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Planning & Agenda Development Doc
for Workshop:

CyberAnthropology – Being Human on the Internet

We aim to make each workshop as interactive, productive and fun as possible. Hence we offer you this document to facilitate and support you and your workshop-peers planning, structuring before the workshop as well as collaboration during the workshop.

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Please Subscribe to the Workshop Mailinglist

Each workshop has a dedicated mailinglist to allow for deliberation and planning of the workshop as well as possible follow up.

We invite all participants to subscribe to the workshop's mailing list sending an (empty) email to: hiig-cyberanthropology+subscribe@googlegroups.com or by [signing up here \(either create a google account or use your existing\)](#)

You can review the past conversations in the list's archive:

<http://groups.google.com/group/hiig-cyberanthropology?hl=en>

Workshop Profile

| | |
|----------|--|
| Abstract | <i>CyberAnthropology</i> is an approach that submits anthropological and philosophical questions (as well as sociological, political and linguistic questions including questions of constitutional law arising from them) to different fields associated with the internet – which has not been done in this specific transdisciplinary way in previous research. We analyse changes, developments and continuities between |
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| | <p>the lifeworld of users and new possibilities of participation on the internet, taking into account different methods given by different disciplines. We also raise the question of how the interaction between us human beings and the medium of the internet can be grasped theoretically and how human behaviours, needs and desires correlate with it practically. <i>CyberAnthropology</i> thus targets the questions of how the human being understands itself and others, how it structures its lifeworld when embedded in virtual environments, in face of the challenges posed by the internet as the dominating medium. Is the internet a new virtual reality or just the representation of old norms and habits? Can we speak of a “cyber citizen” and has the “animal socio-politicum” changed in the light of the internet as a primary form of communication and source of knowledge? How do interest groups form, if one considers the fact that the internet transcends local, regional, national, ethnical and social boundaries? How do new boundaries and normative orders emerge?</p> |
| Person + functions | <p>Johanna Sprondel sprondel@rewi.hu-berlin, Thiemo Breyer thiemo.breyer@med.uni-heidelberg.de, Maren Wehrle maren.wehrle@philosophie.uni-freiburg.de (Speakers); Catharina Maracke (Chair) cmaracke@sfc.keio.ac.jp Thorsten Thiel (Respondent) thorsten.thiel@googlemail.com, Anna-Bettina Kaiser (Rapporteur) anna-bettina.kaiser@rewi.hu-berlin.de</p> |
| Contact at Institute | |
| Director | |
| Time slot | Oct 27, 14:15 – 16:00 |
| Connections to other workshops and papers | |

WORKSHOP Agenda (Minute Stream)

Standard Introduction

- Welcoming
- Presentation of the agenda
- Explaining the tool collaborative-minute-taker
- Introducing the format

5 min. Ingolf Pernice: Opening, welcome, thanks

10 min. Catharina Maracke: Introduction - the framework

- Examples: Cartoons from the "[The New Yorker](#)" and ...
- What does it mean to be on the Internet?
- concept of a Cyber user / citizen?
- The Internet is not growing apart from the real world, it is emerging with it >> no division between on- and offline
- How do ethics morals develop in the internet?
- article on offline and online: don't make that distinction! **Author?**

15 min. Thorsten Thiel: Presentation of the paper - key questions

- Clarifying what the concept is about, from a social scientist perspective...
- broad project, inclusive, prefers the interdisciplinary approach
- The anthropology of and in cyberspace or Cyberanthropology is a minor subbranch of sociocultural anthropology that deals with cybernetic systems, the culturally informed interrelationships between human beings and technologies. These interrelationships include the attempts to fuse technological artifacts with human and other biological organisms, with human society, and with the culturally shaped environment.
- Web-based forms of communication as a starting, how does it reflect on communication and the human being...
- How does a human being understand itself in a virtual/ real reality
 - its not a new term (www.cyberanthropology.de and .net)
- Changes in process of identity creation / formation (e.g. filtering regarding the information available about a person)
 - no separation between online and offline world
- Shaping the technology in order to shape the identity
- Shaping of Personality takes place on the web, online personae merges with offline personae
 - who we are, what do we know
 - preferences
 - formerly invisible discourses are now displayed online
- Shaping NORMS to fit the online world, representation of normality and identity
- new approach in the project via text-hermeneutics
- Sociologist view (in addition to the paper)
 - How to explain being humane on the Internet?
 - Changes due to social networks
 - Possibilities to express signal belonging and to form groups, to stay visible
 - changes in social behaviour
 - sharing information, goods
 - regardless of location, time, gender, age, digital literacy
 - **Norms Practices and Technology**
 - how does the changing actually take place?
 - norms and technology should / might play a greater role in the project
 - how to integrate quantitative and qualitative research and collaborate with other disciplines

Q&R

- [NAME?...] Standards for evidence (should be the Focus)
 - Using the term anthropology?
 - Anthropology to look back at how people looked at human behaviour (e.g. language)
 - No separation in between perspective
 - different traditions (ethnography, field research etc.)
 - universal trend in human behaviour, bridging the gap in given approaches to apply adequate methods in the Virtuality
- [NAME?...] Considering the history of communicative formation
 - stages as communication/ process of the elaborate what of how communication grew into account in political, sociological discourse...

15 min. Thiemo Breyer, Johanna Sprondel. Maren Wehrle: Clarifications, answers to the questions, key issues

- phenomenological approach
- how do we structure our space
- translation into a virtual space - virtualisation of the lifeworlds
- embody subjectivity in a phenomenological approach
 - lifeworld everydayness? no longer appropriate
 - the Internet is embedded
- No intention to work against empirical anthropology
 - rather integrating it
 - include other disciplinarity
- Is Internet a real virtuality or vice versa? new culture of real reality?
- concept of experience in the real world embedded in the Internet
- real aspects in virtuality, engagement: Norms Practices and Technology
- redefine online offline experience ...
- intersubjective source of knowledge, information, networks - thereby focusing on global / local aspects
- needs, motivation

Methodology

- taking hermeneutics into account
 - mimesis: receiving sth and using that it changes urself
 - one: perception of the world
 - two: experience and put it in text
 - three: text bases for analyze
 - Having a program, a circle of mimesis, showing us differences (spiral) reflecting on the world
 - Lifeworld of needs (daily life)
 - differences in people
 - things change through education, culture, history, technology (information)
 - Chronological scale of technologies in communication (kittler telegraph research)
 - Circle> experience, sharing ex, reception of ex.
 - how do perception and experience merge
 - chain of explanation and receiving (dialog of matters)

40 min. Discussion of the research questions - conclusions by the speaker

1. Fine Tune the project
2. Q: Discussing being human and reality
 - what the humane / reality means? its a version of it, cause of a lack of knowledge. its still in transition
 - no grid on fundamental issues in realworld
3. Q: Archive on the internet?
4. Q: deal with Facts?
5. Q: which Data?
6. Q: Vocabulary?
7. Q: Handle Crime/ where is the cut? Connections real virtual

8. **Q: Expressing emotions on the internet (envy) Data**

9. Q: How does it feel to push a button?
10. Q: Is there empirical research
11. Q: internet is a machine? artificial intelligence... How long can u differ computer and human reactions to your actions...
12. Q: Experience of a machine acting like a human (empathy design)
13. Q: Will the machine be able to stop unplugging it?
- 14.

5 min. Catharina Maracke and Anna-Bettina Kaiser: Conclusions and perspectives

- thank you and byebye

15 min. Bilateral talks, preparation of the rapport (rapporteur/chair)