Annotated Bibliography


This book discusses the phenomena, origin and potential explanation of the distinctions, categories and boundaries which people make in their cultural and daily lives. It provides an understanding of the rigid mind, the fuzzy mind and the flexible mind and indicates that people should use a flexible mind, which is a dynamic and elastic mental structure, to break mental shackles and avoid chaos. This book would be very valuable to sociologists, linguists, psychologists and information science professionals who study the usage of categories and the boundaries in human communication. It is not obviously useful for ordinary readers with limited English reading skills because of its academic and abstract writing style.


This article investigates the use of the conduit metaphor in English and compares it with the toolmakers paradigm and Shannon’s information theory. It discusses two views of language: language as a vessel into which thoughts and ideas are loaded and language as codes with no meaning. This article is problematic because the author understands Shannon’s information theory incorrectly and applies it to explain the conduit metaphor. It would be useful for linguists and information science professionals who are interested in information transmission.


This article discusses Wittgenstein’s notion of language games in the semantic and ontological sense. It proposes a dynamic framework of logic and ontology to accommodate shifting among different language games and to characterize language uses under various situations. It would be very useful for linguists, philosophers of language and information science professionals who focus on language and meaning. It is not particularly suitable for ordinary readers or beginning IS students with limited English reading skills.

This article investigates the impact of hierarchical rules in information processing and policy making. It provides a brief overview of how the institutional rules defining a hierarchy affect the practice and operation of an institution. It is clearly and systematically written and would be very valuable to sociologists and information science professionals who are interested in organizational informatics, information transmission and information policy.


This article studies the effects of survey framing on survey responses. It suggests three possible mechanisms underlying these effects may affect respondents’ answers. It is well structured and easy to understand. It would be useful for cognitive psychologists, empirical socialists, information science professionals and students who intend to study how to use survey methods and how to understand the context and condition of information transmission and interpretation.


This article studies the definition of “document” and what should be considered “documents”. It reviews the development of various theories on this topic and emphasizes the ideas of continental European documentalists in the first half of the 20th century. It is well designed and clearly written. It would be useful for both information science and library science professionals who are interested in clarifying the definition of “document”.


This article reconsiders Michael Buckland’s question of “What is a document” and analyzes the point and purpose of definitions of “document” and “documentation”. It suggests pursuing studies of documentation without being trapped in the definitions of “document” or “documentation”. It would be valuable for both information science and library science professionals who are interested in clarifying the definition of “document”. It would not be suitable for scholars who have not read Buckland’s articles about document.

This article discusses different meanings of the term “document” in different disciplines and contexts, especially in the field of library and information science (LIS) and the domain of structured documents. It suggests that a restrictive, ultimate and essential definition of the concept “document” should be avoided and, instead, the studies of cognitive and interactional models in different situations should be recommended. It is well designed and expressed although the author is not a native English speaker. It would be useful for both library and information science professionals and students to clarify the controversial concept “document”.


This article is the introduction and Chapter 1 of Drucker’s book. It discusses the background of SpecLab and its challenge to digital humanities through aesthetic provocation and provides an introduction to the differences between digital humanities and speculative computing. It would be very useful for information science and computer science professionals and advanced students to update their knowledge about humanities research in the technological context. It would be problematic or difficult to understand for readers lacking the fundamental background of computer technology.


This article discusses the relationship between scholarly resources and textual materials, suggesting that underlying tensions and irregularity exist beneath the seeming orderliness between these two domains. It provides one view of digital humanities and digital textual studies. It would be useful for information science professionals who are interested in digital humanities and documentation. It is not particularly suitable for readers lacking sufficient background in digital textuality.


This article introduces the purpose, principle, methods, strategies and structure of *The Swinburne Project*, which is an electronic and Web-based collection of Swinburne’s works. It suggests that digital media can offer possibilities and functionalities to high-quality and visualized digital representation. It would be very valuable for library and information science professionals and students who focus on digital libraries and representation. Readers without familiarity of the TEI guidelines may confront difficulties in understanding.