# CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

| COURSE OUTLINE | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TERM: Spring 2025** | **COURSE NO: CMNS 353** | |
| **INSTRUCTOR:** | **COURSE TITLE: Technology and Everyday Life** | |
| **OFFICE:** **LOCAL:**<br>**E-MAIL:** @capilanou.ca | **SECTION NO(S):** | **CREDITS: 3.0** |
| **OFFICE HOURS:** | | |
| **COURSE WEBSITE:** | | |

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lil̓wat7úl (Lil'wat), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

## COURSE FORMAT
Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams. May be offered online or in mixed mode.

## COURSE PREREQUISITE
45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
This course guides students in an examination of methodologies in the social construction of technology – a set of critical approaches in media and technology studies that highlights the role of communication and meaning-making both in technological development and in the formation of effective responses to the challenges produced by a technological society. We will address both the foundations of common sense thinking about technology and engage in producing case study analyses that illustrate the potential for addressing technological change ethically, equitably and from diverse perspectives.

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES
All course readings will be available as links on the course eLearn.

## COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:
1. Apply critical analytic concepts and research approaches to produce insights into the social aspects of technological development, design, use practices & impact assessment.
2. Illustrate an understanding of how and in what ways technology is subject to and shaped by social, cultural, political and economic forces

3. Generate original research questions and projects on the basis of constructivist principles and methodologies.
4. Articulate an understanding of key controversies and conflicts around technological innovations or social applications of technoscience.
5. Adapt analyses of technological development, design, use practices and social impacts to multiple perspectives, including through a decolonizing lens.

**COURSE CONTENT**

| Date | Topic |
|---|---|
| Week 1 | *Introduction to the course: the meaning of a "technological society"* |
| Week 2 | *Ideologies of technology 1: from determinism to constructivism* |
| Week 3 | *Ideologies of technology 2: from universal progress to differential effects* |
| Week 4 | *Ideologies of technology 3: from users to participants* |
| Week 5 | *Social Construction of Technology: Theory* |
| Week 6 | *Social Construction of Technology: Method* |
| Week 7 | *Social Construction of Technology: Case Studies* |
| Week 8 | *Actor Network Theory: Theory* |
| Week 9 | *Actor Network Theory: Method* |
| Week 10 | *Actor Network Theory: Case Study Presentations* |
| Week 11 | *Critical constructivism: Theory* |
| Week 12 | *Critical constructivism: Method* |
| Week 13 | *Critical constructivism: Case Study Presentations* |
| Weeks 14-15 | *Final exam period* |

**EVALUATION PROFILE**

| Assessment | % of Final Grade | Learning Outcome |
|---|---|---|
| Critical essay | 10% | 1, 2 |
| Theory journals – 3 @ 10% each | 30% | 1, 2, 3 |
| Case Studies – 3 @ 15% | 45% | 2, 3, 4, 5 |
| Reflection paper | 10% | 1, 2, 4, 5 |
| Participation & professionalism | 5% | |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** | |

**Participation and Professionalism** grades are based on the consistency, quality, and frequency of contributions to class discussions. Consistency means attending every class, maintaining a positive and respectful presence in the classroom, and actively contributing to discussions on a regular basis. Quality means demonstrating respect for peers and their contributions, listening attentively during lectures and when other students are speaking, and participating in all activities with an open and inquisitive mind.

**Written assignments** will be submitted on eLearn via the submission pages provided for each assignment under the "assignment submissions" topic heading. Assignments are returned to students via these same links – eLearn generates automatic notices of assignment returns which are delivered via students' Capilano email accounts. ***Please make sure to check your CapU email to receive notification of assignment returns – these emails may go to your junk mail folder.***

**GRADING PROFILE**

| A+ = 90-100 | B+ = 77-79 | C+ = 67-69 | D = 50-59 |
|---|---|---|---|
| A = 85-89 | B = 73-76 | C = 63-66 | F = 0-49 |
| A- = 80-84 | B- = 70-72 | C- = 60-62 | |

**Incomplete Grades**
Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

**Late Assignments**
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

**Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.**
Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.
*** Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

**Attendance**
 Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

**English Usage**
Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

**Electronic Devices***:*
Students may use electronic devices during class for note taking only.

**On-line Communication**
Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

**UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**

**Tools for Success**
Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/

**Capilano University Security: download the CapU Mobile Safety App**

**Policy Statement (S2009-06)**
Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

**Academic Integrity (S2017-05)**
Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:
https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating**: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud**: Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources**: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism**: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism**: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct**: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:
- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

**Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

> Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the

University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/)

**Emergencies:** Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.