

Internet and Society. Social Theory in the Information Age

Course code: 300211

Winter semester

Course Description:

This course examines the impact of information technologies on individuals, cultures and societies.

Course outline:

- What is the Information Society?
- Manuel Castells and the Network Society
- The history and growth of the internet
- The geography of the internet
- Information economics
- Intellectual property and the information commons
- Digital culture and digital communities
- Digital panopticon and freedoms
- The networked self
- Internet and democracy: governmental transparency and citizen's political participation
- Information access and digital divide

Required Texts:

The Information Society Course Book

[http://sil.demes.teiwest.gr/sites/default/files/article%20\(17\).pdf](http://sil.demes.teiwest.gr/sites/default/files/article%20(17).pdf)

Castells, M. (2002), *The Internet Galaxy: Reflections on the Internet, Business, and Society*. London and New York: Oxford University Press.

Course Evaluation for Erasmus Students: One essay of 3.000-3.500 words based on the above topics and readings, due in the exam period.