# Technology & Society

**COURSE:** Technology & Society  
**CREDITS:** 3  
**CONTACTS:** 3 - 0 - 3  
**PREREQUISITES:** NONE

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is an investigation of the impact of modern technological changes in America on the individual, society, and the physical environments.

**TEXTBOOK(S) OR ALTERNATIVE:** Technology and American Society: A History, by Gary Cross and Rick Szostak, Second Edition, 2005

**MATERIALS** (* specifying those to be purchased by student):  
Instructor will assign specific readings; the student is responsible for reading them.

**CLASS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES** (Attendance, tardies, testing, etc.):  
**Academic Dishonesty:** Students are to abide by the Northeastern Technical College Honor Code. As a student, it is your responsibility to be familiar with the Code and with plagiarism. By signing into this course you are agreeing to uphold the NETC Honor Code. All work a student presents must be that student’s original work, no exceptions will be made. Information concerning the Honor System at NETC may be found in the NETC Catalog and Student Handbook; also found on the internet at http://www.netc.edu.

**Attendance:** Realizing that attendance is essential for the successful pursuit of any academic discipline, students are expected to attend classes regularly. Any student who misses more than 20% of a class will be dropped from the class with an unsatisfactory grade of F.

**Tardy Policy:** It is also important that students arrive on time for class. Arriving late for a class not only disrupts a class in progress but interrupts the learning process. A tardy is defined as the arrival of a student to class after attendance has been taken. Three tardies will constitute a full absence.
Classroom Etiquette: In order that all students contribute to discussions and a positive classroom environment, the instructor insists that all students demonstrate respect toward one another and toward the instructor at all times. The instructor WILL NOT tolerate any inconsiderate student behavior. Failure to follow classroom etiquette will result in lowered grades and immediate dismissal from class, be considerate of others at all times.

Please also note that neither food nor drink is permitted in the classroom.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom: To minimize classroom disruptions and to protect the integrity of testing, activated electronic communication devices such as pagers, beepers, and telephones are not permitted in classrooms at NETC. The only exception is for on-call emergency personnel (police, fire, EMS); these students are required to notify the Instructor of their need for such devices with documentation verifying employment. This information must be provided at the beginning of the term and at the beginning of each applicable class session.

Make-up Procedures: Work should be completed as indicated to you. Late work will NOT be accepted, and there are no make-ups for missed assignments, including tests and examinations. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy unless it is in the most extreme of circumstances, with proper documentation. All missed work will result in the grade of “0”.

College ID Policy: It is mandatory that every student wear his or her photo ID at all times while on campus. The instructor will dismiss students without ID from class. The student may get his/her ID and return to class before the midpoint of the class. If the student cannot get his/her ID and return to class by the midpoint, the instructor will record the absence.

Disabilities Statement: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Dean of Student Services to discuss needs or concerns as they pursue an academic program and participate in campus life. The Dean of Student Services will provide guidance regarding official documentation of disabilities and/or accommodation of needs. (See College Catalog)

RESOURCES (A-V, persons, tools/equipment): The Success Center has computers available on a first-come-first-serve basis or by appointment. To use the center students must show a valid college ID. The Library will be used.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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| 1    | Questions of Technology & Pre-America and Colonization  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 1 |
| 2    | Pre-Industrial Society of American and Europe  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 2 |
| 3    | Colonial Craftsmen & Society  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 3 |
| 4    | Origins of Industrialization & the Birth of the Factory  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapters 4-5 |
| 5    | Transportation revolution: Iron, Steam, and Rails  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 6 |
| 6    | Machines and Their Mass Production  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 7 |
| 7    | Machines and the Mechanical World  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapters 8-9 |
| 8    | Second Industrial Revolution: "The Gilded Age"  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapters 10-11 |
| 9    | Impact of Technology on Women’s Work & Medicine  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapters 13-14 |
| 10   | Technology, Culture, and Society of the 20th Century  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 15 |
| 11   | Culture, Society, and Technology of the 20th Century  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 16 |
| 12   | Society, Technology, and Culture of the 20th Century  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapter 17 |
| 13   | War, Society, and Technology  
      Cross and Szostak, Chapters 12 & 18 |
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COURSE TOPICAL OUTLINE (continued)

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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| 14   | Technology after War & Making Modern Society  
      |       | Cross and Szostak, Chapter 19 |
| 15   | Complete Computer Age & Modern Society/Technology  
      |       | Cross and Szostak, Chapters 20-21 |

FINAL EXAM  (Optional Final Exam – to replace lowest previous exam grade – Cross and Szostak, Chapters 1-21)

Please note this is a tentative schedule and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Identify social and political processes and structures using quantitative and qualitative data.
- Evaluate key primary sources related to the history of technology and its impact on American society and political solutions.
- Investigate the nature and development of the intellectual concepts that structure American technology and society.
- Recognize history and operation of American democratic institutions, culture, society, and involvement in world affairs with a particular focus on technology and technological advances.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethnicity in the United States, helping students learn about the opportunities and responsibilities they have as citizens in an increasingly multicultural and technological nation.

COLLEGE WIDE STUDENT COMPETENCY: Demonstrate an awareness of an international perspective to include ethnic/cultural diversity.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS TO COMPLETE LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will have reading assignments for each week’s meetings. Each reading assignment will involve primary and secondary sources of different types. Students will be held accountable for outside reading
assignments, the lectures will cover specific topics that may not be in your readings so it is your responsibility to maintain good attendance and good notes as well as keeping up with the assigned readings at all times.

**EVALUATIVE METHODS TO APPRAISE LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Grades in this course will be determined by their performance in the following areas:

1. First Examination  (25%, based on examination score)
2. Second Examination (25%, based on examination score)
3. Third Examination  (25%, based on examination score)
4. Fourth Examination (25%, based on examination score)
5. Optional Final     (25%, based on examination score to replace lowest previous exam grade)

The exams will only cover those chapters that are indicated for those specific weeks/topics (they are NOT cumulative, ONLY the Final Exam is cumulative) and will be a mixture of multiple choice and essay. The exams must be written in blue or black ink, and be written in a “Blue Book” or a “Green Book” that each student is responsible for purchasing (Note: you will need at least four for the semester). Failure to comply with these directions will result in a grade of “0” or a significant point deduction for the exam. The Optional Final Exam will consist of fifty multiple choice questions worth a total of two points each. Students should utilize all of the course materials, readings, tests, and discussions as their study guide.

**GRADING SCALE:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 - 79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 - 69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>BELOW 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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