Short Syllabus

Course Title	Credits
Thinking Critically about Technology	2

Lecturer

Nitzan Waisberg

Contact details

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Semester

Spring

Short Description

In this course students will learn about the social and historical circumstances which have led to the adoption and diffusion of technology and how this process has in turn shaped society and individuals. We will explore the social, economic, political and personal forces that are involved in turning inventions into innovations and technologies that softly determine our lives. We will look at historical case studies such as the process of electrification in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and current affairs case studies such as the impact of social media on democracy and other political structures. Students will be required to submit 2 short essays and a longer final essay applying critical thinking to various technologies, past and present.

Final grade components

Assignment 1: Essay and presentation 25%

Assignment 2: Group essay 25%

Final assignment: Essay 50%

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

Additional requirements

Full attendance, final presentation of hands on team-based project