



**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
Hyderabad Campus

## SECOND SEMESTER 2019-2020

### Course Handout Part II

Date: 06-01-2020

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 Number** : BITS F214  
**Course Title** : Science, Technology and Modernity  
**Instructor-in-charge** : Biswanath Dash

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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 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.

### Text Book:

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

### Reference Book:

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
1-3	Gain an overall perspective of the course	Course Structure Science and Technology and Modern society	TB Part I Reading Material
4-15	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

16-25	Examine emergence of modern science and its role in industrial revolution in the western world	Renaissance, Scientific and Industrial Revolution	TB Part III and IV
26-32	Analyze evolution of Science/ Technology in India and its role in shaping Indian society	Vedic period/Gupta era/Moghul period Colonial India	Reading material
33-42	Appreciate 'modernity' as an idea and its relationship to science and technology	Enlightenment promise of progress, Critiques of Modernity, Technology in Globalization	Reading material

### Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage	Date, Time and Venue	Nature of Component
Mid Semester Exam	90 minutes	30%	3/3 3.30 - 5.00 PM	Closed Book
Assignment 1 & 2		30%		Open Book
Comprehensive Examination	180 minutes	40%	05/05 AN	Closed Book

**Chamber Consultation Hour:** Thursday 11-12. Room No. K 118, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus

**Notices:** Notices, if any, will be displayed on Department Notice Board and CMS.

**Make-up Policy:** The make-up for an evaluation component will be given only in genuine cases. In health related issues student has to bring a letter from warden as per the latest SWD guidelines.

**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**

