

TECHNOLOGY OF THE MODERN WORLD
GLST 156, Spring 2019 (27880)
San José State University

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jay Ou
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Office Hours:	W 1015-1215
Class Days/Time:	TTH 1330-1445
Classroom:	DMH 234

Course Description

In this course, we will examine the relationship between technology and society through time and space. Topics to be covered include: Science and Technology Studies (STS); Gender and Technology; Ethnoscience and Technoscience; The Military Industrial Complex; Technology and Music; Energy and Technology; IT and Society.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Evaluate and apply diverse perspectives to complex subjects within natural and human systems in the face of multiple and even conflicting positions (i.e. cultural, disciplinary, and ethical).

Demonstrate sophisticated understanding of the complexity of elements important to members of another culture in relation to its history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, and/or beliefs and practices.

Apply knowledge and skills to develop sophisticated, appropriate, and workable solutions to address complex global problems using interdisciplinary perspectives independently or with others.

Describe and illustrate the role of foreign language, study abroad, and intercultural competence in building knowledge of other cultures and global issues. Interprets intercultural experiences from the perspectives of own and more than one other worldview.

Use deep knowledge of the historical and contemporary role and differential effects of human organizations and actions on global systems to develop and advocate for informed, appropriate action to solve complex problems in the human and natural worlds.

Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content, using high-quality, credible, relevant interdisciplinary sources, to illustrate subject mastery, conveying the writer's understanding, and shaping the whole work.

Classroom Protocol

ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND PUT AWAY OUT OF SIGHT DURING CLASS TIMES. The first infraction will prompt a formal warning by the instructor. The second infraction will be promptly reported to the Office of Student Conduct with a recommendation that the student be immediately expelled from the course. Students should be aware that according to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, "Standards for Student Conduct," grounds for student discipline includes: "Participating in an activity that substantially and materially disrupts the normal operations of the University," {Section 41301(b)(4)} which could include use of electronic devices in classroom settings.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN TO PASS THE COURSE.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS. Exceptions to this rule will only be made if official documents can be presented at least 24 hours in advance showing evidence of illness, death in family, or legal duties.

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY EMAIL. ONLY PRINTED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Required Readings

ALL REQUIRED READINGS ARE ON CANVAS

Assignments and Grading Policy

10% Class Participation

25% In-class reading quizzes (5 total; 5% each)

20% Midterm exam

20% 10-page double-spaced term paper

25% Final exam

Term Paper

The paper topic will be discussed and approved by the instructor. Minimum 10 pages (not including references or cover page), typed and double-spaced with 1" margins, APA style.

Grading Policy

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A plus = 1000 to 970 points

A = 969 to 940 points

A minus = 939 to 900 points

B plus = 899 to 870 points

B = 869 to 840 points

B minus = 839 to 800 points

C plus = 799 to 770 points

C = 769 to 740 points

C minus = 739 to 700 points

D plus = 699 to 670 points

D = 669 to 640 points

D minus = 639 to 600 points

F = 599 points or lower

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Some course materials will be distributed in class sessions and others will be sent to students via the email address which appears in the course roster. This course makes use of the Canvas learning management system and you are responsible for all assignments and changes to them.

Wk	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/24	Course Overview
2	1/29-31	Technology and Society Readings: Marx “Technology: The Emergence of a Hazardous Concept” Winner “Do Artifacts Have Politics?” Film: “The Day After Trinity”
3	2/5-7	Technology and Ideologies of Progress Readings: Marx “Does Improved Technology Mean Progress” Bodley “Ideologies of Progress”
4	2/12-14	Technology as the “Measure of Man” Readings: Toulmin “Cosmopolis” Adas “Machines as the Measure of Man”
5	2/19-21	Science, Technology and Gender Readings: Cowan “Less Work For Mother” Harding “The Science Question in Feminism” Guest Lecture: Dr. Moira Perez, Chief of Staff, UC Berkeley. “Gender and Technology in the Workplace”
6	2/26-28	Science and Technology Studies: East and West Readings: Hess “Science and Technology in a Multicultural World” Lie “Social Theory, East Asia, Science Studies”
7	3/5-7	Technoscience and Ethnoscience Readings: Gonzalez “Zapotec Science” Gonzalez et al. “Between Two Poles” Shepard “Ancient Visions of Healing” Film: “The Spirit Hunters” Narrated by James Earl Jones. Featuring Dr. Glenn Shepard Guest Lecture: Dr. Glenn Shepard, Ethnology Director, Belem Museu. “Cultural Survival in Contemporary Amazonian Communities”

8	3/12-14	<p>Technology and the Military Industrial Complex</p> <p>Readings: Noble “America by Design” Melman “The Demilitarized Society”</p> <p>Film: “Why we Fight”</p> <p>MIDTERM EXAM—3/14</p>
9	3/18-21	<p>Technology and Music</p> <p>Readings: Lie “AKB 48 and Girls Generation” Lie “What is the K in K-Pop?”</p> <p>Guest Lecture: Professor John Lie, Sociology, UC Berkeley, “Globalization, Technology and Music”</p>
10	3/26-28	<p>Energy</p> <p>Readings: Nader “Barriers to Thinking New about Energy” Nader and Ou “Idealization and Power”</p> <p>Guest Lecture: Professor David Hess, Sociology, Vanderbilt University, “Green Energy in the US”</p> <p>4/1-3 SPRING BREAK</p>
11	4/9-11	<p>Computers and Information Technology</p> <p>Readings: Chang “The Net Isn’t As Important As We Think” Turkle “How Computers Change the Way We Think” Turkle “From Powerful Ideas to Powerpoint”</p> <p>Guest Lecture: Yen Choi, CEO, Nigeria Telecom Ventures. “Technology and Development in Africa.”</p>

12	4/16-18	Technology and Environment Readings: Carson “Silent Spring” WWF “Making Better Production Everyone’s Business” WWF “Living Planet Report 2018” Guest Lecture: Jean-Paul Paddock, WWF International Director. “Technology and the Environment”
13	4/23-25	Technology and Health Readings: Franklin and Lock, “Remaking Life and Death” Scheper-Hughes and Lock, “The Mindful Body”
14	4/30-5/1	Technology, Globalization, and Multinational Corporations Readings: Gunder Frank “The Development of Underdevelopment” Steger “Globalization: A Short Introduction” Chang “21 Things They Don’t Tell You About Capitalism” 5/7 TERM PAPER DUE
15	5/7-9	Course Review
	5/17 FR (1215-1 430)	FINAL EXAM

Credit Hours

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90–5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

[Catalog Policies Add/drop deadlines Late Drop Policy](#)

<http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/ <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

[University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](#) <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

[Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf
[Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

Resources

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically.

<http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling> <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

<http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>