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Review of The Oxford Handbook of Internet Studies, ed. by William H. Dutton

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The Oxford handbook of Internet studies, ed. by William H. Dutton. Oxford, 2013. 607p bibl index ISBN 9780199589074, \$150.00

The Internet, ubiquitous in the developed world, has evolved into a subject for academic research. Focusing on the social/behavioral sciences, Dutton (Univ. of Oxford, UK) has assembled 26 scholarly articles that describe how the Internet has been studied along with how the Internet should be studied in the near future. Dutton's introduction surveys the field and summarizes the following chapters, divided in five parts. Part 1 covers historical aspects, background science, and the Internet's structure, while the second part focuses on the Internet in everyday life, digital inequality, social networking, online dating, and game playing. Part 3 explores new business models, trust in online transactions, e-government, and formal learning. The fourth section examines subjects like online news and the influence of the Internet on campaigns, elections, and democracy. Part 5, the last section, discusses freedom of expression, copyright/intellectual property, privacy and surveillance, economic impact, and Internet governance. Overall, the articles are well written and well edited; a 30-page index facilitates access to specific information. Two complementary volumes are *The Handbook of Internet Studies*, edited by M. Consalvo and C. Ess (CH, Apr'12, 49-4279), and *The International Handbook of Internet Research*, edited by J. Hunsinger, L. Klastrup, and M. Allen (2010). Summing Up: Highly recommended. All academic Internet studies collections. -- M. Knee, University at Albany, SUNY