

East Tennessee State University
Engineering Technology, Surveying & Digital Media
ENTC 3020 • Technology and Society
Summer 2009, Sessions I & II (On-Line)

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Desire2Learn <https://elearn.etsu.edu>
Class Homepage <http://faculty.etsu.edu/hemphill/entc3020/>

I Course Description

Technology and Society (3 hours)—What is Technology? The origin of humans and our dependence on technology, the Industrial Revolution, machine technology, automation and cybernetics and concepts of appropriate technologies. The theme of the course is the pervasive influence of technology on society.

II Course Objectives

As an outcome of successful completion of the course, the student should:

- Develop a working definition of technology.
- Understand the fundamental relationship of humankind and technology.
- Increase awareness of the likely consequences of technological change.
- Understand and be able to trace tool and machine developments in conjunction with the organization of work and cultures.
- Relate technological development to ecological concerns.
- Develop a “point of view” concerning future technological developments, economic growth, and the alternative choices that society must make.

III Texts and On-line Resources

Required Texts:

Volti, R. (2005). *Society and Technological Change* (5th Ed.). New York: Worth Publishers. ISBN-13: 978-0716787327.

(Note: Volti’s *S&TC* (4th Ed.) is also acceptable: ISBN 1-57259-952-9)

Chiles, J.R. (2002). *Inviting disaster: Lessons learned from the edge of technology*. New York: HarperBusiness. ISBN: 0-06-662082-1 (paperback).

A daily newspaper &/or a weekly news magazine.

Recommended texts (really good and interesting reads by themselves):

Diamond, J. (1997). *Guns, germs, and steel: The fates of human societies*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

ISBN 0-393-31755-2 (paperback) or ISBN 0-393-03891-2 (hardcover)

URL: <http://www.wwnorton.com/catalog/spring99/gunsgerms.htm>

Roberts, P. (2004). *The end of oil: On the edge of a perilous new world*.

New York: Houghton Mifflin Co.

ISBN: 0-618-56211-7 (Paperback) or ISBN 0-618-23977-4 (hardcover).

On-line Resources:**iTunes U (Course Podcast Library):**

A collection of podcasts for the course is available for free downloading and listening from the iTunes Store. For instructions, see the ENTC 3020 Podcast Information Page (Available URL: <http://faculty.etsu.edu/hemphill/entc3020/podcasts.htm>)

Reference/formatting text (used for all reports):

Hemphill, W.K. & Stanton G.C (Ed.) (1997). *Language Skills Handbook*, (On-line), Johnson City, TN: ETSU. Available URL: <http://www.etsu.edu/scitech/langskil>

IV Attendance Policy

As this is an on-line class, physical attendance, per se, will not be taken as there is no set time for meeting classes. That being said, ***your on-line presence and participation is important and required***. If desired, we may be able to set up some dates and times (afternoon or mid-evening) for on-line discussions if you want to do sort of a real-time chat thing. However, due to the nature of on-line access and scheduling difficulties, any on-line chats and discussions will be voluntary.

Individual writing assignments and test dates will be posted in the Blackboard assignments section. All major exams/tests and term project writing assignments will be announced at least five calendar days prior to the test/due date.

Failure to actively participate throughout the course of instruction (pretty much the month of June) may incur some type of penalty, if necessary, please alert me if you plan on “going dark” for a couple of days. When unexpected problems arise, contact the instructor by phone or E-mail as soon as possible. Basically, stay in touch.

Students are responsible for the material covered in on-line lectures, the readings, and all assignments.

V Academic Misconduct

ETSU Policy No. 3.13, October 1, 1979:

“All students in attendance at East Tennessee State University are expected to be honorable.

“Academic misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action. Any act of dishonesty in academic work constitutes academic misconduct. This includes plagiarism, the changing or falsifying of any academic documents or materials, cheating, and the giving or receiving of unauthorized aid in tests, examinations, or other assigned school work. Penalties for academic misconduct will vary with the seriousness of the offense and may include, but are not limited to: a grade of *F* on the work in question, a grade of *F* for the course, reprimand, probation, suspension, and expulsion. For a second academic offense, the penalty is permanent expulsion.”

VI Evaluation and Grading

Exams &/or quizzes (2 or 3 tests on lectures, readings, podcasts, etc.).....	60 %
Writing assignments (Intro, Critical thinking writing assignments, etc.)	20 %
Podcast Presentation and Scripting assignment	15 %
Active participation (On-line class discussion groups, Q&A sessions, etc.)	5 %

Minimum Percentage Score for Grades

	A 93%	A- 90%
B+ 87%	B 83%	B- 80%
C+ 77%	C 73%	C- 70%
D+ 67%	D 60%	F Below 60%

A test, exercise, or paper may be given (or submitted) early for a University sponsored absence (please provide suitable notice, if possible). Make-up tests may be given at the discretion of the instructor and only if a student presents suitable documentation (evidence) explaining the (emergency) absence to the instructor.

Quizzes, tests, and exams may include any material covered in the lectures/podcasts, assigned readings, videos, class discussions or exercises.

Students with documented needs for note taking, test taking, or other classroom accommodations should make arrangements with their instructor(s) early in the term. Contact the ETSU Disability Services, 3rd floor D.P. Culp Center, (423) 439-8346

VII. Access to University and Departmental Facilities

Participation in this on-line class will required frequent access to on-line resources. Although broadband Internet access is recommended, you can probably get away with dial-up. As access to on-campus computer resources may be limited, it is strongly

suggested that you have access to an Internet-connected PC or Mac from home or work, especially for research and writing assignments as well as taking tests/quizzes.

Campus/departmental computer lab hours are as posted at the various labs or online. Special written permission must be secured if you desire to work in any of the departmental computer labs. Contact your instructor &/or lab coordinator for information.

For assistance in solving computer-related problems or for information on location and operating hours of University computer labs, please contact the Office of Information Technology's Student Help Desk by E-mail: shdesk@goldmail.etsu.edu or phone: (on-campus) 3-4648 or (off-campus) (423) 439-5648.

Summer hours of operation of the University's libraries are posted on-line at <http://sherrod.etsu.edu/lib/hours.html>.

VIII. Tobacco Products, Food, & Drinks and Course Dress Code

- Tobacco products (of any type) are never permitted in any University classroom or lab facility. However, you are probably at home and this is America, so you can do what you want. Not be too judgmental, but the latest group of U.S. Surgeons General strongly recommend against smoking, chewing, & dipping. Pay attention: these men and women are not just doctors but generals...real generals with flashy suits with stars and bars on the sleeves. A group smarter than us all...probably.
- There is no dress code for this class. Again, what you do in the privacy of your own home or apartment and your favorite manner of dress is totally up to you and local statutes of decency. If you ever happen to not be wearing a full set of clothes, please do everyone a favor and keep that knowledge to yourself. There is a reason that web-based video is sometimes not a good idea...not a good idea at all.

Neither food nor beverage products are allowed in the ITS/multimedia classrooms. Beverages spilled onto, into, or around your personal computer &/or peripherals are your problem, not mine. Based upon my experience, laptop warranties generally do not cover beverages like soda and beer that leave tell-tell residues.

You've been warned; don't play cute.