

Three Temporal Arcs

in the Hobby of Gourmet Cooking: Implications for Information Studies



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ABSTRACT. This presentation explores the relationship between leisure activity, information, and time. Ethnographic fieldwork with 20 gourmet cooks illuminates how cooks experience three temporal arcs: linked streams of activity through different periods of time. Temporally unpacking the hobby reveals that each arc is a distinct informational context with quintessential information resources. Assuming that temporal dimensions underlie all human experience raises interesting issues for Information Studies: the need for time-sensitive models of the information encounter and a temporal architecture of the discipline.

BIO. Jenna Hartel received a Doctorate of Philosophy in Information Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles (2007). Her research explores the nature of information in the pleasures of life.

