

Course Outline

1. COURSE INFORMATION

Session Offered	Winter 2021	
Course Name	Technology & Society	
Course Code	GENTECH 4TS3	
Date(s) and Time(s) of lectures	Tuesday 11:30-1:20 Thursday 1:30-2:20	
Program Name	One of the following: Automotive and Vehicle Engineering Technology/ Biotechnology/ Automation Engineering Technology	
Calendar Description	A study of the diverse and often contradictory impact of technology on society. The consequences of current technological changes and those of the recent past are explored to illustrate the complexities of technological-societal interrelationships.	
Instructor(s)	Joel Hilchey	E-Mail: hilchey@mcmaster.ca Office Hours & Location: By email appointment

2. COURSE SPECIFICS

Course Description			
Instruction Type	Code	Type	Hours per term
	C	Classroom instruction	39
	L	Laboratory, workshop or fieldwork	
	T	Tutorial	
	DE	Distance education	
	Total Hours		39
Resources	ISBN	Textbook Title & Edition	Author & Publisher
	ISBN:	N/A	N/A
	Other Supplies	Source	
		PowerPoint slides and supporting material will be provided via electronic files on the course A2L site	
Prerequisite(s)			
Corequisite(s)			
Antirequisite(s)			
Course Specific Policies	<p>All assignments submitted for evaluation are completely word processed. Students are expected to actively participate during class sessions offering insight, comment, reinforcement, argument, contrary views and underscoring examples.</p> <p>TECHNOLOGY ELIMINATION ASSIGNMENT (20%) – See Description on Avenue Consider an object that you use in your everyday life - every minute, once an hour, or several times per day. This object can be as technologically simple or complex as you want (but make it interesting). For a period of time that is relevant - eliminate that object from your life and the world as if it had never been invented.</p> <p>Each student will research the chosen technology's history and the ways in which it is incorporated into everyday life today. Each student will then eliminate that</p>		

	<p>technology for a reasonable period of time and produce a report reflecting on the experience.</p> <p>TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY CASE STUDY (30%) – See description on Avenue Each student will select one of 9 “topic areas”, select a specific area of focus, and create a report on their findings. The focus of the topic will reflect the major technological changes that have significantly impacted the economic, social, and environmental aspects of society.</p> <p>The format of the report is the students’ choice – written report, or recorded presentation (video), or another suitable creative way.</p> <p>ACTIVE LEARNING (30%) In-class assignments, discussions, peer evaluations of fishbowl discussion contribution, and Case Study Reading Reflection will all be considered as part of the active learning mark.</p> <p>FINAL EXAM (20%) A cumulative final exam will be booked during the examination period.</p> <p><u>Late Assignments</u> Late submissions are discouraged. However, given the strange times, late penalties will be limited. Students will be given a mark of ZERO for assignments submitted more than 2 weeks after the original due date. However, any student submitting any late assignment should include a written note of explanation in addition to the assignment.</p> <p>No marks will be re-allocated. In other words, students need to do the work to get the credit.</p>
<p>Departmental Policies</p>	<p>Students must maintain a GPA of 3.5/12 to continue in the program.</p> <p>In order to achieve the required learning objectives, on average, B.Tech. students can expect to do at least 3 hours of “out-of-class” work for every scheduled hour in class. “Out-of-class” work includes reading, research, assignments and preparation for tests and examinations.</p> <p>Where group work is indicated in the course outline, such collaborative work is mandatory.</p> <p>The use of cell phones, iPods, laptops and other personal electronic devices are prohibited from the classroom during the class time, unless the instructor makes an explicit exception.</p> <p>Announcements made in class or placed on Avenue are considered to have been communicated to all students including those individuals that are not in class.</p> <p>Instructor has the right to submit work to software to identify plagiarism.</p>

3. SUB TOPIC(S)		
Week 1 – Jan 12/14	Introduction Course Introduction and Overview	Historical Overview of Technology Big History, The emergence of technology, up to agriculture.
Week 2 – Jan 19/21	In-Class Activity 1 – Elimination Relevance	From Agriculture to Industry Ancient Engineering to The Industrial Revolution
Week 3 – Jan 26/28	In-Class Activity 2 - Sankey	Rediscovery of Natural Boundaries Human & Environmental Concerns Innovation with limitation
Week 4 – Feb 2/4 Saturday Feb 6: Case Study Topic Selection Due	In-Class Activity 3 – Lifecycle Analysis	Social Control of Technology – Public Policy Power Relations in Society Public Policy
Week 5 – Feb 9/11	In-Class Activity 4 – Policy Implications	Social Control of Technology - Corp Policy Power Relations in Society Corporate Policy
Week 6 – Reading Week Saturday Feb 20: Case Study Reading Reflection Due		
Week 7 – Feb 23/25	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 1, 2, and 3 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	Preventive Engineering Evolution of Preventative Engineering Industrial Ecology
Week 8 – Mar 2/4 Saturday March 6: Technology Elimination Assignment Due	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 4, 5, and 6 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	Social Capital Emergence of social entrepreneurship Stakeholders & community influence
Week 9 – Mar 9/11	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 7, 8, and 9 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	Emerging Issues/Focus for 2021 Climate Change Circular Economy
Week 10 – Mar 16/18	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 1, 2, and 3 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	TBD
Week 11 – Mar 23/25	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 4, 5, and 6 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	TBD
Week 12 – Mar 30/April 1 Saturday April 3: Case Study Report Due	Fishbowl Discussions <i>Topics 7, 8, and 9 (individual times to be assigned by instructor)</i>	TBD
Week 13 – April 6/8	Exam Review	Big Finale!
Week 14 – April 13	Flexible	Flexible
Midterm Recess: Monday, February 15 to Sunday, February 21		

Classes end: Wednesday, April 14

Final Examination Period: Thursday, April 15 to Friday, April 30

All examinations MUST be written during the scheduled examination period.

Note that this structure represents a plan and is subject to adjustment term by term.

The instructor and the University reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes.

4. ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING *including dates*	Weight
Technology Elimination	20%
Case Study (Group)	30%
Active Learning	30%
Final Examination	20%
TOTAL	100%

Percentage grades will be converted to letter grades and grade points per the University calendar.

5. LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Define the features of engineering creativity and design through an understanding of major themes of technological advancement and adoption in society.
2. Identify critical developments in the mutual shaping of technology and society from a historical perspective.
3. Distinguish the constraints and alternatives involved with a complex technological issue in contemporary society in both written and oral formats.
4. Compare and critically examine a wide range of theories on the complex interrelationship between society and technology.
5. Utilize technology assessment tools in order to predict potential consequences of introducing new technologies into society.

6. COURSE OUTLINE – APPROVED ADVISORY STATEMENTS

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

The Faculty of Engineering is concerned with ensuring an environment that is free of all discrimination. If there is a problem, individuals are reminded that they should contact the Department Chair, the Sexual Harassment Officer or the Human Rights Consultant, as soon as possible.

http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/General/HR/Discrimination_Harassment_Sexual_Harassment-Prevention&Response.pdf

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

COURSES WITH AN ON-LINE ELEMENT

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

ONLINE PROCTORING

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

COMMUNICATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to:

- Maintain current contact information with the University, including address, phone numbers, and emergency contact information.
- Use the University provided e-mail address or maintain a valid forwarding e-mail address.
- Regularly check the official University communications channels. Official University communications are considered received if sent by postal mail, by fax, or by e-mail to the student's designated primary e-mail account via their @mcmaster.ca alias.
- Accept that forwarded e-mails may be lost and that e-mail is considered received if sent via the student's @mcmaster.ca alias.
- Check the McMaster/Avenue email and course websites on a regular basis during the term.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities policy.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar’s Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests. <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/Studentcode.pdf>

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.