Semester Program
Academic Discipline
Society and Technology

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:
The course aims to examine how society has been influencing the development of technology and vice-versa and shall invite students to reflect upon the impacts of technology on people's lives currently.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:
a) Get an introductory overview of the relationships between technology and society.
b) Learn through classic and modern theories as well as with local and global case studies.
c) Discuss with peers and instructor in a fruitful way so as to drive critical thinking about the role of technology on people's lives.

PROGRAM:
1. Introductions & presentation of the course
2. The nature of technology: metaphor, rationality, determinism
3. Winners and losers: technology as a subversive force; what it can do – and what it cannot
4. The sources of technological change: technological change as a social process; "push" and "pull"
5. Scientific knowledge and advance: how technology differs from, and facilitates scientific discovery
6. A planet under stress – is technology the problem or the solution?
7. Medical technologies and ethics: diagnostic technologies; when does life end? when should it?
8. Genetic technologies: farm bioengineering;

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