

Course guides

230806 - TECH - Technology and Culture

Last modified: 22/03/2017

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering
Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques.

Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN AUDIOVISUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2009). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2009). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN NETWORK ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2015). (Optional subject).

Academic year: 2017 **ECTS Credits:** 6.0 **Languages:** English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: Montserrat Ginés Gibert

Others: Gines Gibert, Montserrat

PRIOR SKILLS

Good command of spoken and written English is indispensable to follow the class. Students whose level of proficiency in English is much below "advanced" are not encouraged to take this course.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Students will be requested to read a number of selected texts during the course and participate in the discussion of the major issues involved. Students will also be asked to make a class presentation and submit one written assignment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

-Developing a conceptual vocabulary and analytical framework based on technology studies-Building up a knowledge base on technology as it relates to broader issues of world power today -Practicing and improving communication skills (oral and writing skills)

STUDY LOAD

Type	Hours	Percentage
Self study	98	65.33
Hours large group	52	34.67

Total learning time: 150 h



CONTENTS

The meaning of technology: society, culture, power and the idea of progress as related to technological development

Description:

The subject of class lectures and discussions will include the following: technology's connotations and diverse interpretations in today's world; technology's interrelation with the concepts of culture, politics or nature; the ambivalences in the relationship between "progress" and technological development. From weapons of mass destruction to genetically-modified food or cyber surveillance, we live in an age of intense debate about technology's place in our culture. While technologies continue to change, this debate has become vibrant and vital.

Full-or-part-time: 2 h

Guided activities: 1h

Self study : 1h

GRADING SYSTEM

The following are required for class assessment: An essay on a class-related topic (50% of total grade for the course) An oral presentation (50% of total grade for the course) Class attendance is required. Failure to comply with this requirement can seriously affect your final grade

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

- Ginés, M. (ed.). The meaning of technology: selected readings from American sources [on line]. Barcelona: Edicions UPC, 2003 [Consultation: 10/09/2009]. Available on: <http://hdl.handle.net/2099.3/36674>. ISBN 8483017334.

RESOURCES

Other resources:

Class material will be available from both course website and Atenea.