



FIRST SEMESTER 2023-2024
Course Handout Part II

Date: 04-08-2023

In addition to Part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : **BITS F214**
Course Title : **Science, Technology and Modernity**
Instructor-in-Charge : **Biswanath Dash**, Room No. K 131, HSS

Scope and Objective of the Course: The course is aimed at exploring the interrelationship between modern society and science/ technology. Specifically, it seeks to interrogate the relationship in terms of analyzing emergence of modern science in the western world and its implication and contribution to the idea of a modern society. It is largely historical with some amount of philosophical component, provides much scope to explore how science and technology have evolved in world history and how such evolution have shaped human society. It covers to an extent, the impact of such development in India and examines the contemporary debates over the role of science/technology within modernization and globalization.

Textbooks:

1. McClellan III, J.E. and Dorn, H. 2006. *Science and Technology in World History*, Second Edition, Maryland: John Hopkin University Press

Reference books

1. Reading material to be uploaded on CMS
2. Bernal, J.D. 1971 *Science in History* Vol. 2. Massachusetts: MIT Press

Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book
1-2	Gain an overall perspective of the course	Course Structure Science and Technology in Global Context	TB Part I
3-14	Learn about origin and evolution of Natural Philosophy/Science in different cultures	Greek Natural Philosophy, Arabic Middle Ages Chinese and South American Civilization	TB Part I and II Reading Material
15-25	Examine emergence	European Renaissance	TB Part III



	of modern science and its role in industrial revolution in the western world	Scientific and Industrial Revolution	and IV
26-32	Reflect and analyze evolution of Science/ Technology in India	Vedic period; Gupta era Moghul period; Colonial India	Reading material
33-40	Appreciate 'modernity' as an idea and its relationship to science and technology	Concepts and debates over Modernity, Modernity and Globalization	Reading material

Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration (Minutes)	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignment/Quiz	TBA	20	TBA	Open Book
Mid semester Examination	90	30	13/10 - 9.30 - 11.00AM	Closed Book
Quiz	TBA	15	TBA	Closed Book
Comprehensive examination	180	35	18/12 FN	Close Book

Notices: Notices will be displayed on CMS.

Plagiarism: Cutting and pasting from websites is considered plagiarism. If you are not sure how to write avoiding plagiarism, please ask the instructor. Plagiarism in assignment including from Chat GPT will fetch zero.

Chamber consultation: Thursday 12-1 pm

Make-up Policy: Make-up for an evaluation component such as Mid Semester and CE will be given only in genuine cases.

Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy: Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.



Biswanath Dash

INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

