

Science and Society

Teachers

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Seminar Teachers: Quentin Dufour, Aurélien Féron, Laurène Le Cozanet, Simon Léger, Matti Leprêtre, Théo Leschevin, Germain Meulemans, Robin Michalon, Lucile Ottolini, Thomas Tari and Tonya Tartour.

Pedagogical Goals

Innovations in science and technology have become prominent in the organisation and functioning of modern society. Consequently, they raise a number of questions and crises which cannot be answered by scientists only. Beyond the sole importance of science and technology policies, other issues (i.e. climate, health, food, urbanism and security-related) call for a reassessment of relations between science and society.

The course is based on *science and technology studies* and introduces students to the process of knowledge production through anthropological, historical and sociological approaches. To act in an uncertain world, when knowledge is not yet stabilized, and facts blurry.

Course Structure

The one-week course is divided into a ten-hour lecture and a series of seminar sessions.

During the lecture, students will explore the diversity of scientific institutions and of reasoning processes, and will analyze the relationship between scientific issues and technological or political stakes, for instance in terms of public expertise, controversies.

Divided into classes of 24, students will simultaneously take an eight-hour seminar, allowing them to get a more practical understanding of social stakes in science through the study of past or contemporary controversies. Seminars are structured around a limited number of thematic corpora to debate.

Evaluation

A “two-hour” exam will take place at the end of the week. The students will have to read, describe and analyze one out of two corpora of documents, following the method used during the seminars and mobilizing the concepts acquired through the lecture. The sets of documents (one in English and one in French) will be sent on Friday evening ; you will have to send back your work 24 hours later to your seminar teacher.

Winter School Teaching Programme

	Morning Lectures (10 hours) 9.30am-10.45am and 11.15am-12.30pm	Afternoon Seminars (8 hours) 1.30pm-3.30pm or 4.00pm-6.00pm
Day 1 (Monday 18 Jan.)	The Gender of Science	The students will explore some thematic corpora, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Glyphosate Controversies: Risk Assessment in the EU- Revolutions in Astronomy and Politics during the 19th cent.- Living with HIV-AIDS: Politics of Knowledge in an Epidemic- Mapping the World: Cartography, Power and Society- The Domestication of What: A Political Economy of Grains...
Day 2 (Tuesday 19 Jan.)	A Politics of Things: Sociotechnical Perspectives	
Day 3 (Wednesday 20 Jan.)	Rethinking Expertise through Controversies	
No class on Thursday 21 Jan. (Master Tour)		
Day 4 (Friday 22 Jan.)	Environmental Social Sciences	
Saturday 23 Jan.	Two-hour exam - analysis of a “Science and Society” corpus	