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Spring 2019

# STS 201-H02: Understanding Technological Society

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**NJIT Semester: SPRING 2019****Instructor:** Dr. Narendra Neel Khichi, Jr**Class:** STS 201 Honors Spring 2019 H02 14934

KUPF 104 Monday and Thursday: 10:00am-11:20am

**Office:** Cullimore 314**Office Phone:** 973.642.7402**Office Hours:**

Monday: 7:30am-9:30am; 11:30am-12:30pm

Tuesday: Online by appointment 11am-1pm

Wednesday: Online by appointment 11am-1pm

Thursday: 7:30am-9:30am; 11:30am-12:30pm

**Email:** nkhichi@njit.edu

**Course Description:** This course serves as an introduction to the social sciences: anthropology, communication, economics, sociology, geography, history, political science, sustainability, and psychology and its influence on technology, society, and technological society. The course introduces ideas, theories, and issues in the various subject areas that appear in the social sciences and evaluates the relationship between technology and society. Furthermore, the course analyzes and evaluates the impact these issues have in our rapidly evolving and changing social, cultural, and technological society. Much of the course focuses on technology and its role in addressing and improving local, national, and global issues, as well as, its effect and relationship with the global ecological system and sustainability. This course evaluates the role of the individual and how these issues are influential on a local, regional, national, and global scale in the twenty-first century.

**Course Objectives:**

- a. To introduce the basic subject areas of the social sciences and its relationship to technology, society, and technological society.
- b. To develop an understanding for the social sciences, its impact on human behavior, the global society and in the various fields in and out of the social sciences, specifically technology and society.
- c. To analyze technology- socially, culturally, and psychologically and the role it plays in our constantly evolving culture and society.
- d. To analyze, evaluate, and critique society and societal events with deeper significance and understanding
- e. To analyze, evaluate, and critique social events in relation to their place as an individual and as a member of the global community and technological society
- f. To use the examination of the social sciences to gain a better understanding of society and groups in which we all live, as well as, our technological society
- g. To call attention to and raise awareness that our individual life is bound to and shaped by our social and cultural environment
- h. To analyze, critique, and evaluate such social phenomena as: technological advances, culture, social dynamics, socialization, deviance, social stratification, gender, racial/ethnic relations, the impact of science, the role of religion and politics, the influence of education and positive and negative uses of power.
- i. To focus on the environment and technology, paying special attention to the human impact on the environment
- j. To demonstrate content area knowledge of the social sciences
- k. To employ quantitative and qualitative analytical techniques relevant to identified content

- l. To examine and analyze complex sociological, psychological, and cultural variables involved in the technological global society
- m. Framing contemporary issues through science, technology, and societal analysis
- n. To use self-reflection and critical thought that expands awareness of the student and the world around them
- o. Communicating in a variety of ways to a variety of audiences
- p. Articulating an appreciation of the complexities of science, technology, and society
- q. Evaluating, analyzing, and understanding various theorists in the social sciences and their relevance in the 21st Century.

**Required Textbooks:** Society: the Basics 11<sup>th</sup>-14th Edition (paperback) by John Macionis(c) 2016 Pearson 978-0 1342 0632 5 \*\*\*\*\*we will discuss in class the textbook prior to your purchase\*\*\*

Online articles and PDFs

**Recommended Reading:**\*\*\*excerpts from these texts will be used as supplemental reading in addition to the notes, texts, and articles on Moodle\*\*\*

McDonaldization of Society by George Ritzer;  
 SuperConnected by Mary Chayko  
 Race, Gender, and Society by Rothenberg

**Grading Policy**

Quiz #1	100
Quiz #2	100
Quiz #3	100
Quiz #4	200
Attendance	100
Pop Quiz	50
Essay #1	50
Essay #2	50
Syllabus Overview Agreement	50

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**Total Point Value**                      800 points

**Grading Scale:**

100-91.....	A
90-87.....	B+
86-81.....	B
80-77.....	C+
76-71.....	C
70-65.....	D
65 <.....	F

Students are to keep track of their own grades, what work they owe, and what they are missing. Please note where an ‘A’ begins and where a ‘B+’ begins and ends. Any issue with a grade for a specific quiz must be addressed DURING OFFICE HOURS (and not via email) NO MORE than one week after the quiz is administered. Anything issue after a week will not be considered. Also remember grades/grading

are a reflection on whether or not you followed directions, abided by specific dates, and whether you fulfilled the expectations and requirements of the assignment.

### **Academic Integrity:**

“Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. ***Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.*** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at [dos@njit.edu](mailto:dos@njit.edu)”

Students are expected to read and understand NJIT’s academic integrity policy. Members of the NJIT community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors.

Please visit the website: <http://www.njit.edu/academics/pdf/academic-integrity-code.pdf> and review the policy.

There is a zero tolerance policy on any and all forms of cheating.

### **Student’s That Require Special Accommodations Disabilities Service Policy**

Students with disabilities who are otherwise qualified and are college able will receive reasonable accommodations to support their special needs. Students must self-identify to the Disabilities Services office to qualify to receive services. NJIT is in full compliance with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

New Jersey Institute of Technology is committed to making students with disabilities full participants in its academic and other programs, services and activities through the provision of reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. The Coordinator of Student Disability Services will coordinate the provision of appropriate accommodations and/or academic adjustments on a case-by-case basis for students with disabilities who identify themselves, provide adequate documentation of their disability and need for accommodation, request services and complete appropriate forms. Appropriate accommodations are provided at no cost to the student.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Dr. Phyllis Bolling, Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS), Campbell Hall, (entry level), room 205, (973) 596-3420.

### **Moodle:**

Familiarize yourself with Moodle, as all quizzes will be administered through Moodle. All forms of communication with the class as a whole will be done through Moodle, as well. You can access it at: moodle.njit.edu

Email: Anything related to the class will be posted on Moodle and sent to you via email. It is your responsibility to frequently CHECK YOUR NJIT EMAIL and MOODLE for the latest on any class information or news. Information regarding the course is available on Moodle, also.

### **Attendance:**

You are expected to attend ALL classes.

Three unexcused absences = 50/100

Four unexcused absences = 25/100

FIVE unexcused absences = 00/100

Six or more unexcused absences= F for the course.

### **Lateness:**

Three “lates” to class = 1 unexcused absence

Four “lates” to class = 2 unexcused absences

Five “lates” to class = 3 unexcused absences

More than Five “lates to class results in a 0 for attendance

### **Class Expectations and Procedures:**

Quizzes and assignments are to be turned in ON TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Should an issue arise, contact me via email. You may lose points on the assignment, but a 50 is better than a 0.

Also, be respectful and courteous to other people’s opinions that may differ from yours. Keep in mind, it is okay to disagree. In fact, it is healthy and encouraged. But the disagreement must be discussed in an adult manner. In addition, if during class or on the optional discussion board a comment is made that you feel I should address, you find offensive, or would like me to comment on, please email me separately and I will. Sometimes things can easily be taken out of context during an open discussion or on discussion forums and it takes an unbiased reader/commenter (me) to bring understanding to both sides.

### **Graded Assignments:**

**Quizzes:** There are 4 timed quizzes. Dates and details are provided in the syllabus. No make ups for quizzes are provided unless we discuss PRIOR to the quiz.

**Pop Quiz:** There is 1 pop quiz this semester. Each one is worth 50 points. Unfortunately, (unless otherwise excused) regardless of circumstance, there is no make-up provided for the pop quizzes.

### **Introduction Essay:**

There is one introduction essay due at the end of the first week of the semester. It is worth 50 points.

**Concluding Essay:** There is one final concluding essay due at the end of the semester. It is worth 50 points.

**Syllabus Agreement:** 50 points

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend ALL classes. More than TWO unexcused absences reduces your overall grade ONE LETTER grade (ie: B+ goes down to a B). More than FIVE unexcused absences is an automatic F.

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This will be a fun, interesting course and an overall strong learning experience for you. Should you have any questions or any difficulty with anything, please do not hesitate to contact me via email. I am always available via email or during my office hours. Please give me at least 24 hours to respond to your email. If you've made it this far into the syllabus congrats and well done. Please post in the Syllabus Confirmation forum on Moodle and indicate to me that you've "read, understood, and will abide by the expectations of the course." In addition, please share with us your favorite food or candy. If you do this, before the start of the first class, you will be given a grade of a 50 for syllabus agreement assignment. Anything posted after 10:00am on Thursday, January 24th, 2019 will be given a grade of 25 until January 25, 2019. Anything after the 25th is automatically a 0. Unless you state otherwise in the post it is understood that you have read this completely and agree to the conditions in this syllabus.

**Schedule:**

*(This schedule is subject to change without warning or prior notification)*

*(Each chapter, along with all articles posted on Moodle should be read prior to the class it is assigned)*

Week	Readings/Topics of the Week	Assignment (s)
<b>JANUARY</b> WEEK 1 1/21/19-1/27/19	Schools closed for Labor Day (Monday)  First Day of Classes University Wide  First Day of Classes. Hellos and Get to Knows	Go over syllabus. Post questions onto Moodle.
JANUARY/February WEEK 2	<b>Chapter 1: An Introduction to the Social Sciences and the</b>	

<p>1/28/19-02/03/19</p>	<p><b>Sociological Perspective: Perspective, Theory, and Method and Technology</b></p> <p>The Sociological Perspective The Importance of a Global Perspective Sociological theory</p>	<p>Readings: pages 2-34</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p> <p>Introductory Essay due by Sunday night, February 3, 2019. Posted onto Moodle by deadline.</p>
<p>FEBRUARY WEEK 3  02/04/19- 02/10/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 2: Culture and Technology</b></p> <p>Elements of Culture Technology of Culture Cultural Diversity Theoretical Analysis of Culture</p>	<p>Readings: pages 36-64</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>FEBRUARY WEEK 4  02/11/19- 02/17/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 3: Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age in Technological Society</b></p> <p>Social Experience Understanding Socialization Agents of Socialization Socialization and the Life Course</p>	<p>Readings: 66-90</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p> <p>Specifics and instructions regarding the assignment will be discussion in class prior to its due date and will be sent via email.</p>
<p>FEBRUARY WEEK 5  02/18/19- 02/24/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 4: Social Interaction in Everyday Life and Technology</b></p> <p><del>The Social Construction of Reality Dramaturgical Analysis: The 'Presentation of Self.'</del></p> <p>Interaction in Everyday life: Three Applications</p>	<p>Readings: 94-114</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p> <p>QUIZ #1 on February 21, 2019 (on chapters 1, 2, and 3)</p>

<p>FEBRUARY/March</p> <p>WEEK 6</p> <p>02/25/19- 03/03/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 6: Sexuality and Society and Technology</b></p> <p>Understanding Sexuality Sexual Attitudes in the United States Sexual Orientation</p> <p><b>Chapter 10: Gender Stratification</b></p> <p>Gender and Inequality Gender and Socialization Gender and Social Stratification</p>	<p>Readings: 142-168</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>MARCH</p> <p>WEEK 7</p> <p>03/04/19- 03/10/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 7: Deviance and our Technological Society</b></p> <p>What is Deviance? Deviance and Inequality Deviance, Race, and Gender Crime The US Criminal Justice System</p>	<p>Readings: 142-168</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>MARCH</p> <p>WEEK 8</p> <p>03/11/19- 03/17/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 7: Deviance and our Technological Society wrap up</b></p>	<p>Pages 170-200</p> <p>Specifics and instructions regarding the assignment will be discussion in class prior to its due date and will be sent via email.</p> <p><b>QUIZ #2 (Thursday, March 14, 2019)</b></p> <p><b>On Weeks 4, 6, 7, 10</b></p> <p>Readings: pgs. 270-296</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>

<p>MARCH</p> <p>WEEK 9</p> <p>03/18/19- 03/24/19</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK !</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK!</p>
<p><b>MARCH</b></p> <p>WEEK 10</p> <p>03/25/19- 03/31/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 11: Race and Ethnicity in our Technological Society</b></p> <p>The Social Meaning of Race and Ethnicity Prejudice and Stereotypes Discrimination Race and Ethnicity in the United States</p>	<p>Readings: pgs. 366-402</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>APRIL</p> <p>WEEK 11</p> <p>04/01/19- 04/07/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 13: Family and Religion and Technology</b></p>	<p>Readings: 404-442</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>APRIL</p> <p>WEEK 12</p> <p>04/08/19- 04/14/19</p>		<p>QUIZ #3 (Thursday, April 11, 2019)</p> <p>Specifics and instructions regarding the assignment will be discussion in class prior to its due date and will be sent via email.</p>

<p>APRIL WEEK 13 04/15/19-04/21/19</p>	<p><b>Chapter 15: Population, Urbanization, and Environment in our Technological Society</b></p> <p>Demography: The Study of Populations</p> <p>Urbanization</p> <p>Environment and Society</p>	<p>Readings: pgs. 444-474</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle</p> <p>Articles discussed/covered in class</p>
<p>APRIL WEEK 14 04/22/-04/28/18</p>	<p><b>Chapter 16: Social Change: Modern and Postmodern Societies in our Technological Society</b></p> <p>What is social change?</p> <p>What is modernity?</p> <p>What does are technological society look like going forward?</p>	<p>Readings: pg.476-502</p> <p>Articles posted on Moodle</p> <p>Articles discussed/covered in class</p> <p>Concluding Essay due by Sunday, April 28, 2019. Posted onto Moodle by deadline.</p>
<p>APRIL/MAY WEEK 15 04/29/19-5/02/19</p>		<p>QUIZ #4 (Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019).</p> <p>Specifics and instructions regarding the assignment will be discussion in class prior to its due date and will be sent via email.</p>
<p>MAY WEEK 16 and WEEK 17 05/06/19- 05/16/19</p>	<p>05/07/19 Last Day of classes</p> <p>05/08/19 Reading Day #1</p> <p>05/09/19 Reading Day #2</p> <p>05/10/19-05/16/19 Final Exam Week</p>	<p>05/07/19 Last Day of classes</p> <p>05/08/19 Reading Day #1</p> <p>05/09/19 Reading Day #2</p> <p>05/10/19-05/16/19 Final Exam Week</p>

