

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Profile

Course Number : HSS 321	Course Title : Technological Change, Popular Culture and New Media
Required / Elective : Elective	Pre / Co-requisites : -
Catalog Description: The relations between technological change and cultural change. Cultural relations involving new media, such as the internet and other digital information technologies. Identification of basic patterns of social and technological changes involving 'new media'. Opportunities that are available to shape and control the new technologies. The new possibilities for personal expression and political participation.	Textbook / Required Material :
Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS	
<p>Extended Description : Technological change involving new media has always been accompanied by hope and anxiety—and many questions concerning their future effects. Will the internet revolution lead to increasing human isolation? How have technologies like television, internet and the cell phone influenced family relationships? What is happening inside the heads and hearts of children who are growing up in the internet age? In this course we will explore different debates and problems concerning the relationship of technological change to cultural change. In order to do that we will read about ways of thinking about the relationship of technological change to cultural change. Ways of thinking about technological change are all around us, and they are usually about the potential effects of technology. We will explore a range of issues that are being debated by scholars in the field of culture and technology. The idea of technology, change and culture brings with it a number of paradoxes. Although the notion of technological change makes us think of the newest gadgets and convenient machines around us, it is important to look back in history and see how the printing press, electricity, and the computer were perceived when they were new. It is clear that the internet, gaming, virtual reality give people the opportunity to shape identity and participation in political and social groups in a new way yet they are also ways of enhancing traditional ties in families and religious groups. Furthermore, the internet has changed the concept of place in our lives, by making people both co-present and absent at the same time.</p>	
Design content : none	Computer usage: No special usage required
<p><u>Course Outcomes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify approaches to technological change in popular written and visual media (6, 8) 2. Describe relationships of new media to emerging identity among young people. (8, 14) 3. Students will understand and appreciate that debates about technological change are not new 4. Students will gain skills in critical reading methods (8, 12) 5. Students will be able to differentiate between different types of sources on a subject and assess these sources (8, 14) 	

- 6. Analyze how modes of thought are shaped by socio-cultural, historical, political and economic variables.**
- 7. Apply discipline-relevant methods to HSS research projects.**
- 8. Summarize and assess current developments in subject areas.**
- 10. Synthesize complex ideas in clear, concise ways.**
- 12. Recognize relevance of coursework to personal experiences.**
- 14. Demonstrate and ability to communicate effectively with written, oral, and visual means.**

Recommended reading

Teaching methods

Lecture, discussion

Assessment methods

Quizzes

Midterm

Final

Student workload:

Preparatory reading	60 hrs
Lectures, discussion	45 hrs
Library, internet research.....	45 hrs
TOTAL	150 hrs

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