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TWO LECTURES ON ONLINE EDUCATION

Esta atividade será inteiramente desenvolvida na língua inglesa, por isso os títulos das conferências e os *abstracts* estão em inglês. As conferências tratam de dois temas importantes e atuais ligados ao impacto da Internet e da comunicação online seja para a democracia seja para a educação. A atividade, tendo em vista o projeto de implantação no IEA de cursos à distância, serve de certo modo para pôr em discussão o modelo a ser utilizado e sua função democratizante.

The 4th of June 2013: First online conference of Andrew Feenberg: A democratic Internet?

Abstract: The debate over the contribution of the Internet to democracy is far from settled. Some point to the empowering effects of online discussion and fund raising on recent electoral campaigns in the US to argue that the Internet will restore the public sphere. Others claim that the Internet is just a virtual mall, a final extension of global capitalism into every corner of our lives. This paper argues for the democratic thesis with some qualifications. The most important contribution of the Internet to democracy is not necessarily its effects on the electoral process but rather its ability to assemble a public around technical networks that enroll individuals scattered over wide geographical areas. Medical patients, video game players, musical performers, and many other publics have emerged on the Internet with surprising consequences.

The 14th of June 2013: Second online conference of Andrew Feenberg: The online education controversy

Abstract: This talk traces the history of online education and shows how the original user initiatives which created the first system based on online dialogue were displaced by business oriented models that aimed at automating higher education. The talk opens up the question of the future of online education as a choice between these two orientations.

Reading: A fábrica ou a cidade: qual modelo de educação a distância via web? In: *A teoria crítica de Andrew Feenberg*, cap. 5, <http://www.sfu.ca/~andrewf/coletanea.pdf>