



دانشگاه صنعتی شریف
دانشکده مدیریت و اقتصاد



Information practices and infrastructural challenges of mobile knowledge work

Mohammad Hossein Jarrahi

Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

ABSTRACT: The knowledge workforce is changing: global economic factors, increasing professional specialization and rapid technological advancements mean that more individuals than ever can be found working in independent, modular, and mobile arrangements. Little is known about professional information practices or actions outside of traditional, centralized offices; however, the dynamic, unconventional, and less stable mobile work context diverges substantially from this model, and presents significant challenges and opportunities for the accomplishing of work tasks. In this talk, I will focus on five main information practices geared toward mobilizing work, based on in-depth interviews with 37 mobile knowledge workers (MKWs), digital diaries and application-based data collection. I use these five practices as starting points for beginning to delineate the context of mobile knowledge work.

I then direct attention to technological or contextual constraints (e.g., technological exclusion and infrastructural disconnection) that MKWs encounter because of contextual and spatial boundaries. MKWs engage in a type of articulation work that involves the construction of bridging, assembling, or circumventing solutions to repeatedly negotiate these impediments. Engaging in these 'infrastructuring' practices requires that workers develop 'infrastructural competence' – knowledge of the generative possibilities of infrastructural gaps and seams. I finally touch upon my ongoing research project about "digital nomads" as a sub-population of MKWs. Digital nomadicity has gained popularity in recent years as a fashionable lifestyle, and as a way of challenging traditional work contexts. Preliminary analysis focuses on the concepts of personal knowledge management and gig work in the work context of digital nomads.

زمان: یکشنبه ۱۹ دی ۱۳۹۶ ساعت ۱۵:۰۰ الی ۱۶:۳۰

مکان: اتاق سمینار طبقه اول دانشکده مدیریت و اقتصاد دانشگاه صنعتی شریف