) (10% written and 5% for presentation)  
Due: TUESDAY March 22, 2016 (by 12pm ET) for written  
Submission method: written document and presentation (after you present it) by email to pfox@cs.rpi.edu and Jessica Jones jonesj17@rpi.edu  
Please use the following file naming for electronic submission: Xinformatics2016_A3_YOURFIRSTNAME_YOURLASTNAME.xxx  
Late submission policy: first time with valid reason – no penalty, otherwise 20% of score deducted each late day  
Note - Office hours: Monday 3-4, Winslow 2120  

Note: Your report for this assignment should be the result of your own individual work. Take care to avoid plagiarism (“copying”), and include references to all web resources, texts, and class presentations. You may discuss the problems with other students, but do not take written notes during these discussions, and do not share your written solutions.  

General assignment: Analysis of cognitive, collection and social/cultural aspects of information systems in signs - discussed and decomposed. The weighting score for each question is included below. Please use the question numbering (1-4) below for your written responses for this assignment. Choose a signage ‘system’. Pick an analog or digital information system that utilizes ‘signs’ (icons, indices, symbols). It can be one you like or dislike.  

1. Write min. 1-2 sentences on why you made your choice. Include a graphic of your chosen information system. (1%)  
2. Describe signs in the system you chose and why it is a “system” and use the Class 2 system “properties, attributes and leverage points” to frame your description. Write min. 2-3 sentences per sign for at least 3 signs. Graduate question (6400-level): calculate or estimate the uncertainty in the information content for part or all of the information system. (3%)  
3. Semiotic analysis: classify the signs according to categories defined in class, e.g. what is the signifier and what is signified; what is the index and indicate which are icons, or symbols? Min. 1 sentence per sign component. Describe the “code” or paradigm used. Min. 1-2 sentences. (3%)  
4. For your chosen signage system what library, cognitive and/ or social science principles have been applied in their development? What, if any, attention is given to syntax, semantics, and pragmatics; describe them - min. 3-4 sentences (3%)  
5. Present in class. Discuss the relevant informatics considerations from questions 1 (why), 2 (system aspects) , 3 (semiotics), and 4 (principles applied). Present for ~ 5 mins (~3-5 slides) with a few questions to follow (5%).