

## Assignment #1: Remix Benkler

*The Wealth of Networks: How social production transforms markets and freedom*  
by Yochai Benkler

Work in groups.

Use the wiki as a scratch pad for sharing ideas. <http://frazer.rice.edu/315/>

Instructions:

**Step 1.** Remix Benkler. Pay attention to the licensing constraints: no commercial use... attribution is required, remixes must use the same license (“share-alike”).

Ideas:

- \* make use of others? can you harness “peer production” somehow?
- \* why remix?
  - improving it
    - ease of reading
  - critiquing it
  - extending it through example
  - media-shifting (as audio/video or as diagram etc.)
  - refining it
  - clarifying key concepts such as:
    - rival/non-rival
    - excludable/non-excludable
    - transactions costs
    - the price system
    - Commons
    - Limited common property
    - Relevance
    - Accreditation

**Step 2.** Write a brief, coherent essay on the process and problems of re-mixing an academic book.

Describe what you tried to do; assess whether it worked, and reflect on the differences between this kind of “peer-production” and other forms like Free Software, music sampling, wikipedia, etc. (2000-3000 words). Due in class Thursday September 28th