Course Description
Technoscience is often associated with objectivity, universality and rationality, and it is a body of knowledge, a process and practices subject to critical scrutiny. Technoscience is not limited to a small group of professional scientists but penetrates the everyday life of everyone in the contemporary world. It mediates our identity, subjectivity and experience by means of biomedicine, visual technology, information technology, to name but a few. Encountering this ever-advancing science and technology, we should engage critically with their institutions, practices and discourses. In this course, we will approach science and technology as social and cultural institutions that shape our everyday experience at different stages of life, and contextually examine their dominant discourses and practices. Informed by critical theories in STS and feminist science studies, we see doing cultural studies of technoscience as a cultural and political intervention. Instead of simply using technoscience, students are encouraged to actively and critically engage in it by integrating interdisciplinary knowledge and envisage this critical intervention as a means to promote values, such as understanding, community, equality and social justice, that we treasure in humanities.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to
1. demonstrate an understanding of how the dominant discourses of technology and science are culturally situated,
2. interrogate the mediation in producing and reproducing science knowledge,
3. develop an awareness of the impact technoscience culture has brought to people of different gender, class, race, and age, and
4. analyze specific technoscience discourses, practices or issues with critical concepts of Cultural Studies.

Assessment
✧ Group Presentation OR an Individual Reflective Journal 30%
✧ Attendance & Participation 10%
✧ Final Paper (Chinese: 4000 words/ English: 3000 words) 60%
Course Schedule

**Week 1  Why Interdisciplinary Study of Science and Technology?  3 Sep**

**Week 2  Who We Are  10 Sep**

**Week 3  What We See & Listen  17 Sep**

**Week 4  What We Eat  24 Sep**

**Week 5  No Class: National Day Holiday  1 Oct**

**Week 6  How We Love  8 Oct**
Waskul, Dennis D. “Televideo Cybersex: The Naked Self and the Object Body.” In Self-Games and
Week 7  How We Work  15 Oct

Week 8  How We Consume  22 Oct

Week 9  How We Connect  29 Oct

Week 10  When We Are Born & Grow Old  5 Nov
Beimborn, Maria, Selma Kadi, Nina Köberer, Mara Mühleck, and Mone Spindler. “Focusing on the Human: Interdisciplinary Reflections on Ageing and Technology.” In Ageing and Technology:


Assessment

1. Individual Reflective Journal + Individual Presentation*

   ❖ Go phone-free for 10 days and write a reflective journal (800-1000 words). Citations and bibliography are not necessary.

   ❖ Deliver a presentation in the modified PechaKucha style (i.e. 15 sec x 15 slides) on your reflection upon the experience on 12 Nov (Tuesday). Scores will be deducted if the presentation exceeds 5 minutes.

   ❖ You are expected to demonstrate your criticality and reflectivity in this assignment.

   ❖ Due Date: 5 Nov, 2019 (Tuesday) [VeriGuide: 2am; Hardcopy: 7pm]
**Group Presentation & Discussion**

- Tutorials will be scheduled on 24 Sep, 8 Oct, 15 Oct, 22 Oct, 29 Oct, 5 Nov and 19 Nov.
- Each group is expected to be in charge of the tutorial presentation and discussion in any one of the above weeks.
- The tutorial session will be comprised of a 20-minute presentation and 20-minute discussion.
- The presentation should be a case study of an object or issue related to the topic of the week.
- The tutorial presentation will be jointly assessed by the instructor and/or the tutor and your fellow classmates.

2. **Final Paper** *

- You are expected to write a 3,000-word English paper or a 4,000-word Chinese paper.
- Due date: VeriGuide – 26 November, 2019 (Tuesday) 2am
  
  Hardcopy – 26 November, 2019 (Tuesday) 7pm

- The assignments could be written in either Chinese or English.
  
  Please observe the below formatting guidelines before submission.
  
  - File format: Word file (.docx)
  
  - Font: Chinese font 新細明體, 標楷體 or 微軟正黑體
  
  English font: Arial, Garamond or Times New Roman;
  
  Font size: 12; Font colour: Black
  
  - Line Spacing: 1.15
  
  - Please print on BOTH sides.

**Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at [http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/).

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students’ uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

**Contact**

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