1. Record Nr. UNINA9910460989603321

Titolo Face-to-face communication over the Internet : emotions in a web of

culture, language, and technology / / [edited by] Arvid Kappas, Nicole

C. Kramer [[electronic resource]]

Pubbl/distr/stampa Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2011

ISBN 1-139-08852-1

1-107-21842-X 1-283-19325-6 9786613193254 1-139-09225-1 0-511-97758-1 1-139-09276-6

1-139-09174-3 1-139-09084-4 1-139-08994-3

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xvi, 291 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)

Collana Studies in emotion and social interaction. Second series

Disciplina 302.30285

Soggetti Social networks

Internet - Social aspects

Teleconferencing

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto Introduction: electronically mediated face-to-face communication:

issues, questions, and challenges / Arvid Kappas and Nicole C. Kramer --; Part 1. General Aspects of Visual Cues in CMC:; 1. Visual cues in computer-mediated communication: sometimes less is more / Joseph B. Walther;; 2. To be seen or not to be seen: the presentation of facial information in everyday telecommunications / Jose-Miguel Fernandez-Dols and Pilar Carrera;; 3. Gendered social interactions in face-to-face and computer-mediated communication / Agneta Fischer --; Part 2.

Video- and Avatar-Based Communication: ; 4. Nonverbal communication and cultural differences: issues for face-to-face

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Sommario/riassunto

Social platforms such as MySpace, Facebook and Twitter have rekindled the initial excitement of cyberspace. Text-based, computer-mediated communication has been enriched with face-to-face communication such as Skype, as users move from desktops to laptops with integrated cameras and related hardware. Age, gender and culture barriers seem to have crumbled and disappeared as the user base widens dramatically. Other than simple statistics relating to e-mail usage, chatrooms and blog subscriptions, we know surprisingly little about the rapid changes taking place. This book assembles leading researchers on nonverbal communication, emotion, cognition and computer science to summarize what we know about the processes relevant to face-toface communication as it pertains to telecommunication, including video-conferencing. The authors take stock of what has been learned regarding how people communicate, in person or over distance, and set the foundations for solid research helping to understand the issues. implications and possibilities that lie ahead.