

Study Guide for the Exam

Information Management: Information, Organization, and Management

Winter Trimester 2008

Prof. Dr. Martin Hepp

<http://www.heppnetz.de/teaching/img/>

Textbook: *Wigand/Picot/Reichwald: Information, Organization and Management, John Wiley & Sons, 1997*

1 Resources

Textbook: Rolf Wigand, Arnold Picot, Ralf Reichwald: *Information, Organization and Management*, John Wiley & Sons, 1997

Course Web Page: <http://www.heppnetz.de/teaching/img/>

2 Preparation and Contents

Additional reading:

1. Leonard E. Read: "I, Pencil. My Family Tree as told to Leonard E. Read", Dec. 1958
<http://www.econlib.org/library/Essays/rdPnc11.html>,
PDF version: <http://www.fee.org/pdf/books/I,%20Pencil%202006.pdf>
2. Wikipedia: *Management*
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Management>
3. Wikipedia: *Taylorism*
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taylorism>
4. Charles Babbage: *Economy of Machinery and Manufactures*
<http://socserv2.socsci.mcmaster.ca/~econ/ugcm/3ll3/babbage/index.html>
5. Frederick Winslow Taylor: *The Principles of Scientific Management, 1911.*
<http://www.eldritchpress.org/fwt/taylor.html>
6. Wikipedia: *Principal-Agent Problem*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principal-agent_problem
7. Wikipedia: *Economic Calculation Problem*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_calculation_problem
8. Wikipedia: *Ideas and Life of Friedrich Hayek*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friedrich_Hayek
9. Wikipedia: *Transaction Cost Theory*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transaction_cost
10. Wikipedia: *Game Theory*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Game_theory

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11. Wikipedia: *Prisoner's Dilemma*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prisoner's_dilemma
12. Radical Constructivism
 - a. <https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/citd/holtorf/3.8.html>
 - b. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constructivist_epistemology
13. Semiotics
 - c. <http://www.aber.ac.uk/media/Documents/S4B/semiotic.html>
 - d. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiotics>
14. Shannon and Weaver
<http://www.cultsock.ndirect.co.uk/MUHome/cshtml/index.html>
15. Watzlawick, Beavin, Jackson
 - e. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Watzlawick
 - f. <http://www.colorado.edu/communication/meta-discourses/Theory/watzlawick/>
16. Schulz von Thun
<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vier-Seiten-Modell> (in German only)
17. Speech Act Theory
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speech_act
18. Media Richness
http://www.tcw.utwente.nl/theorieenoverzicht/Theory%20clusters/Mass%20Media/Media_Richness_Theory.doc/

3 Review Questions

Review Question I-1

•What are Tayloristic Industrial Organizations and under which environmental characteristics did they become popular?

Review Question I-2

•Why have Tayloristic Industrial Organizations difficulties with environmental change? (also: spotting environmental change)

Review Question I-3

•Why leads Division of Labor to a higher productivity?

Review Question I-4

•How does the advancement in ICT enable and demand new forms of work and enterprise organization?

Review Question I-5

•What is meant by the term „border-less enterprise“?

Review Question II-1

•Explain the basic assumption of the principal/agent theory. Name four typical failures and give an example of a principal/agent problem.

Review Question II-2

•Use the findings from Wallis/North (1986) to explain why a microeconomic theory that assumes complete information in markets is deficient.

Review Question II-3

•Explain how division of labor and specialization are interrelated.

Review Question II-4

•Why is the reduction of transaction cost a necessity if we want to reach additional specialization gains?

Review Question III-1

•Why do you think is information a special good? Is it fundamentally different from capital, land, labor, and other input factors to production?

Review Question III-2

•What are the three levels of Semiotics and what is their scope?

Review Question III-3

•How can the newness-confirmation model be used to explain why long-term collaborations in the production of software are more productive?

Review Question III-4

•Communication is based on digital and analog modalities. What does this mean for someone presenting a novel proposal to a new audience?

Review Question III-5

•Why do you think recommends an increased level of confidentiality an increase in proximity (e.g. f2f)?

Review Question III-6

•Explain how hiring business consultants can have a signaling effect.

Review Question III-7

•How can the media richness theory explain why e-mail is not always the most efficient means of communication?

Review Question IV-1

•Explain how modeling (e.g. producing an abstraction from reality) is a prerequisite for using ICT.

Review Question IV-2

- How is building models constrained by dynamics in the real world?

Review Question IV-3

- What is the difference between declarative and procedural process models?

Review Question IV-4

- Why is it problematic to model the current processes in an enterprise? What may be an alternative approach?

Review Question IV-5

- Name three forms of integration in the context of information systems.

Review Question IV-6

- What are the advantages of an integrated data model?

Review Question IV-7

- What is Moore's „Law“ and what does it mean for human labor in the business world?

Review Question IV-8

- Explain the productivity paradox.

Review Question IV-9

- Name three sources of business process models.

Review Question IV-10

- What is Reverse Business Engineering?

Review Question V-1

- What are symbiotic arrangements?

Review Question V-2

- Why are symbiotic arrangements growing in popularity and replace hierarchical organizational types? (Use transaction cost theory in your explanation)

Review Question V-3

- Which criteria can be used to assess the level of integration between partners in organizational arrangements?

Review Question V-4

- What is typical of *cooperative* forms of collaboration?

Review Question V-5

•What types of vertical governance patterns can be found in governance structures between multiple business parties? Give examples for each pattern.

Review Question V-6

•What is meant with the plasticity and potency of resources, and how do these two characteristics affect the design of symbiotic arrangements?

Review Question V-7

•What is a Keiretsu?

Review Question V-8

•What are the individual benefits and disadvantages between very open communication standards versus proprietary or context-specific communication agreements? Use the comparison of “comprehensive” EDIFACT vs. EDIFACT subsets for your explanation.

Review Question V-9

•What are the three stages of a market transaction process?

Review Question V-10

•What is disintermediation and how can it make markets more efficient from a transaction cost perspective?

Review Question VI-1

•Describe the typical decision problem in choosing the location for an enterprise in classic location theory.

Review Question VI-2

•How has the availability of global communication infrastructure with a high media richness and low costs changed this decision problem?

Review Question VI-3

•Discuss the benefits and problems of global telecooperation by contrasting synchronous and asynchronous collaboration.

Review Question VI-4

•What has been found out about the social proximity and amount of interaction between employees in large enterprise locations?

Review Question VI-5

•Which criteria can be used to typify telework settings?

Review Question VII-1

- Describe the Tayloristic view on human labor.

Review Question VII-2

- What was the main motivation for the Human Relations Movement? In what sense do economic incentives exist for abandoning the Tayloristic view on human labor?

Review Question VII-3

- Summarize the theory of job satisfaction.

Review Question VII-4

- Give examples how new structures of work organization can contribute to the humanization of work.

Review Question VII-5

- What are team concepts in the workplace? Give examples.

Review Question VII-6

- How is the role of a manager different in team-oriented, relatively flat organizations from that in a Tayloristic setting?

Review Question VII-7

- What is organizational learning and how is it different from individual learning?