



CourseCast of the Week – November 17, 2008 – Episode 75

Key Topics:

- Welcome to the Social
- Spam Slapped Back
- Gloom, Despair and Agony on IT
- News Briefs

Talk About It:

1. What is Spam? How much did the amount of spam on the Internet drop last week? Which company was responsible for generating a large amount of the Spam? What type of company is it? What was the company's primary purpose? (Spam Slapped Back)
2. Who hacked into the White House? What was illegally accessed? What concerns does this raise? (News Briefs)

Explore Technology:

1. Visit windowslive.com. What information can be found on the Web site? What type of applications can you run from windowslive.com? What impact might this have on Internet users? (Welcome to the Social)
2. Explore how Spam began. What was its purpose, and where did it originate? Do you read Spam email? In your opinion, how effective is Spam? Do you think Spam will ever go away? Why or why not? (Spam Slapped Back)

Think Critically:

1. How likely will you be to switch from your current applications to the ones found on windowslive.com? Why? (Welcome to the Social)
2. Research the technology employed to determine how Google is used to predict the flu. How might these results be used? What other data might Google predict? Are there dangers to such tracking? (News Briefs)