



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**SOCI 209**

**SOCIETY, TECHNOLOGY, AND VALUES**

**45 HOURS  
3 CREDITS**

PREPARED BY: Shawkat Shareef, Ph.D.      DATE: 19 December, 2019

APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson, Ph.D.      DATE:

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL      DATE:

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL      DATE:



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>.



APPLIED ARTS DIVISION  
SOCI 209  
3 credit course  
Winter, 2019

## SOCIETY, TECHNOLOGY, AND VALUES

---

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Shawkat Shareef

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tue. 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

**OFFICE LOCATION:** A2303

**CLASSROOM:** A2601

**E-MAIL:**sshareef@yukoncollege.yk.ca

**TIME:** TR 1.00-2.30 p.m.

**TELEPHONE:** (867) 456-8604

**DATES:** Jan. 3- April 26, 2019

---

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the interaction of three entities: The technologies developed by a society, the values of the individuals in that society, and its social organization. The goal of this course is to heighten students' powers of observation concerning technologies and to enhance their critical understanding of the changes new technologies may cause.

### RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Engl 100 with 100-level Soci, Anth or Phil recommended.

### EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO Soc 200 lev (3)	KPU Soci 2xxx (3)	SFU SA 2xx (3)
TRU Soci 2XX0 (3)	TWU Soci 200 lev (3)	UBC Soci 2nd (3)
UFV Soc 2xx (3)	UNBC Sosc 2xx (3)	UVIC No Credit
UAF Soci F2S (3) (Social science credit)		
UR Soci 225 (3)		

For more information about transferability contact the School of Liberal Arts.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon Successful completion of the course, the students will be able to:

- Analyse several theoretical frameworks to understand the tripartite relationships between society, technology and values.
- Evaluate the validity of various scientific strategies and tools that are used to develop human societies both in developing and the developed world.
- Apply their understanding of interplay between the values of society and technological development to find alternative actions/pathways in case of abuse of technology that may create inequality, leading to injustice as a result.

### **COURSE FORMAT**

Classes will consist of lectures on and discussions of the texts, readings and films/video clips specified and sometimes not specified in the course syllabus.

### **ASSESSMENTS**

#### **Participation**

Participation in class is essential to the development of class unity and the learning process for everyone. Group discussion offers students a forum in which to express ideas and be educated through the ideas of others. We will create together a respectful environment where everyone will feel safe and encouraged to speak. This means that students and instructor must monitor their speech so as not to give more than their fair share.

Students will also write a number of short assignments demonstrating their understanding of theories about families and the practical implications of those theories in the understanding of aboriginal, non-aboriginal and immigrant families. There are no points assigned to these assignments, but performance on these short assignments (both completion and quality) will be added to the overall participation grade as a percentage. Also, these assignments will help stimulate the discussions the class.

#### **Assignments**

Students will write one research paper on a self-researched topic about technology and values in society. The paper topic must be approved by the instructor. The paper should be documented and formatted according to APA style and 10 double-spaced pages in length, excluding references.

### Deadlines

Marks will be deducted for late assignments: 1 mark, out of 30, per day up to 5 days, at which time the assignment will not be accepted for marking. If delays are unavoidable because of extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness or bereavement), students must consult with the instructor and receive permission for an extension. Illness of over 2 days must be confirmed by a doctor's note.

### Paper Submission

The research paper should be submitted to the Applied Arts Office or in the instructor's mail box (across the Dean of Applied Arts Office) for after-hours delivery. Office staff will date stamp the receipt of the assignment and make sure it gets to the instructor. Also, electronic submission of assignments to the instructor will not be accepted.

### Tests

There are two exams in this course, a mid-term and a final exam. Examinations will cover lecture material, assigned readings, and possibly some film/video clip content. The mid-term exam may be composed of short questions and long essays. These questions cover the course to that point in the term. The final exam is scheduled during exam week. It covers the course from mid-term to near the end of term and will follow a similar format to the mid-term, covering course content from the mid-term and, possibly, overviews of the course.

### EVALUATION

Class participation	10	
First midterm	25	(February 12)
Second midterm	25	(March 14)
Final Exam	40	TBD
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

*Science, Technology, and Society: A Sociological Approach*, Bauchspies W.K., Croissant J. and Restivo S. (2006). Blackwell. ISBN: 978-0-631-23209-4.

Supplementary materials: videos, excerpts from peer-reviewed journals, papers, and discussions from various sources will be used in this class. The titles and topics of videos and video clips will be announced in advance in class. Whenever journals and papers are unavailable on the Internet, hardcopies will be distributed in class. If materials are available online, web links will be provided.

## **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT**

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

## **YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY**

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see [www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr)

## **LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE**

All students are encouraged to make the Lorene Robertson Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in C2231 (adjacent the College Library), the Writing Centre offers half-hour writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. Coaching sessions are available in person and through distance technologies (e.g., email plus Skype or phone). For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website:  
[www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/student\\_info/pages/writing\\_centre](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/student_info/pages/writing_centre).

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic

**APPLIED ARTS DIVISION  
SOCl 209  
3 credit course  
Winter, 2019**

accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact [the Learning Assistance Centre \(LAC\): lac@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lac@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

TOPIC OUTLINE

Week	Topic
1 and 2	Chapter 1: Introduction: From the Sociology of Science to Science and Technology Studies
3 and 4	Chapter 2: Cultures of Science: Birth of a fact, Society and Culture, Worldviews
5,6 and 7	Chapter 2: Cultures of Science: The Social Construction Conjecture, Feminism and Science Studies
8: MIDTERM, FEB. 12	What is technology? Technology in Motion, Pre-Scientific: you or me? Mind and Society, What can Sociologists Say about Mathematics?
8:	Chapter 3: The Dance of Truth: Science and Technology as Social Institutions,
9: Reading Week no classes (Feb. 18-21)	
10, 11, 12:	Chapter 4: STS and the power in the post-modern world
13, 14:	Chapter 5: Life after Science and Technology Studies
Final exam:	TBD