

Internet and Society

Prof. Ilan Talmud

Course Number: 702.2451.01.A

Class Time: TBA

Class Location: TBA

Office Hours: Tues 16-17?

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Course Description:

This course surveys the relations between the Internet and society. We will discuss the emergence of network society; the nature of the Internet as a social structure using models of social networks; the ways social relations are formed and maintained via computer mediated communication; kinds of digital divides, developments in the Internet economy, and the impact of algorithmic regulation of digital information on everyday practice, journalism, and privacy.

Course Requirements:

Presence, reading and a term paper.

Grade Assessment:

- 6 excerpts from class readings (1 page each). Each excerpt will be graded as 2 points (total 12 points).
- A term paper grade comprised of 88% of the final grade.

The term paper will be offered by the student on the general subject of the course, upon my approval and guidance.

Course Outline and Reading List

Information Society and Networked Individualism

Castelles, M. (1996). *The Rise of Network Society*. [Vol. 1 of *The Information Age: Economy, Society and Culture*]. Oxford, Blackwell: Chs. 1, 5, 6.

Barry Wellman, (nd) **Little Boxes, Glocalization, and Networked Individualism**,
<http://calchong.tripod.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/LittleBoxes.pdf>

Elements of Network Structure

Introduction: Elements of Network Theory Demonstrating analytically and graphically applications and relevance of social network analysis using Software UCINET 6.

A short animation of global networks: Network Earth.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZ3OmlbtaMU>

Kadushin, C. (2004) *Introduction to Social Network Theory* Chapter 2. "Some Basic Network Concepts and Propositions".

Wellman, Barry. 1988. "Structural Analysis: From Method and Metaphor to Theory and Substance". In Barry. Wellman and S. D. Berkowitz (eds.) *Social Structures: A Network Approach*. Pp. 19-61. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Domestication of the Internet

Brynin, M., & Kraut, R. (2006). Social Studies Of Domestic Information And Communication Technologies. In R. E. Kraut, B. Malcolm, & S. Kiesler, *Computers, Phones And The Internet: Domesticating Information Technology* (pp. 3-17). New York: Oxford University Press. At: <http://kraut.hciresearch.org/sites/kraut.hciresearch.org/files/articles/Byrnin04-SocialStudiesOfICT.pdf>

Theories of Computer-Mediated Communication

Mesch G. and I. Talmud (2006). Online Friendship Formation, Communication Channels, and Social Closeness *International Journal of Internet Science* 1 (1), 29-44.

Mesch G. and I. Talmud (2007). Editorial Comment: "E-Relationships - The blurring and reconfiguration of offline and online social boundaries" *Information Communication and Society* (5):585-589

Mesch, Gustavo, Anabel Quase-Han and Ilan Talmud (2012). IM Social Networks: Individual, Relational and Cultural Characteristics. *Journal of Personal and Social Relationships*, 29, 6: pp. 736-759. available at <http://www.ijis.net/>

Weixu Lu and Keith N Hampton (2016). "Beyond the power of networks: Differentiating network structure from social media affordances for perceived social support" *New Media & Society*—1 -19

Internet and Political Participation

Gustavo Mesch and Ilan Talmud (2010). "[Internet Connectivity, Community Participation, and Place Attachment: A longitudinal Study](#)", *American Behavioral Scientist*. 53 1095-1110.

- Wellman, B. A. Quan Haase, J. Witte, and K., Hampton (2001). "Does the Internet Increase, Decrease, or Supplement Social Capital?" *American Behavioral Scientist* 45 (3): 436-455. <http://www.chase.utoronto.ca/~wellman/publications/index.htm>
- Oser, J., Hooghe, M., & Marien, S. (2013). Is online participation distinct from offline participation? A latent class analysis of participation types and their stratification. *Political Research Quarterly*, 66(1), 91- 101
- W. Lance Bennett & Alexandra Segerberg (2012) The Logic of Connective Action, *Information, Communication & Society*, 15:5, 739-768, DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2012.670661
- González-Bailón, S. and N. Wang (2016). Networked discontent: The anatomy of protest campaigns insocial media *Social Networks* 44: 95–104

Digital Divides

- van Dijk, J. A.G.M. (2006). Digital Divide Research, Achievements and Shortcomings. *Poetics*, 34(1), 221-235.
- Graham, M (2011). ["Time Machines and Virtual Portals: The Spatialities of the Digital Divide". *Progress in Development Studies*. 11 \(3\): 211–227. doi:10.1177/146499341001100303](#)
- Mesch, G., Talmud, I., & Kolobov, T. (2013). Explaining digital inequalities in Israel: Juxtaposing the conflict and cultural perspectives. In M. Ragnedda & G. W. Muschert (Eds.), *The digital divide: The internet and social inequality in international perspective* (Vol. 73, pp. 220-234): Routledge.

Online Journalism and Digital Attention

- Boczkowski, P. J. (2004). The processes of adopting multimedia and interactivity in three online newsrooms. *Journal of communication*, 54(2), 197-213.
- Mitchelstein, E., & Boczkowski, P. J. (2009). Between tradition and change: A review of recent research on online news production. *Journalism*, 10(5), 562-586.
- Boczkowski, P. (2013). The continual transformation of online news in the digital age. *Communication & Society*, 25, 1-26.
- Matthias R, M. 2014. The Twitterization of news making: Transparency and journalistic professionalism. *Journal of Communication*, 806-826.
- Anderson, C.W. 2012. Towards a sociology of computational and algorithmic journalism. *New Media & Society*, 1-17.

Robert W. McChesney (2016) Journalism is dead! Long live journalism?: why democratic societies will need to subsidise future news production, *Journal of Media Business Studies*, 13:3, 128-135, DOI: 10.1080/16522354.2016.1184919

The Surveillance State and Corporate Algorithmic Regulation: Control, Privacy and Exposure

Zuboff, S. (2015) Big Other: Surveillance Capitalism and the Prospects of an Informal Civilization. *Journal of Information Technology* 30: 75-89.

Smit E.G. , Guda Van Noort, Hilde A.M. Voorveld (2014). Understanding online behavioural advertising: User knowledge, privacy concerns and online coping behaviour in Europe *Computers in Human Behavior* 32 (2014) 15–22

Striphas, T. (2015) Algorithmic culture *European Journal of Cultural Studies* Vol. 18(4-5) 395–412

Dourish P. (2016). Algorithms and their others: Algorithmic culture in context *Big Data & Society* July–December

The Internet as a Common vs. Arena of Corporate Control

Karlstrøm H. (2014) Do libertarians dream of electric coins? The material embeddedness of Bitcoin, *Distinktion: Scandinavian Journal of Social Theory*, 15:1, 23-36

Benkler Y. 2016, Peer production, the commons, and the future of the firm, *Strategic Organization* 1–11. Vs. his

Benkler Y. 2016 Degrees of Freedom, Dimensions of Power, *Daedalus* 18-32.

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