

COURSE OUTLINE		
<b>TERM:</b> Fall 2018	<b>COURSE NO:</b> CMNS 353	
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE:</b> Technology and Everyday Life	
<b>OFFICE:</b> <b>LOCAL:</b>	<b>SECTION NO(S):</b>	<b>CREDITS: 3.0</b>
<b>E-MAIL:</b> @capilanou.ca		
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>		
<b>COURSE WEBSITE:</b>		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, Sechelt, and Tsleil-Waututh people on whose territories our campuses are located.

### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

30 credits of 100-level or higher coursework

### **COURSE FORMAT**

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

This course examines technology not as a diverse set of tools, but as a system for the organisation of human relations, interactions and practices. We look at how technology expresses cultural, political, and economic values and how, as a result, it is both shaped by and shapes the conflicts, issues, and potentials of contemporary societies. Special areas of focus include production and human labour, biotechnology and genomics, and climate change and sustainability.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES**

Links to required course readings can be found on Moodle.

### **COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:**

- Speak and write clearly and critically about the role of technology in everyday life
- Use language in a way that appropriately reflects the theoretical frameworks on technology examined in the class
- Define and describe theoretical frameworks for the analysis of technology in everyday life

- Apply and adapt theoretical frameworks to the analysis of issues in and sectors of technological development
- Subject theoretical frameworks to scrutiny for the purposes of identifying their limitations
- Identify and apply appropriate ethical principles to the analysis of technology
- Adapt analyses of technology to multiple perspectives

### COURSE CONTENT

Date	Topic	Pre-class work	In-class or assignments
<b>PART 1: QUESTIONING TECHNOLOGY: THEORY, METHOD, OBJECT</b>			
Week 1	Technology as culture	None	
Week 2	Questioning technology 1: An intro to STS	<b>Reading:</b> Pinch & Bijker, "The social construction of facts and artifacts"	<b>Reading journals DUE</b>
Week 3	Questioning technology 2: Critical theory of technology	<b>Reading:</b> Klein & Kleinman, "The social construction of technology: Structural considerations" Wajcman, "Feminist perspectives on technology"	
Week 4	Questioning technology 3: Sociotechnical imaginaries	<b>Reading:</b> Jassanof, "Future imperfect: Science, technology & the imaginations of modernity"	<b>Reading journals DUE</b>
<b>PART 2: TECHNOLOGY AND WORK</b>			
Week 5	Labour process critique as critique of technology	<b>Reading:</b> Marx, "Division of labour and manufacture", Marx, "Machinery and modern industry"	
Week 6	Automation at work: The promise and threat of AI	<b>Reading:</b> Thompson, "A world without work"	<b>Research proposals DUE</b>
Week 7	Automation at play: Algorithms, big data & deskilled consumption	<b>Reading:</b> Helbing, et al. "Will democracy survive big data and artificial intelligence?"	<b>Reading journals DUE</b>

<b>PART 3: TECHNOLOGY AND LIFE</b>			
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Technology, life &amp; ethics</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Winner, "Are humans obsolete?" Verbeek, "The limits of humanity: On technology, ethics and human nature"	
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Genomics: De-/Re-constructing humanity</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Franklin & Roberts, "Babies by design?" Chow-White, "The informationalization of race"	<b>Reading Journals DUE</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Behaviours, identities &amp; technologies of control</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Sadowski & Pasquale, "The spectrum of control"  Savic & Savicic, "Technology-enabled discrimination"	<b>Annotated Bibliographies DUE</b>
<b>PART 4: TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT</b>			
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Technology and the "death of nature"</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Merchant, "The death of nature" Foer, "Slices of paradise/pieces of sh*#"	<b>Reading Journals DUE</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Imagining sustainability, reimagining technology</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Feenberg, "Values and the environment" Ozaki, et al., "The co-production of sustainability"	<b>Essay draft &amp; outline DUE</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Ambivalent technologies, ambivalent futures</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Turner, "On accelerationism"	
<b>Weeks 14-15</b>	<b>Exam period</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Research papers DUE</b>

### EVALUATION PROFILE

<b>Component</b>	<b>% of total Grade</b>
Assignment 1: Reading journal	25%
Assignment 2: Research proposal	5%

Assignment 3: Annotated bibliography	20%
Assignment 4: Essay draft and outline	10%
Assignment 5: Research paper	30%
Participation & professionalism	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Participation and Professionalism**

In addition to the attendance policy outlined below, participation and professionalism grade is evaluated on the basis of students' apparent preparation, participation in in-class group activities, their tacit and explicit participation in class discussions and their respectful behaviour in class (see also "electronic devices", below).

### **GRADING PROFILE**

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

### **Incomplete Grades**

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

### **Late Assignments**

All written assignments are to be submitted on Moodle at the time and on the date specified. Extensions on due dates are only given in the case of documented illness or family emergency. Late assignments will be penalised with a deduction of 1 point per day on the total grade value of the assignment. Late assignments will not receive written feedback. Assignments submitted more than 3 days late will not be accepted and will receive a grade of "0".

### **Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.**

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities. Repeated absences or late arrivals will result in deductions to the participation and professionalism grade, up to a maximum of 5 instances, after which this grade will be "0".

**English Usage**

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

**Electronic Devices**

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking only.

**On-line Communication**

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or Moodle; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

**UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS****Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at:  
<http://www.capilanou.ca/services/>

**Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)**

**Policy Statement (S2009-06)**

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

**Academic Integrity (S2017-05)**

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy S2017-05 for more information:  
<http://www.capilanou.ca/about/governance/policies/Policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating:** Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud:** Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources:** Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism:** Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism:** Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct:** The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

**Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including [B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy](#) and [B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure](#).

**Emergencies:** Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.