



Instruction Division
First Semester 2016-2017

02.08.2016

Course Handout (Part II)

In addition to Part-I (general handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further details pertaining to the course.

Course No: BITS F214
Course Title: Science, Technology and Modernity
Instructor: SUNITA RAINA

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1. Objective and scope of the course:

In this course, the students will explore the interaction between science, technology and modern society. They will learn how scientific discoveries and technological developments influence and shape a modern society, and how the beliefs and values of the modern society shape sciences and technologies. The course will begin with an overview of the "Scientific Revolution" of the 16th and 17th century, which set the stage for the emergence of modernity as a social condition. The focus will then shift to the role of science and technology in development. The later part of the course will focus on the role of science and technology in globalization.

2. Text Book:

Jacob, Margaret. 1997. *Scientific Culture and the Making of the Industrial West*. New York: Oxford University Press.

3. Reference File (in the library). The instructor will also send the soft-copies (pdf files) of the articles from various sources by email.





4. Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning Objective	Topics to be covered	Text Book and Ref. material
1-2	Introduction and overview of the course	Concepts of Science, Technology and Modernity	Relevant readings
3-17	Historical Context of the "Modern" world	Enlightenment; Scientific Revolution; Science and religion; Industrialization;	Relevant readings
18-23	Enlightenment Promise of 'Progress'	Technology and progress; Technology and history Artifacts and politics	Relevant readings
24-29	Science, Technology and Development	Technological Change; Intermediate Technology; Approaches to Policymaking;	Relevant readings
30-36	Science, Technology and Globalization	S & T in the first globalization; S & T in the second globalization:	Relevant readings
37-42	Major Critiques of the Dominant View	Marxist Critique Feminist critique Post-modernity	Relevant readings

5. Evaluation Scheme:

EC No.	Evaluation Component (EC)	Duration	Points	Date, Time and Venue
1.	Mid-Semester test	90 minutes	30	7/10 2:00 - 3:30 PM
2.	Announced Quiz and Assignment		30	
4.	Comprehensive Examination	180 minutes	40	12/12 FN

6. Course Notices: Notices, if any, concerning the courses will be displayed on Nalanda, and will also be communicated to the students through email.





7. Make-up: For the components of the evaluation, makeup will be allowed on the basis of documented proof to support the case. If you have a personal or medical emergency, provide copies of the appropriate paperwork to your instructor as soon as you can. Missing a due date, forgetting an assignment, or simply getting behind is not a valid reason.

8. Cheating and Plagiarism: Please be aware that cutting and pasting from websites is considered plagiarism. Students are advised to document all sources. If you are not sure that you need to document a source, then please ask the instructor. Any hint of plagiarism in an assignment will fetch a zero

9. Office Hours: Saturday (11:00-12:00), or by prior appointment

Instructor BITS F214

