

## 230806 - TECH - Technology and Culture

Coordinating unit:	230 - ETSETB - Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering
Teaching unit:	756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques
Academic year:	2017
Degree:	BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN AUDIOVISUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2009). (Teaching unit Optional) BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2009). (Teaching unit Optional) BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional) BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN NETWORK ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional) BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional) BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2015). (Teaching unit Optional)
ECTS credits:	6
Teaching languages:	English

### Teaching staff

Coordinator:	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)

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### Study load

Total learning time: 150h	Hours large group:	52h	34.67%
	Self study:	98h	65.33%

### Content

The meaning of technology: society, culture, power and the idea of progress as related to technological development	Learning time: 2h Guided activities: 1h Self study : 1h
<p>Description:</p> <p>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.</p>	

### Qualification 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.

Others resources:

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