

Eastern Illinois University
Course Proposal
EIU 4102G, Technology and Society

1. Catalog description:

- a. EIU 4102 G
- b. Technology and Society
- c. 3-0-3
- d. F, S, SU
- e. Tech & Society
- f. A dialogue on contemporary problems influenced by technological advantage. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of key issues facing the world during the next 25 years. Special attention will be given to the impact and implications of technology on social/cultural and economic systems.
- g. Industrial Technology majors and CTE with Technology Education emphasis are excluded.
- h. Writing intensive.

2. Student learning objectives:

- a. In accordance with the goals of general education, students will
 - * conduct e-research and develop a scholarly paper using an approved writing style (writing, critical thinking)
 - * conduct research and present findings on a developing country and present a plan for implementation of appropriate technology with regard to socio-cultural and economic development (writing, critical thinking, citizenship)
 - * make oral presentations of research summaries using electronic media (writing, speaking)
 - * make decisions regarding technology which recognize the importance of technological literacy (critical thinking, citizenship)
 - * identify the importance of resource management related to global population and technological development (critical thinking, citizenship)
- b. As students become technologically literate they will be able to
 - * discuss and debate implications of developing and using technology (critical thinking, citizenship)
 - * identify the common threads (culture, economics, religion, government, environment, education, politics) impacted by technological change (critical thinking, citizenship)

3. Course Outline: The purpose of this course is to develop an awareness of the influence of technology on the development and direction of civilization.

Week 1

Introduction
 Definition of Technology and related terms;
 Handouts: Can Technology Be Defined?, Definitions of Technology
 Text Reading: Developing a Technological Vocabulary

Week 2

Reading on Appropriate Technology.
 Assign appropriate technology activity, develop groups.
 Handout: What May Happen in the Next Hundred Years.

- Text Reading: United States Technology Transfer
- Week 3
- Kranzberg's Laws: Is Technology Neutral?
- Video #1
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Text Reading: Social Response to Technological Change: Breakthroughs and Risk
- Week 4
- Understanding our past to better understand our future.
- Video#2
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Text Reading: Information Technologies
- Week 5
- Changing Workforce and Career Planning
- Video #3
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Text Reading: Manufacturing and Production Enterprises
- Week 6
- Technology and Environment
- Video #4
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Select topics for paper/presentation.
- Text Reading: Environmental Issues
- Week 7
- Reports on Appropriate Technology
- Presentation and Summary
- Week 8
- Impacts of Technology on Social Institutions
- Education and Technology
- Video #5
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Text Reading: The Stability of Traditional Social Institutions
- Week 9
- Global Population and the Role of Technology
- Bio-Technology and Genetic Engineering
- Text Reading: Developments in Genetic Engineering
- Week 10
- Technology and our Future
- Video #6
- Expository Writing and Discussion
- Text Reading: The Technologist: Responsibility for the Future of Technology
- Week 11
- Paper Presentations
- Week 12
- Assessment Activities
- Week 13-14
- Paper Presentations
- Review
- Week 15
- In-class writing paper based upon course content.

4. Evaluation of student learning

- a. Writing skills will be evaluated via expository writing, a group report and a term paper. Additional writing experiences will be included in electronic presentation of the group project and individual papers using PowerPoint or another acceptable presentation technique. Speaking skills will be evaluated through class discussion and presentations. Critical thinking will be evaluated through ewriting, discussion, and the Appropriate Technology activity. A final in-class written paper will be used to evaluate student's ability to express the implications of technological change related to the common threads of our global society. All out-of-class assignments must be computer generated. At least one writing assignment is to be revised by the student after it has been read and commented on by the instructor. APA style or another acceptable format must be used. The course grade will be based on the following:

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| 1. Expository writing and discussion. | 15% |
| 2. Paper: A short paper (seven to ten pages) related to a selected topic. | 30% |
| 3. Group participation in answering questions related to the impact and effects of technology in a global society and the importance of appropriate technology. Emphasis is placed on cultural diversities. | 20% |
| 4. Class presentations. | 20% |
| 5. In-class writing assignments: Based on assigned readings and discussion. | 15% |

5. Rationale

- a. Senior Seminar
- b. Prerequisite: 75 hours completed
- c. This course does not duplicate any current offerings.
- d. Course will not be required in any majors or programs other than general education senior seminar.

6. Implementation

- a. Initial instructor: Dr. Louis C. Butler
- b. Primary Text: Market, L. R. (1997). Contemporary technology: Innovations, issues, and perspectives, Tinley Park, IL: Goodheart-Willcox Co.
- c. Additional Costs: None
- d. Term first offered: Spring 2001

7. Community College Transfer

Not applicable

8. Date Approved by School of Technology Committee April 13, 2000

9. Date Approved by College Curriculum Committee May 3, 2000

10. Date Approved by Senior Seminar Advisory Committee November 13, 2000

11. Date Approved by CAA December7, 2000

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