

Chapter 27

New Media Research in Business and Management Fields: A Bibliometric Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Recently, research on new media has grown rapidly. However, business and management research categories that focus on new media have not received much scholarly attention. To improve our understanding of the structure of this research area within other disciplines, this chapter focuses on revealing the bibliometric structure of the documents. An overview is provided in terms of the documents that are located under the business and management categories of Web of Science. This chapter reviews 62 documents with a focus of revealing descriptive outputs. Accordingly, the authors and the most relevant approaches are mapped within the field. The analysis identifies top contributors and their field of studies. Also, conceptual and intellectual structures are revealed. Findings uncover research topics and theoretical foundations of the field and how certain conversations pursue them through different conceptualizations. Building on the results, future research opportunities are also identified.

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the fundamental focus is to look closer to the research about new media in business and management fields. According to Gulbrandsen et al. (2019), new media can be considered as a mediation that has a kind of a transformative impact on messages, experiences, and interactions. New media also have implications for the organizations' strategic relationships among the stakeholders (Gulbrandsen et al., 2019).

New media as a topic of research has been studied in communication studies in the past years (Fagerjord and Kueng, 2019; Teng et al., 2015; Akesson et al., 2018). However, much attention is required from other disciplines for providing a multi-disciplinary approach and enhancing the academic maturity within the field of study. Research fields and topics require a certain number of scholars who are paid

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attention to the particular areas regarding their intellectual interests. Business and management fields are well-developed areas in terms of their categories. However, the integration of different categories provides new insights and develops emerging concepts, such as new media.

Emerging concepts require many qualified scholars, who work in a particular research area. The developments within any research field can be observed by examining the contents of the studies. Trends and evolutions can also be traced through the documents. In each research field, according to Tranfiled et al., (2003) trends are existed and connections are hidden among the dominated scholars. So, review studies are vital for understanding the conceptual and intellectual structures (Crossan & Apaydin, 2010). Thus, revision of such literature can provide a fruitful explanation at least the development and accumulation of knowledge.

The emergence of the new media concept within other study categories has not been paid attention to. Thus, this chapter will try to review the concept of ‘new media’ with the consideration of business and management categories. This study aims to examine both co-authorship and co-citation networks by analyzing and visualizing the intellectual structure of the new media concept from the perspective of business and management by using bibliographic visualization methods.

BACKGROUND

Literature of New Media

The literature of New Media

According to Rice (1992) there are many ways to characterize old and new media. In traditional media

Television, newspaper, radio and magazine ads are important for reaching a broader range of customers. Although traditional media is effective, new media provides a distinctive perspective for reaching target audiences. The new media landscape touches every aspect of our social, political and cultural lives. It is, therefore, very important to understand and explain the complexity of the digital world. New media can be considered as a form of mass communication as well. One of the very fundamental advantages is that immediate feedback is possible in comparison to traditional media. New media research can be considered as a matured research area, in terms of its intellectual developments in communication and its sub-categories. If the sources are searched by using ‘new media*’ are searched within Web of Science, in the topics category, a total hit is 9,646, between the period of 1975-2020. When it is narrowed down to the last 5 years like 2020-2016, the total hit is 3,475. Figure 1, summarizes the categories of studies.

When the general literature is evaluated, it can be considered as almost a mature field of study, contributed from a variety of such disciplines as; environmental sciences, tourism, and hospitality, health, leisure, culture, communication, film, radio and television, psychology, criminology, political science, international relations, etc.

Among these studies, there is also a variety of contributions from many different categories, such as articles, book chapters, and reviews as well as editorial materials and proceeding papers. Figure 2, summarizes the mentioned areas.

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