

On the Cultures of Facebook

CFI-Seminar on Tuesday November 17th 2009 in IT-Park,
Wiener Building, room 030, Helsingforsgade 14, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark

Program

- 13.30-14.30 Assistant Professor Ira Wagman, Canada:
The Many Faces, Places, and Interfaces of Facebook
- 14.30-14.45 Coffee Break
- 14.45-15.15 Professor Charles Ess, USA:
Facebook and Ethics: Preliminary Issues, Possible Frameworks and Resolutions
- 15.15-15.45 PhD Fellow Stine Lomborg, Denmark:
The Sociability of Social Media
- 15.45-16.15 Associate Professor Jakob Linnaa Jensen, Denmark:
The Internet Omnopticon – back to the Medieval Village?
- 16.15-16.30 Break
- 16.30-17.00 Assistant Researcher Anja Bechmann, Denmark:
Around Me: Social Software in a Cross-Media Perspective
- 17.00-17.30 Associate Professor Lisbeth Klastруп, Denmark:
Facebook and Social Stories
- 18.30-22.00 Dinner in restaurant (at own expense)

If you wish to participate in the seminar, please send an email to Anja Bechmann anjabp@gmail.com, before November 13. More information on: <http://www.cfi.au.dk>.

about an hour ago

Pedram Keyani uploaded a mobile photo.

Presentations

The Many Faces, Places, and Interfaces of Facebook

Ira Wagman, Canada

Erasmus Mundus Visiting Scholar in Media and Journalism within Globalization
University of Arhus (November 2009)
Assistant Professor, Communication Studies
School of Journalism and Communication, Carleton University
Ottawa, CANADA

This presentation provides an introduction to the day-long seminar. It provides a brief introduction to the history of Facebook and the development of the online activities we now call “social networking”. In the remainder of the talk, I isolate three aspects about Facebook -- its use for professional networking and for distractions, the place-specific ads that line the sides of the page, and recent controversies about changes to the site’s design – to warn against falling into some well-worn analytical traps that have characterized studies of old media and to call for greater comparative work on how Facebook has been used in different societies and by different groups of users.

Facebook and Ethics: Preliminary Issues, Possible Frameworks and Resolutions

Professor Charles Ess, USA:

Facebook and other forms of social networking have simultaneously opened up: (1) a striking range of often new facilities and affordances of communication; (2) both familiar and new ethical concerns, beginning with privacy; (3) and thereby what has become a dominant field of Internet research - and thereby (4) new ethical challenges to Internet researchers. As usual, ethical reflection has lagged behind empirical research - but I will sketch out at least a preliminary overview of some of the significant ethical concerns for both users and researchers, along with possible frameworks for their analysis and resolution.

The Sociability of Social Media

PhD Fellow Stine Lomborg, Denmark

Using the concept of 'sociability' as a focal point the talk will explore network-based social media as distinct conversational spaces that emerge in and through users' practical management of tensions between public and private.

The Internet Omnopticon – back to the Medieval Village?

Associate Professor Jakob Linnaa Jensen, Denmark

Modern societies have been alienating as well as liberating for the individual. Liberating because it has been possible to hide, to choose individual lifestyle and to escape the close mutual surveillance of archaic, not at least medieval societies. However, Facebook and similar social media re-actualize medieval phenomena and concepts like the pillory, the village gossip and ubiquitous, mutual surveillance. This time, however, we voluntarily participate in social interactions which have been labeled “collaborative” or “participatory surveillance”. I discuss how, social network sites facilitate an Internet Omnopticon, where everybody can watch everybody and outline some wider social consequences. The speech includes new figures from a Danish 2009 survey on the Danes’ conceptions and use of Facebook and other social media.

Around Me: Social Software in a Cross-Media Perspective

Assistant Researcher Anja Bechmann, Denmark

The presentation will discuss social software in a cross-media perspective. How can social software be seen in a cross-media perspective and how is social software used by traditional media? The talk will include cases such as Facebook, YouTube, DR (Danish Broadcast Corporation). The presentation will outline different ways of viewing social software in a cross-media perspective.

Facebook and social stories

Associate Professor Lisbeth Klastrup, Denmark

This presentation discusses the practice of “social storytelling” through status updates and pictures on Facebook. How do social identity work, group cultures and interaction design inform the

practices of telling and sharing on a social network site, and what are the emerging formats and practices of social storytelling on Facebook and how do users make sense of these stories?

Tentative answers are provided by examining a number of status updates and Facebook stories written by both ordinary people and professional writers.