**Strand 1 – Toffler’s Three Waves**

First Wave – The Agricultural Age: Entire civilizations were tied to the land for survival, using trial and error to improve farming methods. This was the predominant preoccupation in human societies until approximately 1750 <http://jolt.law.harvard.edu/articles/pdf/v09/09HarvJLTech225.pdf>

Second Wave – The Industrial Age: This age began with the Industrial Revolution around 1750 in Europe. Changes modernized agriculture, manufacturing, mining, transportation, and technology practices of the day and moved many individuals from the country into more urban areas. Specific innovations included the mechanization of the textile industries, the development of iron-making techniques, and the increased use of refined coal. <http://www.nwlink.com/~donclark/history_knowledge/toffler.html>

Third Wave – The Information Age: This age may have begun with the advent of the telegraph, but most researchers attribute the October 4th launching of Sputnik in 1957 as the trigger action that began a much stronger use of computers in human society. http://space.about.com/cs/history/a/sputnik1.htm

Fourth Wave – Global Community: This era of world-wide communication began around 1990 with the work of Tim Berners-Lee and his development of HTML documents and the first web browser. <http://www.worldtrans.org/whole/fourthwave.html>