

TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

Credits: 4;

Pre-requisites: None

Post Condition (on student capability after successfully completing the course):

- Ability to understand and appreciate the interrelationships among science, technology and society
- Identify and explore the problematic as well as beneficial aspects of individual and corporate technological innovations on society

The main contents of this course are:

Week	Topics
1	Importance of technology and science to contemporary society (economic, social and military) – A general discussion of presence of science and technology in our every day life, at micro and macro level.
2	Nature of science and technology – Technology: technics (hardware and material products), as a complex of knowledge, methods and materials, as a cultural activity Science: as knowledge, systematic inquiry, human cultural activity
3	Important characteristics of modern technology – Complexity, system embeddedness, polymorphism (many forms), formalized technical procedures, production specialization and incomprehensibility
4	Influence of technology on social institutions: Work - occupational profile of workforce, locus, content and process, time, technological unemployment, deskilling, unions, health and safety
5	Ethical and moral issues - Violation of established world order, distribution of technology related benefits, public harm, practitioner problems, exposure to risks without prior consent
6	Ethical and moral issues – Case Studies
7	IT and Knowledge worker
8	Engineering and Technical Education and Professions

- **Evaluation**
Students' performance will be evaluated based on assignments, class participation, project report, mid-term examinations, and final examinations. The weightage of each are as follows:
Assignments – 10%

Presentation 10% Project Report – 10%
Mid-term Examination – 30%
Final Examination – 40%

- Assignments will be based on case studies and current issues.
- **Texts/ Other Resources**
The main text book for this course is:
Robert E. McGinn, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY; Prentics Hall,
Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.
- Hand-outs and additional reference material will be provided in the beginning of the semester.