

Philosophy of Technology

(Winter 2025)

Topics for Class Presentation

Marks: 20

Instructions: Answer any one question. Keep your presentations short and focused on the question. You will have 15 minutes for your presentation, which will be followed by a question-answer session.

1. Take any one thinker from the classical, and form the contemporary approaches to technology, and discuss the continuities and discontinuities, pros and cons of their positions.
2. Discuss the continuities and differences between the post phenomenological and actant-network theory approaches. Which aspects of our technologically mediated relation to the world does each approach illuminate and where do they fall short?
3. Why does Latour claim that 'we have never been modern'? Do you agree/disagree with his analysis? Discuss.
4. Critically evaluate Bruno Latour's actant -network theory. In particular, discuss his thesis concerning the 'symmetry' between human and non-human actants. Do you think his position is tenable? Provide concrete examples to illustrate your arguments.

5. Discuss and critically evaluate Andrew Feenberg's position on internet technology by taking into account his critiques of Fuchs and Dean. Do you think the internet still holds emancipatory possibilities, or does it lead to conformism and a 'post-truth' world?