Educational, Psychological, and Behavioral Considerations in Niche Online Communities

Part of the Advances in Social Networking and Online Communities Book Series

Vivek Venkatesh (Concordia University, Canada),
Jason Wallin (University of Alberta, Canada),
Juan Carlos Castro (Concordia University, Canada), and
Jason Edward Lewis (Concordia University, Canada)

Online communities continue to evolve as more people take on a virtual presence. This shift in online communities and the diversity of individuals populating the web has allowed for the emergence of virtual communities centered on niche topics of interests ranging from heavy metal music to indigenous and native culture.

Educational, Psychological, and Behavioral Considerations in Niche Online Communities examines the presence of online communities centered around niche topics of interest and the impact of these virtual spaces on community members. Taking perspectives from interdisciplinary fields such as sociology, psychology, and education, this publication will appeal to educators, psychologists, behaviorists, students, and researchers interested in the impact of virtual communities on individuals as well as the opportunities these online communities present.

Topics Covered:
- Computer-Mediated Communication
- Cyber Behavior
- Virtual Learning Environments
- Online Identity
- Digital Leadership
- Leadership in Online Communities
- Niche Online Communities
- Virtual Subcultures
Section 1: Art and Art Education

Chapter 1
The Art of Gaming
Kerry Freedman (Northern Illinois University, USA)

Chapter 2
Gleaning Strategies for Knowledge-Sharing and Collective Assessment in the Art Classroom from the Videogame, “Little Big Planet: Creator Spotlights”
Renee Jackson (Concordia University, Canada)
William Robinson (Concordia University, Canada)
Bart Simson (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 3
Informal Visual Networks
Emiel Heijnen (Amsterdam School of the Arts, The Netherlands & Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands)

Chapter 4
Constructing Quilts, Online Communities, and Quilter Logics
Jessica Haak (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 5
Niche and Community Online
Patti Pente (University of Alberta, Canada)

Section 2: Feminist Perspective

Chapter 6
Leveling (Up) the Playing Field
Sarmista Das (Champlain College Saint-Lambert, Canada)

Chapter 7
Gendered Subjectivities and Cyberspace Dialogues in Lebanon
Jihan Rabah (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 8
Women Milbloggers
Svetlana Makeyeva (The Institute for British and American Studies, Germany)

Chapter 9
Re-Envisioning a Heroine’s Journey
Marjorie Cohee Manifold (Indiana University, USA)

Section 3: Pedagogy and Learning

Chapter 10
Citizenship at the Edge of Two Worlds
Robert McGray (Concordia University, Canada)
Tieja Thomas (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 11
Social Presence in Online Dissertation Classes
Libi Shen (University of Phoenix, USA)
Irene Linlin Chen (University of Houston Downtown, USA)

Chapter 12
Ratchet Head Pedagogy
Ann-Louise Davidson (Concordia University, Canada)
Sylvain Durocher (Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada)

Chapter 13
Citizen In/Action
Tieja Thomas (Concordia University, Canada)
Nicole Fournier-Sylvester (Concordia University, Canada)
Vivek Venkatesh (Concordia University, Canada)

Section 4: Community and Identity

Chapter 14
Technology Stewarding as a Medium to Develop and Sustain Niche Online Communities
Ann-Louise Davidson (Concordia University, Canada)
Issa Gulka (Concordia University, Canada)
Andre Valle (Concordia University, Canada)
Chantal Castonguay (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 15
The Process of Weeding Out
Robert W. Sweeney (Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA)

Chapter 16
Some People Aren’t People on the Inside
Margaret Shane (University of Alberta, Canada)

Chapter 17
The Online Community of Second Life and the Residents of Virtual Ability Island
Antonia Tzemopoulos (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 18
Becoming Anonymous
Maria-Carolina Cambre (King’s University College at Western University Ontario, Canada)

Chapter 19
Unauthorized Comic Book Scanners
Darren Wershler (Concordia University, Canada)
Kalervo Sinervo (Concordia University, Canada)
Shannon Tien (Concordia University, Canada)

Section 5: Metal Studies

Chapter 20
Perceptions of Identity and Expertise in Heavy Metal Fans within One Online Community of Practice
Kathryn Urbaniak (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 21
From Pride to Prejudice to Shame
Vivek Venkatesh (Concordia University, Canada)
Jeffrey S. Podoshen (Franklin and Marshall College, USA)
David Perri (Brave Words & Bloody Knuckles Magazine, Canada)
Kathryn Urbaniak (Concordia University, Canada)

Chapter 22
The Dark Ecology of Black Metal
Jason J. Wallin (University of Alberta, Canada)

Chapter 23
Postscript
Jason Netherton (University of Western Ontario, Canada)

Section 6: Conclusion

Chapter 24
Conclusion
Juan Carlos Castro (Concordia University, Canada)
Enclosed is check payable to IGI Global in US Dollars, drawn on a US-based bank

Credit Card □ Mastercard □ Visa □ Am. Express

3 or 4 Digit Security Code: ________________________________

Name on Card: _________________________________________

Account #: ____________________________________________

Expiration Date: ________________________________