

STS 1010 CT2 seminar Sect. 3 Spring 2016

Class Meeting Time: 9:05 – 9:55 MWF, Hardin 235

Instructor: Scott Brame
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Office Hours: Tuesday 9-12 and by appt.

Textbooks: (1) Oberdan, Tom: *Science, Technology, and the Texture of our Lives*, 3rd Edition;
There are additional readings from eReserve/online

Course Overview: Science and technology are social institutions, with their own hierarchical social structures, interacting with each other as well as society at large. It is the purpose of this course to examine the myriad relationships which have arisen between society and the institutions of science and technology. Topics include multitasking, Facebook, online dating, Google, science and tradition, technology and the rewiring of your brain, and our notion of progress.

Critical Thinking (CT²) Integration: This course is a CT² seminar that purposely integrates critical thinking approaches and activities into the course experience. The emphasis of a CT² class is not to memorize facts and regurgitate them on an hour test. The CT² experience is designed to improve your critical thinking skills through an exploration of STS concepts, analysis, synthesis, and the articulation of these ideas at higher levels of abstraction.

Student Outcomes Students will be able to:

- provide details of the inception, development, and reception of scientific ideas and technological innovations by answering factual questions about these matters,
- analyze and critique arguments concerning the function and significance of scientific ideas and technological developments in social contexts, as well as present their analysis and critique in the form of written essays,
- be able to present balanced arguments that offer insights into the underlying assumptions and implications of those assumptions held by differing groups

General Ed requirement: This course meets the *Science and Technology in Society (STS)* general education requirement.

Grading:

Intro Essay	10%
Online Quizzes....	10%
Class Discuss	10%
Hour Test 1	20%
Hour Test 2	25%
Hour Test 3	25%

Grading scale:

A:	90-100
B:	80-89.9
C:	70-79.9
D:	60-69.9
F:	below 60

Attendance policy: Attendance is expected. Any material covered in class and announcements made (including changes in assignments and policy) in class are your responsibility. **If you miss class, you are expected to know what happened.** The Dean of Student's office will be notified about students with excessive absences or who miss the first exam/assignment without notifying the instructor.

Waiting Policy: If the instructor fails to show within 10 minutes of the starting time of the class you are allowed to leave.

Cell Phone Policy: It is not acceptable to have your cell phone ring or to be *text messaging* during class. Doing so is disruptive to other students and a show of disrespect to the instructor.

Class Disruption: You will be asked to leave the class if you prevent others from learning and dropped from the course if such behavior continues. Ringing cell phones can qualify for being ejected from a specific class.

Readings: As with any class, reading the assigned sections **before** class will enhance your ability to understand the material being presented

Online Quizzes: Taken through BB, they assess your completion of assigned reading and your grasp of basic concepts. Due before class on date in syllabus. **No quiz redos after due date** without doctor's excuse.

Films/videos on schedule: These are to be watched BEFORE class, unless specified in the syllabus. Come prepared to discuss the film and to identify key concepts.

Essays: Being able to effectively articulate the topics being covered in your own words is a valuable word related skill. Essays will be graded on your ability to justify your beliefs referencing applicable ideas from the readings/films and by attributing the correct concepts to the essay question.

Class Participation: Part of your grade depends upon participating in class discussions.

Technology in the classroom: Laptops are permitted if their use is related to the class. Checking email, facebook, playing video games, surfing, etc. are detrimental to the learning process.

Instructor Evaluations: All students are *strongly urged* to submit an evaluation.

Academic Integrity: All infractions of the University policy on Academic Integrity will be reported to the Dean of Curriculum, in accordance with University regulations. No exceptions. For details, see pp. 28-9 of the [Undergraduate Announcements](#).

It is expected that the readings are completed before the class for which they are assigned.

Aug	17	Introduction
	19	eReserve: Volti: Chapt 2, Quiz on Volti
	22	eReserve: "Wired for Distraction", watch the first 43 minutes of Digital nation: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/digitalnation/view/
	24	eReserve: "Attached to Technology and Paying a Price", Quiz on AT&PP
	26	eReserve: "Is Facebook Making me Lonely?", watch http://www.ted.com/talks/sherry_turkle_alone_together.html
	29	eReserve: "The Scientific Flaws of Online Dating Sites" and "Dating in a Digital World", Essay #1 due
	31	eReserve: Carr: "Is Google making me Stupid?", Quiz:Google/Stupid
Sept	2	eReserve: Postman: "Disappearance of Childhood"
	5	eReserve: "Thanks for Oversharing", Quiz on DOC

- 7 eReserve: Winner, "Technologies as forms of Life", p. 103-109
- 9 Review
- 12 **Hour Test 1**
- 14 eReserve: "Science Scorned", the Akin Article, "Trust me, I am a scientist", and "Science can lead the way"
- 16 Oberdan: Chap 1
- 19 Oberdan: Chap 2, **Quiz on Chap 1 and 2 of Oberdan**
- 21 eReserve: Rosenberg, "Role of Science in the Innovation Process", p. 231-239,
- 23 eReserve: Rosenberg, "Role of Science in the Innovation Process", p. 231-239,
Quiz on Rosenberg
- 26 Oberdan: Chap 3
- 28 Oberdan: Chap 4, **Quiz on Chapter 3 and 4 of Oberdan**
- 30 eReserve: Oscar Handlin, "Science and Technology in Popular Culture", **Quiz on Handlin**
- Oct 3 Oberdan: Chap 5
- 5 Oberdan: Chap 6, **Quiz on Chapter 5 and 6 of Oberdan**
- 7 eReserve: Patricia Werhane, "Environmental Sustainability", film: The Story of Stuff: <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>
- 10 eReserve: Garrett Hardin: Tragedy of the Commons, in-class video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dD-yN2G5BY0>, **Quiz on Hardin**
- 12 Shale gas fracking: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/can-the-shale-gas-boom-save-ohio/2012/02/27/gIQAC44LpR_story.html
- 14 Review
- 17 **Hour Test 2**
- 19 Film: Guns, Germs, and Steel:
Part 1: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bgnmT-Y_rGQ
Part 2: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se-ina_bhJ0
Part 3: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hxHZPdH690>
Part 4: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRG7-282QXM>
Part 5: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0edh5Itvhy8>
Part 6: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBHs_1_xCN8
- 21 eReserve: Neil Postman, "Technology", p. 36-52, **Quiz on Postman/Technology**
- 24 eReserve: Neil Postman, "Technology", p. 36-52
- 26 The Role of Ethics
- 28 e-Reserve: "Is Drone war moral?", watch: Digital Nation: part on Drones
- 31 eReserve: A Short History of Progress, Chapt 1, p. 1-14
- Nov 2 Film: Surviving Progress, **in-class viewing**
- 4 **No class**
- 7 **Fall Break**
- 9 eReserve: "Technology, Progress, and Freedom" + "Tech. Progress-Burden in Disguise?"
- 11 eReserve: Forward of book "Curious"
- 14 eReserve: Jared Diamond, "Collapse"
- 16 e-Reserve: Pollan, "Omnivores' Dilemma", Intro (all); Chapt 1: p. 15-20, 31; Chapt 2: p. 32-47, **Quiz on Pollan**
- 18 Discussion
- 21 Film: Food Inc, **in-class viewing**
- 23 **Thanksgiving**
- 25 **Thanksgiving**
- 28 Globalization: Reading to be announced
- 30 **Hr Test 3**
- Dec 1 Discussion