

Bodies in Technology

Don Ihde, Department of Philosophy, State university of New York at Stony Brook

Abstract

Beginning with a sketch of a phenomenology of embodiment, touching on virtual reality, prosthetic extension, and other variations, I will then focus upon the ways in which human embodiment is reflexively implied in instrumentation. Examples will be taken from historical and contemporary science instrumentation.

The inquiry will also show how, only since the mid-twentieth century, there has been a "scientific revolution" which is at least as momentous as the earlier one between pre- and early-modern science. The role of visualization, computer tomography and other processes will also be illustrated.