

OUR SIMULATED WORLD

Have we crossed over into Baudrillard's final stage of "simulacra," where "our models for the real have taken over the place of the real in postmodern society," or where the artificial has become preferable to the real? Or do we still value "authenticity" and "real" experience over the artificial? What are the implications for human society, both positive and negative?

[Handout on Baudrillard's "four successive phases of simulation"](#)

FOOD & DRUGS

[Food and Drug Administration: Broiler Chickens](#)

[Artificial coloring](#) and [flavoring](#) and scent ([scent marketing](#))

[BGH – Bovine Growth Hormone](#)

FDA standards - i.e. amount of feces that is acceptable

[Meat substitute](#) – mechanically separated meat, [meat "filler" in tacos](#)

Pill substitutes for the "real" thing - [opiates](#) and [antibiotics](#)

[E-Cigs](#) and [Cigarettes](#)

BEAUTY & HEALTH

[Plastic surgery](#) – face lifts, tummy tucks, [botox](#)

Enlargements, enhancements, reductions, lipo

Reconstructive surgery – [artificial limbs](#), organs, etc.

[Tanning](#) - tanning beds, tan in a can, etc.

Hair color (extensions, wigs), straighteners and curlers, permanent make-up

ENVIRONMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

Sod, or [football field turf](#)

Golf Courses (in [Arizona](#), for example)

[Plastic plants](#) and [Christmas trees](#)

[Air conditioning](#) - [climate control](#)

Las Vegas - [The Venetian](#) & [Luxor](#)

Disney World - [Sim Snow](#), [Soarin' Around the World](#)

[Seaside, FL](#)

[Virtual Reality](#) and [Video Games](#)

Consider the links as a starting place only, and seek to find the best and most recent source(s) for your specific topic.